

"they heard that reserve spoken of as though it belonged to Montreal Lake band, but that this was not the case; that reserve was obtained ~~skilfully~~ from the Government chiefly through the application and efforts of their late Chief James Roberts, who, with two of his councillors, journeyed all the way to Prince Albert for the sole purpose of securing it for his Indians as a place, where, in the future, those who wished might undertake farming."

This contention upon the whole appears to be correct. At the treaty payments in 1900, the Lac la Ronge band all agreed that they would, "looking to the future, like some of their band reserved near the Saskatchewan." And the Indian Commissioner, writing on the 5th of November in the same year, said: "The Indians of the Lac la Ronge band desire to have the portion of their reserve, asked for on the Saskatchewan, near the Sturgeon Lake reserve, and subject to the department's approval, I propose to select and define some land on the south side of some good lake in that locality." On the 18th of the same month the department authorized the Commissioner to make the selection. In the Commissioner's letter of the 4th June following is the first mention which I see of the Montreal Lake band in connection with a share in the proposed reserve near Sturgeon Lake, when he says:- "I would recommend further that some land be reserved in the same locality for the Indians of Montreal Lake."

Some delay seems to have occurred about making the selection owing to the difficulty of arranging with the Department of Interior in obtaining land clear of timber limits, but, as Mr. Jean shows, in a memorandum dated 23rd February, 1895 from the Deputy Superintendent General and approved ~~as~~ by the Minister; "it is proposed to get land