



MEMORANDUM

EXD

Deputy Supt. General.

I have before me the file with reference to the proposed purchase of additional land for the Fisher's Grant Indians to provide them with wood. My view is that it is not a judicious expenditure to provide funds to purchase any more land for Indians of Nova Scotia. They are for the most part in the centre of well cultivated district and should be able to make a living for themselves. They should be looked upon as ^{ordinary citizens} already civilized and if they commit trespass they should be prosecuted. Of late years we have made two or three such purchases and there is no evidence to show that these purchases have removed the difficulties with white settlers. By making that point the conspicuous and important one I think we are looking through the wrong end of the glass. Our policy is to provide relief to only those who are in needy circumstances, and it would be better for us to buy a little wood for old widows and dependent orphans than to buy wooded land that may be plundered by able-bodied Indians who should earn enough to supply them with wood. I think this should be the policy of the Department in this matter and I beg to submit the question for your consideration.

Accountant.

Ottawa, 31st January, 1905.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 7761, File 27058)

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