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Bound at the end of 1855

INDIAN DEPARTMENT (CANADA).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 28 April 1856;—for,

“COPIES of EXTRACTS of recent CORRESPONDENCE respecting Alterations in the
Organization of the INDIAN DEPARTMENT in *Canada*.”

Colonial Office,
30 May 1860.

H. LABOUCHERE

Viscount Goderich.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed.
2 June 1856.

SCHEDULE.

Despatches from the Governor-General of Canada.

Number in Series.	FROM WHOM.	DATE AND NUMBER.	SUBJECT.	Page.
1.	Governor-General the Earl of Elgin to Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart., M.P.	1854: 18 Dec. (No. 66.)	Report from Mr. Oliphant, Superintendent-general of Indian affairs, relative to surrender of certain Indian lands on Lake Huron, with remarks relative to the prospects of the Indians in Canada - - - - -	3
2.	Governor-General Sir E. Head, Bart. to the Right hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. (Extract)	1855: 15 Dec. (No. 154.)	Report from Viscount Bury, Superintendent-General on state and prospects of Indians, and on the measures for the gradual withdrawal of the aid hitherto granted by the Imperial Parliament -	16
3.	Governor-General Sir E. Head to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.	1856: 15 Mar. (No. 51.)	In reply to Secretary of State's Despatch, No. 42, 21 February 1856. Suggestions regarding the disposal of certain articles originally intended as Indian Presents - - - - -	38

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

1.	Right Hon. Sir G. Grey, Bart., M.P. to Governor-General Sir E. Head.	1855: 24 Jan. (No. 11.)	Acknowledging Lord Elgin's Despatch, No. 66, 18 December, (No. 1 in series), enclosing Mr. Oliphant's Report - -	39
2.	Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Sir E. Head.	1856: 21 Feb. (No. 42.)	In reply to Sir E. Head's Despatch, No. 154, 15 December 1855 (No. 2 in series), enclosing Viscount Bury's Report. Observations relative to the future Maintenance and Administration of the Indian Department -	39
3.	Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. to Sir E. Head.	4 April (No. 69.)	In reply to Sir E. Head's Despatch, No. 51, 15 March 1856 (No. 3 in series). Approval expressed, of course proposed in regard to the disposal of certain articles originally intended as presents for Indians - - - - -	42

COPIES or EXTRACTS of recent CORRESPONDENCE respecting Alterations in the
Organization of the INDIAN DEPARTMENT in *Canada*.

Despatches from the Governor-General of Canada.

— No. 1. —

(No. 66.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Earl of *Elgin* to the
Right honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart., M. P.

Government House, Quebec, 18 December 1854.

(Received, 11 January 1855.)

(Answered, No. 11, 24 January 1855, page 39.)

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the copy of a report which has been addressed to me by Mr. Oliphant, Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, detailing the proceedings adopted by him to obtain from certain Indian tribes the surrender to the Crown of a large tract of land held by them on the shore of Lake Huron. Mr. Oliphant takes occasion in this report to offer some general remarks on the condition and prospects of the Indians in Canada, which are entitled to consideration, and to which I have called Sir Edmund Head's attention.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Elgin & Kincardine*.

No. 1.
Governor-General
the Earl of *Elgin*
to the Right Hon.
Sir *G. Grey*, Bart.,
18 December 1854.

3 November 1854.

Enclosure in No. 1.

My Lord,

Indian Department, Quebec, 3 November 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of your Excellency, the proceedings which took place at a council convened by me, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, at the Indian village of Saugeen, on the 13th of October last, for the purpose of obtaining, if possible, from the tribes resident at Saugeen, Owen's Sound, and Colpoy's Bay, a surrender to the Crown of the greater portion of that tract of land which has hitherto been reserved for their exclusive use and occupation.

The peninsula of Saugeen, which forms this reserve, contains about 450,000 acres. At your Excellency's desire a council was held by Captain Anderson at Owen Sound in July last. I have the honour to annex that officer's report of his proceedings on that occasion, from which your Excellency will perceive, that, owing to the obstacles thrown in his way, both by whites and Indians, the surrender which he ultimately obtained, was of so partial a character, that the Government did not deem it wise to accept it.

On my way to Saugeen, and in passing through the counties of Grey and Bruce, adjoining this reserve, I received numerous evidences testifying to the expediency of the mission upon which your Lordship had been pleased to send me, and leading me to the hope, that the most beneficial results might be anticipated to all classes of the community, by the successful issue of the undertaking. The tide of emigration which has, of late years been flowing into Canada, has driven before it a crowd of those more adventurous spirits, whose office it is to prepare the way for the industrious emigrant. These were the more eager in their search for wild lands, as the prospect of obtaining them became almost confined in this direction to the counties bordering on the Saugeen peninsula, then an Indian reserve, and which must now be the limit of their explorations. These men were to be seen collected at the door of every backwood tavern, or returning in gangs to the more populous parts of the country where they have no settled occupation, disappointed in their search for land, inveighing against the alleged dishonesty of Crown land agents, organising bands for the forcible ejection of more fortunate squatters, a proceeding which generally resulted in bloodshed; and (in one instance which came to my notice) in murder.

They threatened, in my presence, to settle upon the Indian reserve in defiance of the Government. The general principle that Indian concessions are beneficial alike to the Indian and the white, was here merged in a more important consideration. So keen was the struggle for land, that a surrender of the territory for the purpose of sale, appeared the only method by which the property of these tribes could be conserved to them. It therefore became an obligation upon the Indian Department to spare no pains in endeavouring to

Encl. in No. 1.

16 August 1854,
p. 11.

wring from those whom it protects, some assent, however reluctant, to the adoption of the only means by which this object could be achieved. That there should be some disinclination existing on the part of a partially civilized community to cede for ever those lands which formed the hunting-grounds of their forefathers, and which, although they are now utterly worthless in that capacity, still allow them the power of gratifying their wandering propensities, is only to be expected. This repugnance might easily be overcome in the minds of the better educated and more enlightened chiefs, were it not enhanced by a distrust and suspicion of every act of the Government, instilled into them by designing white men, whose superior intelligence enables them to exercise an influence all the more powerful and dangerous, because, in so remote a district it cannot be opposed. It is evident, that any measure on the part of the Government which tends to destroy the monopoly these men have hitherto enjoyed, of enriching themselves at the expense of the Indians, would meet with all the opposition which by insidious means they could bring to bear upon it. The Indians have always been too ready to listen to insinuations which coincided so exactly with their own inclinations.

In addition to the difficulties arising out of these combined adverse influences, there were others of a more complicated nature presented, by the conflicting interests of the white settlements at Saugeen and Owen's Sound. The advocates of these have lost no opportunity for some time past, of inflaming those feelings of jealousy which have long existed between the two bands, in order that in the event of any surrender to the Crown being under consideration, each interest might be represented in council by Indians, whose only desire was to oppose the wishes of their rivals. Under these circumstances, it appeared to me of the highest importance that no arrangement should be entered into, which should on the one hand seem to the Indians to imply a partiality to one or other of the respective bands, or on the other, lay the department open to the charge of having consulted the interests of one European community, at the expense of those of the other.

Immediately on my arrival at Saugeen, I despatched messengers for the chiefs of the Saugeen band, who were absent at their fishing grounds, as well as for those of the Owen Sound and Colpoy's Bay bands; and in the meantime I endeavoured to obtain as much information as possible upon the best means of securing the surrender, and the most satisfactory allotment of the lands. On the afternoon of the day following my arrival the chiefs of the Saugeen band arrived. As I looked for the strongest opposition from the head chief of this band, who entirely influences its opinion, I immediately sent for him privately, and, in a long interview, prepared him for the proposals I was about to make. He left me with strong expressions of dissent. Shortly after the chiefs of the other bands arrived, and, anxious not to allow them an opportunity of consulting either among themselves or with Europeans, I called a grand council at 7 P. M. in the church at the Indian village, which was attended by the chiefs of the different bands and warriors of the Saugeen band. The only Europeans present were Mr. James Ross, M. P. P., who had accompanied me from Toronto, and to whom I am much indebted for the assistance he was at all times ready to afford: Mr. McNabb, the Crown land agent, and Mr. Rankin, the land surveyor, and myself. Mr. Jacobs, Indian missionary, acted as interpreter.

I opened the proceedings by stating to them the reasons which had induced your Excellency to recommend the surrender of so large a portion of their territory. The evidence of their own senses was sufficient to bear me out in the truth of my assertions in reference to the avidity with which the neighbouring lands were taken up by whites. They were compelled to admit that squatters were, even then, locating themselves without permission either from themselves or the department upon the reserve. I represented the extreme difficulty, if not impossibility, of preventing such unauthorised intrusion. On the other hand, I explained the advantages which would accrue to them from so large an augmentation of funds as must result from the sale of their lands, by which they would be enabled to erect schools, extend their farms, and purchase many comforts of which they were now deprived. As a further inducement to accede to your Lordship's recommendation, and, also, because I considered, upon many grounds, that it would be a most desirable mode of sale, I promised that the lands, when surveyed, should be sold by auction; that arrangements should be made by which separate titles to farm lots could be granted by the department to the Indians within their own reserves, and having no reference to white men; that the annuities arising from the sale should be paid in money, and not in goods; I finally promised that those chiefs, who were prepared to meet the Government in this measure, so productive of benefit to their bands, should be rewarded by your Excellency with medals. I was met by most decided opposition on the part of Alexander Madwayosh, principal chief of the Saugeen band, whom I have before mentioned, and with whom I maintained an animated discussion, none of the other chiefs taking any part in the proceedings. It was clear, however, that public opinion, more especially with the chiefs of the Owen Sound band, was turning against him, and I therefore passed on to explain to them the limits of the reserves proposed by Government. As soon as the discussion was fairly diverted from the question of the propriety of the surrender to a consideration of the limits of the reserves, I retired for an hour, in order to allow time for a private debate.

It was evident, from what had already occurred, that the fact of this council having been held at Saugeen instead of at Owen Sound, as upon the former occasion, would exercise an important influence upon its proceedings. The Saugeen band maintain that they were first established in this part of the peninsula, and therefore consider that they occupy the most prominent position in the tribe, and are entitled to a larger share in its councils. Feelings of jealousy arising from this cause have invariably manifested themselves when called to a council at Owen Sound, and they consequently opposed a measure, at all times unpalatable, when

when rendered doubly so by the manner in which it was submitted to them. An additional advantage was derived from the presence of many of the young men and warriors of the Saugeen band, who did not attend at Owen Sound, but whose opinions could now be easily ascertained and allowed to have their due effect.

Upon returning to council I found that the chief, Alexander Madwayosh, had been completely out-voted. Some of the other chiefs now came forward to stipulate for increased limits to their reserves and fresh privileges, in consideration of their readiness to adopt the views of Government. These were discussed *àristim*; each party finding occasional concessions necessary, until we decided upon the terms of the surrender, as embodied in the document herewith annexed, which I drew out in the presence of the chiefs, and which was afterwards read and explained to them. By 1 o'clock A. M. the signing, sealing, and affixing of totems was concluded, and the council broke up.

I trust that your Lordship will be satisfied with the extent of the surrender thus obtained. I have appended a sketch map in which the limits have been defined as accurately as was possible without actual survey.

The peninsula formed by the northern bank of the Saugeen River, and the shore of Lake Huron, has been ceded for the purpose of being laid out into town lots. The prosperity of this settlement was essentially involved in the extension of the town in this direction, and facilities are thus afforded of forming a harbour by improving the entrance to the river. A block of land at Owen Sound is also ceded for town lots. It is a continuation of the narrow slip surrendered in 1851, and contains far more eligible sites for houses than any which are to be found within the previous limits of the town of Sydenham. There can be little doubt that the immediate vicinity of these large towns to the Indian villages, will render a further surrender necessary, in which they must be included. Upon my suggesting the probability of such an occurrence, the chiefs of both villages expressed their readiness to make this surrender when it was required, and when they are themselves established in farm lots (to be granted in the way before alluded to) in more distant parts of their reserve. The idea, however, of deportation to one of the islands in Georgian Bay, notwithstanding the advantages which must ever result from the consequent concentration, they refused in any degree to entertain.

I may venture, however, here, to express my opinion, that the surrender as it at present stands, will be quite sufficient for some years to come to meet the wants of the European community, and to hope that neither the white man nor the Indian will find in it cause for dissatisfaction.

On the following day I proceeded to Owen Sound, the trail passing for the whole distance (20 miles), either through the reserves or the land recently surrendered. The intelligence that a large portion of the long-coveted Indian reserve was surrendered to the Crown for sale, created some sensation, and as difficulties were likely to arise from the anxiety of squatters to secure a claim, and their ignorance of the manner in which it was proposed that the land should be sold, I immediately issued a notice warning squatters from trespassing, and wrote to the sheriff requesting his assistance in this matter, copies whereof are appended. Believing that it was of the utmost importance that no time should be lost in bringing the most valuable portions of the land into market, I instructed Mr. Rankin to proceed to the survey of the town lots without delay, and also requested him to report upon the whole tract. He was of opinion, in which I fully concurred, that a road should be opened from Owen Sound to the bay of the Fishing Islands, where there is a favourable site for a town.

Having thus given a detailed account of the proceedings connected with the Indian surrender, I shall take the liberty of offering for your Excellency's consideration, some suggestions as to the conditions which should be attached to those sales, and also as to the mode in which the money arising out of them should be appropriated. So large an accession to its funds may afford an opportunity not to be neglected of effecting a radical change in the system hitherto adopted for the maintenance of the department, by which it may be rendered more independent of external aid than it has been. In order to ascertain the upset price at which the lots should be placed, inspectors should be appointed to appraise their valuation. The advantages of confining the sale to actual settlers were much pressed upon my consideration at Saugeen and Owen's Sound, a large proportion of the community of those settlements being composed of a class which is possessed of more enterprise and experience than capital. Regarding, however, the results which characterise the system now adopted by the Crown Land Department, and the great difficulty which must always attend the enforcement of conditions, compliance with which is supposed to imply actual settlement, it does not seem advisable that the same system should be pursued here. Where private interests are so largely involved, unless it be clearly demonstrable that a different system would be deeply injurious to the prosperity of the country, they have a higher claim upon the consideration of those to whose trust they are confided, than the convenience of a comparatively small portion of the community.

Under these circumstances, it would seem a wiser course that no conditions of actual settlement should be attached to the sale of these lands, but in order to allow persons of limited means to buy, that the purchase-money should be paid by five annual instalments upon the system now adopted in the Crown Land Department. In all cases one-third of the purchase-money to be paid at the time of sale; it being always distinctly understood that the same indulgence which is granted to settlers who hold under the Crown, cannot be accorded to those who are remiss in paying up their instalments to the Indians. It must ever be the duty of the department to enforce the most rigid compliance with stipulations attached to all transactions affecting the property of those whom it protects. As soon,

13 Oct. 1854. P. 13.

Inserted at p. 14.

Mr. Olliphant to
Mr. Rankin,
14 Oct. 1854. P. 14.
14 Oct. 1854. P. 15.

however, as these lands are ready to be brought into the market, an officer must be appointed to sell them, whose duty it will also be to enforce compliance with the conditions of sale. In order that no new charge should be made out of the Imperial grant, the salary of this officer might be paid by commission upon his sales.

It is impossible to estimate with any degree of certainty, the extent of the revenue which must accrue to the Indians who are concerned in this surrender; but the most moderate calculation will furnish so large an addition to the present funds of the department as to lead to the hope that the period may not be very remote, when the views of the Imperial Government with reference to the maintenance of the Indian Department, and which have of late been so much pressed upon the attention of your Excellency, may be carried into effect. I have therefore ventured to submit a general statement of the annual expenditure for the support of the department, as well as of the amount of revenue accruing to the Indians from various sources, with a view of showing the practicability of ultimately relieving the Imperial Government of the burden of contributing towards the superintendence or support of the Indian tribes of the province of Canada. The alterations which I venture to propose, should in no way affect the constitution of the department with respect to the appointment of its officers, or its position relatively to the Provincial Government. They have reference solely to the mode in which the funds under the control of the department should be applied. It is only in accordance with equity and common usage, that where an agency is employed for the management of large pecuniary interests, its officers should be paid out of the funds which they administer, while the fact that these tribes are still in a semi-barbarous condition, does not relieve them from what may be termed the natural obligation of bearing the pecuniary burdens incidental to the process of self-civilization. At the same time it is to be remarked that these changes, however desirable and reasonable they may appear, must necessarily be altogether prospective in their character.

I have roughly estimated the extent of funds which may be anticipated to arise out of the sale of the Saugeen surrender, but at least five years must elapse before the total sum can be placed to the credit of the Indians. It may extend over a longer period, and must, at all events, be subject to many changes before it can be considered available for the purpose to which I have designed it. The fact of this fund having rendered the proposed financial changes feasible, would necessarily imply the postponement of the alterations, until it had accrued in its entirety; but there are other grounds upon which the immediate adoption of any scheme with this object in view would be inexpedient.

The withdrawal of presents to the value of 10,000*L.* annually, although it is extended over a period of four years, is nevertheless so serious and unexpected a reduction of their yearly allowances as to render any imposition of fresh pecuniary burdens undesirable. It has always been the distinct impression of the Indians that their presents were guaranteed to them in perpetuity, and their feelings of disappointment upon this subject have frequently manifested themselves.

It is, moreover, worthy of observation, that the Indians upon whom the burden of maintaining the department would entirely fall, are those who have most suddenly been deprived of their presents. It is true that the extreme poverty of the Indians of Lower Canada, and those resident on the Manitoulin Island have procured for them this indulgence. Upon the same ground they now seem entitled to exemption from those liabilities which abundant means involve upon their more fortunate neighbours.

The Indians of Lower Canada are composed of the following tribes: viz.

- The Hurons at La Jeune Lorette.
- The Amalictes, Micmacs and Abeniquais, at Isle Verte and posts on the St. Lawrence.
- The Abeniquais of Becaucour.
- The Algenquins, near Three Rivers.
- The Tête de Boule, at Wamantasingue, River St. Maurice.
- The Iroquois, at Canahawaga.
- The Iroquois, at St. Regs.
- Algenquins of the River Desert in the Ottawa.
- Abeniquais of St. Francis.
- Nipisings of Lake of Two Mountains.
- Algenquins of Lake of Two Mountains.
- Iroquois of Lake of Two Mountains.

On account of the almost utter destitution of some of these tribes, the whole race has been placed in some respects upon a different footing from the tribes of Upper Canada. The Provincial Parliament endows three schools at 50*L.* each, and makes them an annual grant of 1,000*L.* currency. A great portion of this sum is applied to relieving destitution; but about 1,500*L.* consisting of former balances is invested for the benefit of the Indians, and there is a balance of about 500*L.* on hand; 230,000 acres have been recently reserved to them for cultivation or future surrender; besides which the St. Regs Indians own about 17,000 acres of land.

The principal portion of the pecuniary charge which has heretofore fallen upon the Imperial Government, has been created by the costs of the presents which have been granted to the Indians throughout the entire province. These, however, will very shortly be discontinued, and do not therefore now fall to be considered.

The

IN THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

The following is a statement of the expenditure of the department for Lower Canada, upon other charges, for the year ending 31st March 1864.

	£.	s.	d.
Contingencies - - - - -	194	18	6
Salaries - - - - -	864	14	-
Pensions - - - - -	161	9	4
Pensions to Wounded Indians - - - - -	36	16	4
	<hr/>		
Sterling - - - - -	£. 1,267	17	2
	<hr/>		
Currency - - - - -	£. 1,543	-	4

I would suggest to your Lordship the following reductions of this amount. The salary of the local superintendent, now fixed at 350*l.* a year, might suffer a decrease proportionate to the diminution of his labours. When the distribution of presents ceases, the duties of this functionary will be very light. There are no annuities to be paid, as in Upper Canada, entailing long and arduous journeys, the expenses of which are, in every case, borne by the superintendents. The land sales are not nearly so valuable or numerous as in the upper portion of the Province, while the greater portion of the tribes have no settled habitation, and never see the superintendent. A trifling correspondence would indeed be his only occupation. Considering, therefore, the diminished responsibility and labour resulting from these causes, it would seem that 200*l.* a year would be an amply sufficient salary upon which to place the successor of the present incumbent.

The only other reduction which it humbly appears to me might advantageously be effected applies with equal force to the tribes of Upper as of Lower Canada. I will, therefore, take this opportunity of suggesting that the office of interpreter be altogether abolished. At present there is no interpreter to the Lower Canada Indians. The gentleman who recently officiated in that capacity, and who is since dead, could only speak the Iroquois language, which is not spoken by the majority of the tribes for whose benefit he is paid; nor would it be possible to find a person competent to converse in all the different dialects used by them. Each tribe, therefore, visiting the local superintendent is now obliged to bring their own interpreter. It is true that the Indians resident at the large Iroquois village of Caughnawaga demand a larger share of the superintendent's attention than any other band. For which reason, a principal qualification to be looked for in the selection of that officer, should be acquaintance with the Iroquois or French languages, this latter being familiar to the majority of the tribe. The duties of clerk have also been hitherto made to devolve upon the interpreter, but I do not think the correspondence of any local superintendent, certainly not of the gentleman in Lower Canada, sufficient to warrant his retention upon this ground.

In Upper Canada there are always a sufficiently large number of well-educated men in every band, qualified to act as interpreter, while, as the dialects do not differ here as in the Lower Province, the local superintendent should be sufficiently conversant with the language to be able to communicate directly with the tribes under his charge.

The present juncture is peculiarly favourable to the adoption of this measure, as two vacancies are now waiting to be filled up. In the case of the third superintendent, whose interpreter is an intelligent young Indian, I would suggest that he be allowed to retain his present appointment so long as his superior, Captain Anderson, who is a most excellent and zealous officer, continues to act, as the advancing years of this gentleman require assistance during the short period he may still remain in the department.

It will appear that when these reductions have been effected in Lower Canada, the annual expenditure on account of the tribes resident there, will amount to about 1,000*l.* a year, to this is to be added a fluctuating sum to be appropriated to charitable purposes. If the amount at present granted with this object, annually, by the Provincial Government, were devoted instead to meeting the annual expenditure of the department for Lower Canada, it is apparent that it would exactly suffice for the purpose; and I, therefore, venture to express my opinion in the first instance, of the desirability of such a change, but the necessity of course arises of obtaining from some other source a sum adequate to the relief of the wants of the poorer Indians. The balance of 2,000*l.* already mentioned, is peculiarly fitted to meet this demand, since it is one for which it was originally intended. But as at the end of three, or at most four years, it would be exhausted, some means should, as speedily as possible, be adopted in anticipation of these changes, of creating a permanent fund, to be dedicated to the same object. Such a fund could most readily be supplied from the sale of some portion of the recently laid out Indian reserves of 230,000 acres. This, as it has been designed to enrich the tribes of Lower Canada generally, might very fairly be, to some extent, appropriated to meet the wants of the poorest bands; more particularly since the Indians of St. Regis, who even now pay their own agent, have lands of their own, together with considerable funds; while the Iroquois of Caughnawaga are engaged in various branches of trade and agriculture, and are quite independent in their circumstances.* By these means the Imperial Government would be relieved of all farther charge on the score of the superintendence or support of the Indian tribes of Lower Canada.

The

* The St. Regis Indians have 6,500*l.* investments, yielding 300*l.* annual interest, and the Iroquois of Caughnawaga have 300*l.* investments, yielding 15*l.* 12s. annual interest. These tribes have no annuity.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING ALTERATIONS

The only other Indians in the province who, as I before mentioned, are unable from poverty to contribute towards their own support, are those now resident on the Manitoulin Islands. The Indian settlements on these islands having originally been established by Sir Francis B. Head as an experiment, must still continue a burden upon the Imperial Government. These islands, however, in a mercantile point of view, derive an increasing importance as being situated upon the great route along which the extensive traffic must pass, which is springing into rapid existence, as the mineral resources of Lake Superior become each year more developed. An opportunity will thus be afforded to the more enterprising of the inhabitants to augment their means, by putting into practice those habits of industry, which it has been the object of the institution to inculcate and promote.

The following is the present annual expenditure :

	Sterling.
Superintendent (250 l. currency) - - - - -	£. 205 9 8
Clergymen - - - - -	200 - -
Surgeon - - - - -	150 - -
Schoolmaster at Manitowawny - - - - -	75 - -
Schoolmaster at the Roman-catholic settlement - - - - -	50 - -
Medicine and stationery - - - - -	50 - -
Sterling - - - - -	£. 730 9 8
Currency - - - - -	£. 888 15 1

This expense, however, would be much diminished, if the New England Society could be induced to transfer their operations from the Six Nations, who, as will hereafter appear, are fully able to support their own schools, to Manitoulin.

Besides the Indians resident on the Manitoulin, the Ojibeways of Lakes Huron and Superior are also under the superintendence of the department. They receive at present 1,100 l. perpetual annuity from the Provincial Government, which is guaranteed to them without reduction. Their quota, however, to the general sustenance fund of the Upper Canada tribes would be so very small, that it would not be advisable to trench upon it. Some of their lands may turn out to be valuable from their mineral resources, and a percentage might be taken off them as they were sold. I have not, however, included these tribes among those whom I conceive liable to contribute towards the support of the department. I have the honour to append a Schedule, containing the names of these tribes, their population, annuities, commutation money, investments, annual interest, the amount at present expended by them, and the sums proportionably to be contributed by each tribe, should the proposed scheme come into operation.

In addition to the total amount of funded property which appears to the credit of these Indians, they have numerous, extensive, and valuable tracts of wild land still unsurrendered, of which it is difficult to obtain any definite estimate. Some of the tribes have also considerable amounts due upon instalments, which have not yet been paid up, for land; among these may be more particularly mentioned the Six Nation Indians and the Chippewas of St. Clair, who have to receive about 7,000 l. on this account.

Besides the funded and landed property thus appertaining to the particular tribes, there is another source of revenue, which, though not very large, is common to them all, and which may therefore, with the greatest propriety, be taken as the basis upon which to build the permanent establishment; it is called the "General Fund," and is composed of the following sums :

£. 6,700 - -	invested at 6 per cent.
700 - -	" 5 per cent.
943 14 1	in hand.

The general fund arises out of the interest on the floating capital in the hands of the Receiver-general, uninvested, on account of land sold for the benefit of the sundry tribes of Upper Canada, not including Manitoulin. As long as the Indians of Upper Canada are possessed of lands, and continue to sell them, this sum must exist, and increase in proportion to the annual land sales. It has hitherto been applied in part payment of the salary of the accountant, and to contingencies affecting the department generally; and upon an increase being recently made to the salaries of the accountant, the chief clerk, and the accountant for Indian affairs in the Receiver-general's office, the necessary addition was drawn from this source. The fluctuating incomes of the various tribes surely render this fund most appropriate for the purpose to which I have designed it; since, while it is permanent in its character, it is the common property of all.

The following is a statement of the expenditure, not including the charge for presents on account of the Indian tribes of Upper Canada, for the year ending 31st March 1854.

	£.	s.	d.
Contingencies - - - - -	347	4	9
Salaries - - - - -	1,612	4	11
Pensions - - - - -	138	1	-
Pensions to wounded Indians - - - - -	15	3	4
Sterling - - - - -	£. 2,112	14	-
Currency - - - - -	£. 2,570	9	1

By

By the annexed Schedule it appears that the total amount of annuities which these tribes receive is 6,654*l.* 10*s.*, and of annual interest 8,884*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*; making their entire annual income 15,538*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* From this is to be deducted the sum annually expended by them, for the support of missions, schools, salaries, &c.; viz. 3,744*l.* 12*s.*, leaving a net annual income of 11,793*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, but to this again is to be added the sum which will accrue to the Saugeen and Owen Sound Indians, from the sale of the recently surrendered territory, which may be roughly estimated at 100,000*l.* This is rating the land at a dollar an acre; there can be little doubt, however, that it will fetch considerably more than this; this will give an annual interest of 6,000*l.* It is out of this large income, which may be stated in round numbers, and at the lowest estimate, to exceed 17,000*l.*, that I respectfully submit that the tribes of Upper Canada should be called upon to defray, proportionably to their incomes, those expenses which are at present charged against the Imperial Government, and which are incidental to the support of the department that watches over their interests. To the expenditure on account of Upper Canada H , however, to be added the amount required for the support of the head quarters of the department, and which will consist of the following sums, if the contemplated increase of 25 per cent. upon the present salaries of Mr. Chesley and Mr. Turner be granted.

	£	s.	d.
The accountant, Mr. Chesley	450	-	-
Chief clerk, Mr. Turner	250	-	-
Accountant of Indian Monies, Receiver-general's department, Mr. Anderson	50	-	-
Stationery	100	-	-
Printing and contingencies	50	-	-
Currency	£.900	-	-

The duties of Mr. Chesley are rather those of assistant to the Superintendent-general, and will be much increased by the recent land surrender. From the annexed Schedule, marked (A.), it will appear that the contributions necessary to meet these charges may, in round numbers, be divided into three equal shares, to be apportioned thus:

	£	s.	d.
Saugeen and Owen Sound	1,100	-	-
Six Nations	1,100	-	-
Nine remaining tribes	1,100	-	-

Before closing this report, I would take the liberty of bringing to the notice of your Excellency certain alterations, which, during the period of my tenure of office as Superintendent-general of Indian affairs, have been suggested to me as improvements upon some of the details of the system at present under operation in the department.

The large pecuniary losses to which the Indians have been subjected on account of the dishonest practices of some of the officers of the department, is mainly attributable to the system employed for the reception of money in land sales.

The course now adopted among the Six Nations, with reference to these sales, has been attended with the most beneficial results. All sums due to the Indian Department are paid by the purchaser into some chartered bank, to the credit of the Receiver-general for Indian account. Duplicate receipts are given by the bank, one of which the superintendent retains, and the other he sends to the Receiver-general, notifying in his monthly returns to the department each separate transaction. These last returns are compared by the accountant at head-quarters with the accounts of monies transmitted to the Receiver-general. By these means large sums would no longer be concentrated in the hands of local superintendents, who are thus exposed to more than ordinary temptation, because there is no adequate check furnished by which peculation can be discovered, until it has become so extensive as to involve losses of the most serious character.

With reference to other changes which seemed expedient, as they nearly affected the Indians themselves, I proposed certain written questions for the purpose of ascertaining their feelings with regard to them. From the tenor of these, I have been led to the conclusion that they concurred in most of the more important alterations I now venture to suggest. The payment of annuities or interest-money in goods, upon requisition, instead of by money, is almost universally unpopular. It has, in many instances, been discontinued, and there can be no good reason why it should not altogether cease. The increased civilization of the Indians and their constant intercourse with whites, have familiarized them with the use of money which they have many ways of obtaining. Could they, however, calculate upon fixed payments at stated periods, they would be enabled to purchase their own implements of husbandry, farm-stock, &c., instead of making those requisitions for them, which are at present a fruitful source of inconvenience and even of roguery. By means of these requisitions, dishonest chiefs are enabled to defraud the tribe to a very large extent; it being impossible to discover whether the articles required are really appropriated in the manner specified. The consequence is that complaints against their chiefs are constantly arising, and a feeling of distrust is thus engendered among the members of the tribe, as well of those who purchase, as of those who distribute the articles. Again, it often happens that the article purchased does not give satisfaction, or some delay arises which destroys its value. It has more than once been the case that seeds have been distributed too late in the year for sowing. Indeed, perhaps the most serious objection to these requisitions

sitions is to be found in the injurious effects which in this and in other ways they exercise upon the industrious habits of a tribe. All the articles thus purchased are common property, and the use of them is only allowed to individuals for limited periods. Everybody is, therefore, utterly indifferent to their preservation, nor is it to be expected that persons will be willing to enter upon agricultural operations with the possibility of never having the use of the most necessary appliances at all, or at best only for a short period. When the tribe is large and poor, but very few can thus benefit, and a most injurious patronage is vested with the chiefs, who confine the distribution to their immediate favourites.

Instead, therefore, of paying the Indians at indefinite periods by requisition, I would suggest that half-yearly cash payments should be made to them. The first charge upon their annual supplies, however, should be the public expense of the community. These should be distributed under the control of the department, due importance being given to the recommendations of councils through the local superintendents. The remainder of the money should be apportioned equally among the heads of families in the tribe.

It would seem that the repeal of the law protecting Indians from liability to debt must follow inevitably upon the discontinuance of requisitions. Hitherto it has been urged in favour of this law, that it was necessary, in order to avoid the injustice that would be done to a whole tribe in cases where a creditor distrained upon some improvident member of it, for those articles of common property which were in his possession at the time of the execution. This would no longer be the case under the system of cash payments, but as it would be altogether out of the question that the department should then be accountable for the private debts of individuals, the law protecting them in such cases must be abolished.

The only objection that can be urged against such a mode of procedure, which is, that the apathetic and improvident habits of the Indians render the present system necessary for their protection, does not seem entitled to very much weight. It is no doubt true, that the anomalous footing upon which they have been placed with reference to the white community, had its origin in a laudable desire to protect them from the consequences of their national characteristic weaknesses, accompanied as they were by ignorance and barbarism. But the time seems to have arrived when the machinery, so elaborately devised with this object, may be modified in some of those details which are unpopular with the Indians, involve serious injustice to the whites, are a source of much inconvenience to the department, and very imperfectly answer the purpose for which they were designed.

If the civilising process to which the Indians have been subjected for so many years has been accompanied with success, they have surely by this time arrived at a sufficient enlightened condition to be emancipated from that state of pupillage in which they have been maintained: if, on the other hand, that process has been inadequate to achieve the desired end, it has been long enough in unsuccessful operation to warrant the adoption of some other method of procuring this result. The original intention never can have been to retain this people in a state of permanent minority, and always to regard them as unfit to assume those responsibilities which must, sooner or later, devolve upon every member of a civilised community.

The more intelligent and educated Indians, of which there are a great number, are extremely anxious that the experiment should now be tried of allowing them the control of their own private funds, and express themselves ready and willing to assume the consequent liabilities. This desire seems most natural, and I trust that if it be complied with in the manner proposed, individual enterprise and industry will be developed to an extent which will justify so important an alteration in the administration of Indian affairs.

In order, however, more thoroughly to develop the system by which such favourable results may be anticipated, it seems indispensable that the same privileges of responsible ownership which are granted with regard to moveables should also be extended to land, subject, however, to certain modifications. The liabilities which attach to the possession of landed property are so different in their character, so much more complicated and onerous than those which attach to moveables; that it by no means follows that a people which is sufficiently enlightened and civilized to assume the one is also in a condition to undertake the other. On the contrary, I do not think that the Indians are far enough advanced to become actual freeholders. Their own desire upon the subject, frequently expressed to me, has been that they should be allowed allotments of the reserve, to be settled upon themselves and their children, not by a deed in which the Crown should relinquish the fee, but that by an arrangement of the tribe they should be guaranteed from intrusion, and at the same time, prevented from alienating to other members, except at the recommendation of the local superintendent, where such a conveyance would be manifestly for the benefit of both parties. Any disputes or difficulties arising out of the ownership of their lots upon these terms, should be settled by the chiefs in council, who might at the same time be empowered to increase the size of the lots out of the common lands as an encouragement to those whose extended cultivation rendered such an addition necessary. Under no circumstances should any negotiation be entered into with whites, and, indeed, under the proposed titles any transactions with them affecting land would be of no effect.

While thus endeavouring to establish an identity between each member of a tribe and a certain class of interests which are of his own creation, and which depend upon his individual efforts for their existence, it is not to be forgotten that these efforts can only be rendered really effective by a well defined system of education.

The two industrial schools which have been established by your Excellency have already been sufficiently long in operation to prove the success of the experiment, and to justify the outlay of a larger share of those funds which are in the hands of the department for educational

educational purposes. These schools are mainly supported by voluntary contributions from the tribes, each of which devote one-fourth of their annuity to this object, with the exception of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, whose village schools are in a very flourishing condition; and the Wyandotts, who receive no annuity, and whose poverty deprives them of the privilege of participating in the benefit of the industrial schools; and the Six Nations, who are now relieved from this charge by the exertion of the New England Society, who supply entirely their requirements in this respect. As, however, of all the Indian tribes in the province, the Six Nations are best able to support their own schools, and as their quota would be equal to the present contribution of all the remaining tribes, the project I have already mentioned of inducing the New England Society to remove to Manitoulin, would, if carried out, be attended with the most beneficial results to all the tribes in Upper Canada, since it would have the effect of nearly doubling the industrial school-land. The distance at which some of the tribes are situated from these schools, and the expense consequent upon the journeys of the children to and from them, combined with the natural indolence of the Indian character, has the effect of excluding them altogether from the school. Even those in the immediate neighbourhood who may be supposed to appreciate the advantages of this system of education, since they are willing to contribute so largely to its support, have not energy to insist upon their children taking the benefit of it. It would, therefore, be highly desirable, if possible, that the department should exercise some authority in enforcing the attendance of children. In what manner and to what extent this authority could with propriety be exercised, must ever be a matter for your Excellency's discretion. There are many measures of undoubted benefit to the tribes to which they have such strong objections as to render any opposition to their wishes questionable; as, for instance, the concentration of all the tribes into two or three large communities, or the surrender to the Crown for sale of their reserves, although I think that circumstances might even here arise rendering an interposition of authority an imperative duty. The control which, in its capacity of guardian or protector, the department exercises over the affairs of the Indians, ought certainly to be proportionate to the amount of responsibility which devolves upon it, and surely this control could most legitimately be extended over those interests which affect their moral and intellectual culture.

It seems of the utmost importance, as conducive to the success of the industrial schools, that the children should be sent at a very early age, and kept at them for several years, in order by exciting their emulation, to rouse them from an apathy which seems almost constitutional, and by a salutary system of discipline, train them to steady habits of thought and action. The management of these schools is a matter of so much importance, and at the same time of so great difficulty, that I would venture to recommend that a competent person be sent to examine and report upon them, with a view of ascertaining any further alterations or improvements which the development of the experiments up to this period may have suggested. As the village schools also exercise an important influence upon the well-being of each tribe, it would be desirable that an investigation should at the same time be made into their present condition and requirements. By subjecting every youthful member of a tribe to an educational course, at one or other of these schools, the more intelligent and industrious will soon arrive at a sufficiently advanced state to warrant their emancipation from their present dependent condition. Many are desirous, even now, of sharing the privileges and responsibilities which would attend their incorporation with the great mass of the community, and were increased facilities afforded of raising themselves to the intellectual level of the whites by whom they are surrounded, there is every reason to believe that they would frequently take advantage of them. The prospect of one day sharing upon equal terms in those rights and liberties which the white community now enjoy, would operate as the highest stimulant to exertion which could be held out to young Indians. In order, however, to the acquisition of these privileges, the production of certain testimonials and a favourable report, either from the local superintendent or a person appointed for the purpose should be required, when the successful applicant would be entitled to a sum in commutation of his annuity, with which to commence his career as an independent member of society.

In conclusion, I venture to indulge the hope that the views imperfectly embodied in this report may meet with your Lordship's approbation, as tending in the first instance to relieve the Imperial Government of the burden of maintaining an expensive department for the administration of Indian affairs in this province, and by affording increased agencies for the civilization of the respective tribes, ultimately to procure its extinction.

I have, &c.

(signed) *L. Oliphant,*

Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs.

His Excellency

The Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K. T.,
Governor-General, &c. &c. &c.

Sub-enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 1.

Sir,

Indian Office, Cobourg, 16 August 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that before entering upon the subject of the Indians ceding the Saugeen Reserve to the Crown for sale for their benefit, I had prepared the

247.

B 2

enclosed

enclosed map, the more readily to explain to them the reserves which I thought it would be advisable for them to make (shaded in red and blue), the blue being for the manual labour school.

The Saugeen band having arrived, I opened the council, and brought the subject before them on the 1st instant.

They at first declared they would not sell an inch, but having pointed out to them the folly of their retaining so large a tract of land, from which they were deriving no advantage, the possibility of the whites taking possession of it, without their deriving half the profit they would from the Government, and in which arguments I was supported by the Rev. Mr. Cribb (a Congregational Minister from Colpoy's Bay) Mr. Surveyor Rankin, Chief Peter Jones, Regedonee and Mr. Charles Keeshick, and opposed by the chiefs and their band from Saugeen, and Chief John Thomas Wahbatick Nawash and their adherents at Owen Sound; at length, however, they began to waver, and requested leave to consult amongst themselves for an hour, and on their return to the council they agreed to cede all except those parts marked on the map in pencil "Limits proposed by the Indians." Having thus far succeeded, and knowing from what had already occurred at the council, that further argument would be of no avail, I told them that I did not believe their great father would permit them to make an arrangement of this kind, by which they would prevent the sale of the most valuable part of their reserve, at a time too when it would command a large price, and thus deprive themselves and their children of the benefit to be gained from it.

The reserves which I have proposed contain in the aggregate about 34,600 acres, which is more than they will cultivate for two or three lives, and in my opinion it would be quite opposed to their interest were the Government to accede to their unwise conclusion, for in two days council they did not advance one good argument why the reserve should not be sold beyond, "We dont want to sell our land," "We want to keep it for our children," "We expect Indians to come here to settle." &c., &c., acknowledging at the same time their inability to manage their concerns.

At Colpoy's Bay, where the proposed reserve contains 6,000 acres, the missionary assures me the whole band put together have not 30 acres under cultivation, and at Saugeen and Owen Sound where each reserve is intended to contain 12,000 acres, neither band have 50 acres under crop; under these circumstances, and acting for the good of the Indians, I would beg leave to suggest that the Government, as their guardian, assume the absolute control of their affairs, as parents over their children, and insist upon their doing that which may wisely be determined upon for their good.

Therefore, with reference to the Saugeen tract, as there is no doubt but what the reserves, marked on the map in red and blue, are amply sufficient for them, I do think that a surveyor should immediately be sent to lay out the remainder into farm and town lots, as may seem most advisable, so that the property be brought into market without delay, and the interest, or such portion of it as may be necessary, applied for their advancement in the arts of civilized life. This is also the view taken of their matters by all who really feel an interest in their well-being; but those traders and others immediately surrounding them, express a contrary opinion, because it is their interest to keep the natives in ignorance, in order the more easily to impose upon them, and enrich themselves.

With reference to the Government assuming a control over this reserve, it may be argued, that the Indians hold a deed or patent for this property, but even should such deed in any way be valid, the guardian surely has the same authority over it as over other matters in which their interest is so deeply involved. I, therefore, do hope that a surveyor may be immediately set to work to survey and ascertain the value, not only of the main land, but of the islands also, so far as they are included in that deed.

I have, &c.
(signed) T. G. Anderson, S. I. A.

L. Oliphant, Esq.,
Superintendent-general, Indian Affairs,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 1.

ADDRESS to the *Owen's Sound* and *Saugeen Indians* at the Close of a Council at *Owen Sound*,
2 August 1854.

My Friends,

AFTER talking all day yesterday and nearly all last night, on the subject of your reserve, you have concluded not to cede your land to the Government to be sold for your benefit. Now, if you did not understand the matter, or that you did not expect to derive a benefit from the proposal, your obstinacy would not be wondered at; but as the speeches, both from the whites and those Indians who are in favour of the project, have brought the matter so clearly to your comprehension, every one must believe that you are resolved to oppose the Government, even at a great sacrifice to yourselves and children, or that you are influenced by persons who pretend to be your friends, while, in fact, they seek your ruin.

You complain that the whites not only cut and take your timber from your lands, but that they are commencing to settle upon it, and you cannot prevent them, and I certainly do not think the Government will take the trouble to help you while you remain thus opposed to your own interest. The Government, as your guardian, have the power to act as it pleases with your
reserve,

reserve, and I will recommend that the whole, excepting the parts marked on the map in red and blue, be surveyed and sold for the good of yourselves and children.

The money once secured in your Great Mother's strong box will be safe to you for future generations; whereas, if it is not sold, the trees and land will be taken from you by your white neighbours, and your children will be then left without resource.

(signed) T. G. Anderson, S. I. A.

Sub-enclosure 3, to Enclosure in No. 1.

Sir,

2 August 1854.

By a rough estimate there appears to be in the whole of the Indian tract to the north of Derby and Arran, about 450,000 acres.

Of this 450,000 acres, about 190,000 lies to the south of a line from the middle of the group of Fishing Islands to Colpoy's Bay, and about 260,000 to the north of that line, terminating at Cabot's Head and Cape Hind; this latter part probably contains but little that can be cultivated, being believed to be very rocky.

Of the 190,000 acres 130,000 is included within the two parcels desired to be retained by the Indians, including all the coast, both of Georgian Bay and Lake Huron, as far north as Colpoy's Bay and the Fishing Islands, leaving about 60,000 acres south of these two mentioned points, while they are willing to part with this 60,000 acres being included, and in a wedge-like shape.

Should they persist in objecting to sell any other portion of the 190,000 acres than this inland wedge-like piece, it is obvious that the principal advantage aimed at, both for themselves and the whites, will in a great measure fail, since the portions they thus propose to retain (although with no idea of using them), are the parts most desired by the whites for the formation of settlements, and for which, consequently, they would be most willing to pay large prices.

Such particularly are the parts including the mill site on the Au Sable River, the coast opposite the Fishing Islands, where a town may be laid out to advantage.

These are the parts which the sale of them being managed for the Indians as white men would manage them for himself, would produce them a very large sum and very speedily. The part they offer to surrender will neither sell so readily nor realize anything like as large a price; and in the mean time, as long as they retain the other more desirable parts, there is no doubt they will constantly be assailed as they have hitherto been by companies of speculators desirous of purchasing from them, &c., and to one or two of whom they have already shown a disposition to yield, although it is evident it would be greatly to their disadvantage to do so.

I hope, therefore both for the Indian's sake, and to allow the white settlements a chance to extend, you will recommend the more limited reservations.

Captain Anderson, S. I. A.

I am, &c.
(signed) C. Rankin.

Sub-enclosure 4, to Enclosure, in No. 1.

Surrender of the Saugeen Peninsula.

WE the chiefs, sachems and principal men of the Indian tribes, resident at Saugeen, Owen Sound, confiding in the wisdom and protecting care of our Great Mother across the big lake, and believing that our good father, his Excellency the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor-general of Canada is anxiously desirous to promote those interests which will most largely conduce to the welfare of his Red children, have now being in full council assembled in presence of the Superintendent-general of Indian affairs, and of the young men of both tribes, agreed that it will be highly desirable for us to make a full surrender unto the Crown of that peninsula known as the Saugeen and Owen Sound Indian Reserve, subject to certain restrictions and reservations to be hereinafter set forth. We have therefore set our marks to this document after having heard the same read to us, and do hereby surrender the whole of the above-named tract of country, bounded on the south by a straight line drawn from the Indian village of Saugeen to the Indian village of Nawash in continuation of the northern limit of the narrow strip recently surrendered by us to the Crown, and bounded on the north, east and west by Georgian Bay and Lake Huron, with the following reservations; to wit,

1st. For the benefit of the Saugeen Indians we reserve all that block of land bounded on the west by a straight line running due north from the River Saugeen at the spot where it is entered by a ravine immediately to the west of the village, and over which a bridge has recently been constructed to the shore of Lake Huron; on the south by the afore-said northern limit of the lately surrendered strip; on the east by a line drawn from a spot upon the coast at a distance of about (9½) nine miles and a half from the western boundary

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING ALTERATIONS

aforesaid and running parallel thereto, until it touches the afore-mentioned northern limit of the recently surrendered strip; and we wish it to be clearly understood that we wish the peninsula at the mouth of the Saugeen River to the west of the western boundary aforesaid to be laid out in town and park lots, and sold for our benefit without delay; and we also wish it to be understood that our surrender includes that parcel of land which is in continuation of the strip recently surrendered to the Saugeen River. We do also reserve to ourselves that tract of land called Chiet's Point, bounded on the east by a line drawn from a spot half a mile up the Sable River, and continued in a northerly direction to the bay, and upon all other sides by the lake.

2d. We reserve for the benefit of the Owen Sound Indians all that tract bounded on the south by the northern limit of the continuation of the strip recently surrendered, on the north-west by a line drawn from the north-easterly angle of the aforesaid strip (as it was surrendered in 1851 in a north-easterly direction); on the south-east by the Sound extending to the southern limit of the Caughnawaga settlement, on the north by a line two miles in length, and forming the said southern limit; and we also reserve to ourselves all that tract of land called Cape Crocker, bounded on three sides by Georgian Bay, on the south-west side by a line drawn from the bottom of Nochemowenaing Bay to the mouth of Sucker River; and we include in the aforesaid surrender the parcel of land contained in the continuation to Owen's Sound, of the recently surrendered strip aforesaid.

3d. We do reserve for the benefit of the Colpoys Bay Indians in the presence, and with the concurrence of John Beattie who represents the tribe at this council, a block of land containing 6,000 acres, and including their village, and bounded on the north by Colpoys Bay.

All which reserves we hereby retain to ourselves and our children in perpetuity; and it is agreed that the interest of the principal sum arising out of the sale of our lands be regularly paid to them so long as there are Indians left to represent our tribe, without diminution, at half yearly periods.

And we hereby request the sanction of our great father, the Governor-General to this surrender which we consider highly conducive to our general interests.

Done in council at Saugeen this 13th day of October 1854.

It is understood that no islands are included in this surrender.

(signed and sealed)

<i>John</i> (symbol) <i>Kaduhgekoun</i>	(seal.)
<i>Alexander</i> (symbol) <i>Madwayosh</i>	"
<i>John</i> (symbol) <i>Manedroowab</i>	"
<i>John Thomas</i> (symbol) <i>Wahbudick</i>	"
<i>Peter</i> (symbol) <i>Jones</i> .	"
<i>David Sawyer</i> .	"
<i>John H. Beatty</i> .	"
<i>Thomas</i> (symbol) <i>Pabakmorh</i>	"
<i>John</i> (symbol) <i>Madwashermint</i>	"
<i>John</i> (symbol) <i>Johnston</i> .	"
<i>John Aunjegahbowh</i>	"
<i>James Newash</i>	"
<i>Thomas</i> (symbol) <i>Wahbudick</i>	"
<i>Charles Keeshick</i>	"

(signed) *L. Oliphant*, Superintendent-general, Indian Affairs.
Peter Jacobs, Missionary.

Witnesses.

(signed) *Jas. Ross*, M. P. P.
C. Rankin, P. L. S.
A. M'Nabb, Crown Land Agent.

Sub-enclosure 5, to Enclosure in No. 1.

Sir,

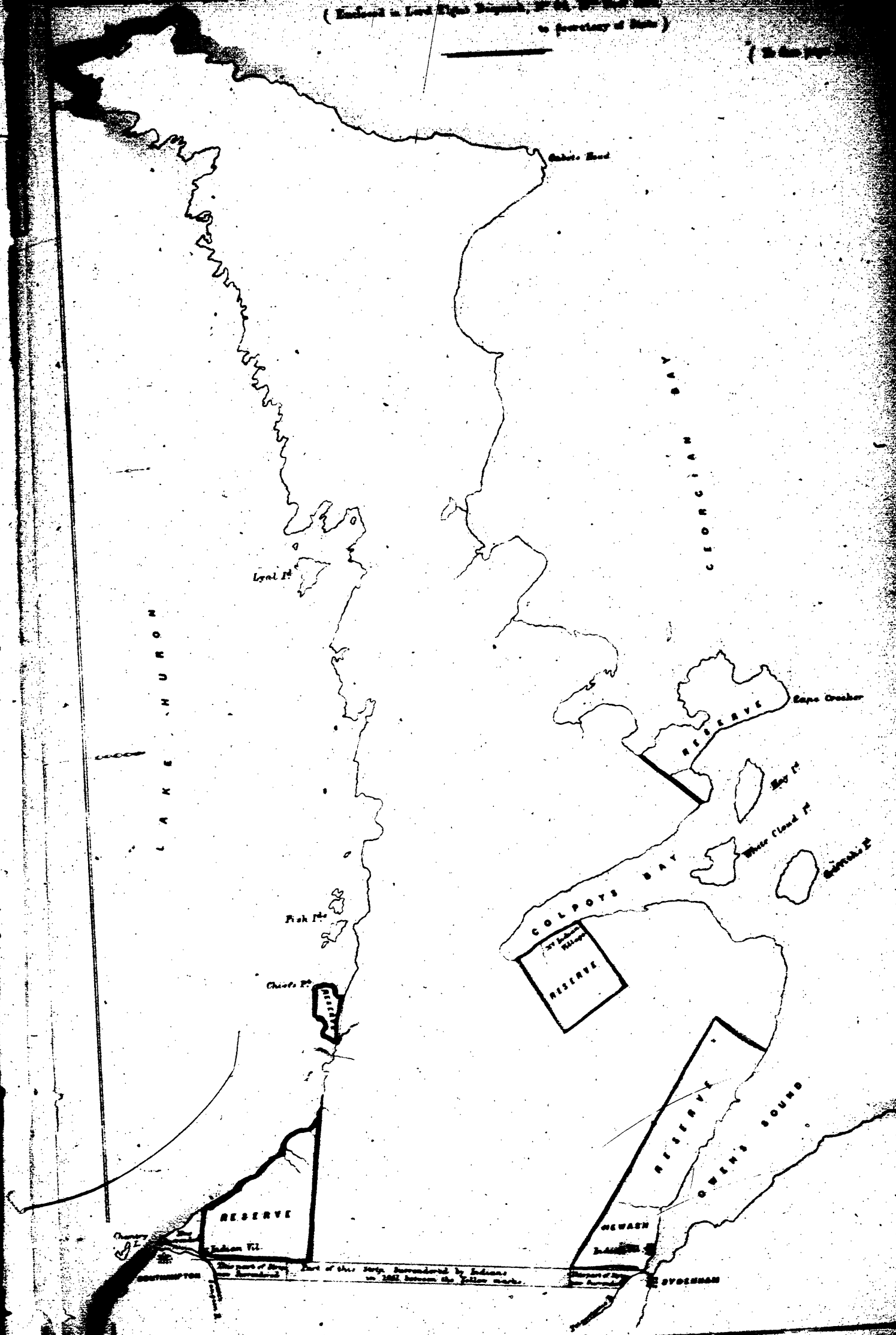
Owen Sound, C. W., 14 October 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that the tract of land, known by the name of the Saugeen Peninsula, has been surrendered to the Crown by the Indians, with the exception of certain reserves, which I have to request that you will mark off on the ground according to the terms of the surrender, as explained by a sketch of the peninsula, which will be furnished to you. I have also to request that, after you have examined the whole tract, you will report to me your opinion of the best method of dividing it into lots, with a view to making it most largely productive to the Indians.

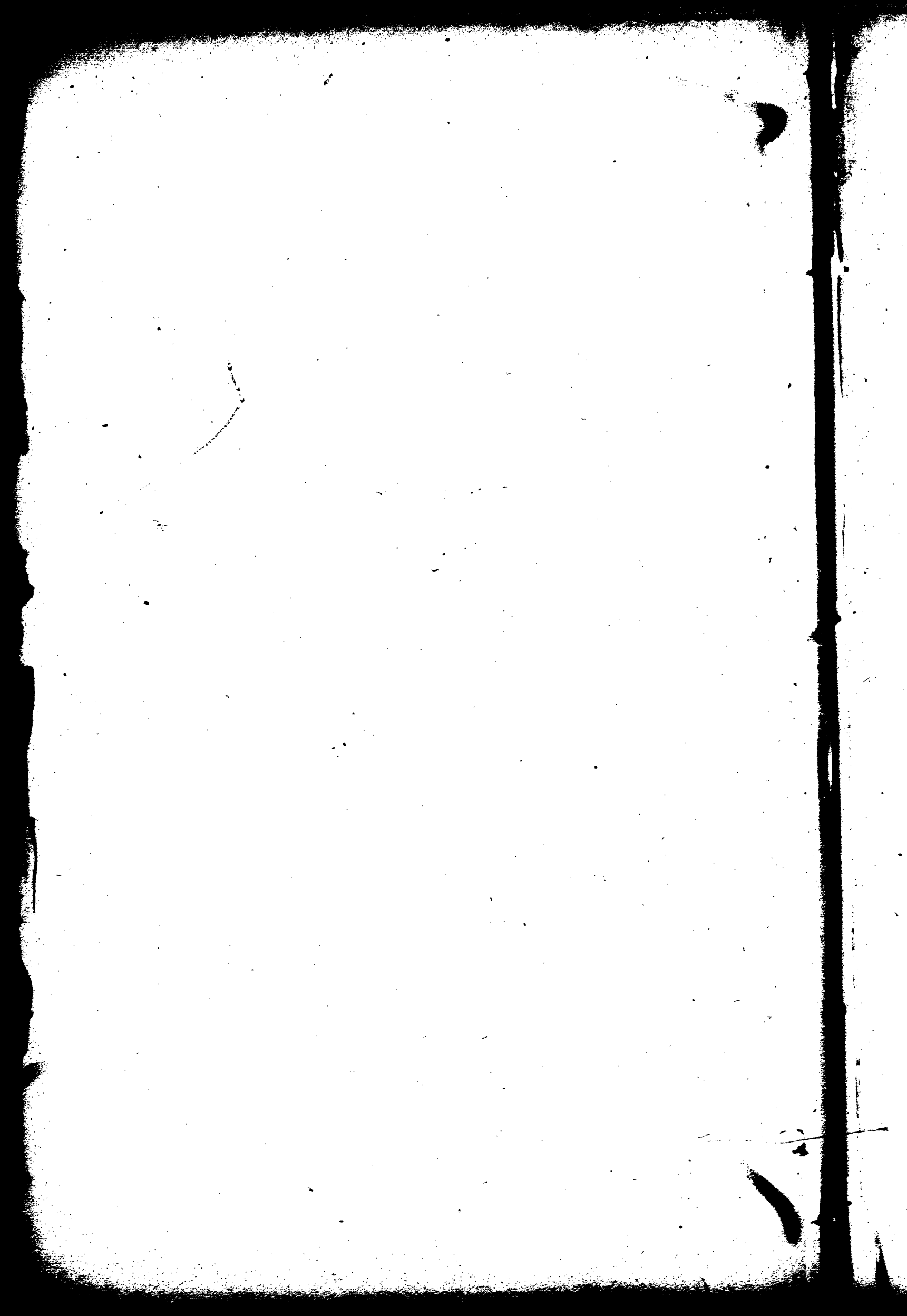
In conclusion, as there is a great probability of squatters trespassing upon the surrender before it is offered for sale, you are requested particularly to use every means in your power to prevent such intrusion, and in all cases, in which it shall come to your notice, to give information thereof to the sheriff, and call upon him summarily to eject all persons thus trespassing.

(Enclosed in Lord Selkirk Dispatch, 2^d 44 - 2^d 45 - 1845
to Secretary of State)

(In this paper)



Part of this territory, surrendered by Indians in 1842 between the yellow marks.



IN THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

15

NOTICE.

Surrender of the Indian Reserves on the Peninsula of Saugeen.

Notice is hereby given, that no squatters will be allowed upon the land recently surrendered to the Crown by the Indians. All persons found trespassing or cutting timber will be prosecuted and punished. The above-mentioned lands will be surveyed, divided into lots, and put up to public auction without delay; and any improvements made by squatters prior to that period will not be recognised by the department as affording any claim for compensation.

C. Rankin, Esq.

I have, &c.
(signed) L. Oliphant, Superintendent-general.

Sub-enclosure 6, to Enclosure in No. 1.

14 October 1854.

Sir,
I HAVE to inform you that, with the exception of certain small reserves, the whole of the Saugeen and Owen Sound Peninsula has been surrendered to the Crown by the Indians. As these lands will be divided into lots and sold by public auction, and it is most desirable that no squatters be allowed to trespass upon them prior to the sale, as the department will not recognise any claim on account of improvements effected by them, I am, therefore, directed by his Excellency the Governor-General to request your assistance in summarily ejecting any persons who may, in defiance of the notices already issued, intrude upon the property of the Crown.

Mr. Sheriff Schneider,
County of Grey.

I have, &c.
(signed) L. Oliphant, Superintendent-general.

Sub-enclosure 7, to Enclosure in No. 1.

UPPER CANADA.

(A.)

TRIBE.	Population.	Commutation			Annual Interest.	Salaries and School Subscriptions.	Amount proposed to be Contributed by each Tribe.
		Annuity.	Money, 1854.	Investments.			
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Six Nations	2,400	none	386 12 5	33,010	7,133 14 2	1,065	1,050
Mississagas of Credit	202	522 10	102 9 11	3,350	351	230 12 6	140 13
Chippewas of St. Clair and Walpole Island.	1,291	1,100	623 5 3	2,900	171	407 10 3	235 0
Chippewas of Thames	595	600	299 10 9	2,700	160 10	212 10	122 6
Moravians of the Thames	154	150	77 10 7	none	none	75	30 2
Wyandotte of Anderson	126	none	65 13	3,223 6 8	192 16	56	31 2
Mohawks Bay of Quinte	374	450	178 4 10	7,973 6 8	456 9 7	129 12	133
Saugeen and Owen's Sound	343	1,250	170 13 9	500	6,050	247 10	175 0
Chippewas Lakes Huron and Simcoe.	323	1,200	186 1 2	2,350	167	532 5	230 5
Mississagas of Alnwick	142	642	71 19 5	3,655	213 10	227 2 6	167 14
Pitta, Rice and Mud Lakes.	210	740	108 2	none	none	247 10	119 5
	6,226	6,654 10	2,775 1 3	118,261 13 4	14,234 11 9	3,744 12	2,150 9

These two Tribes are not included in the above Table:

Lake Huron Indians	600
Lake Superior Pitta	500

* Besides investments in England, mortgages, bank stock, interest on which is included in annual amount, 48,000 of Grand River Canal Stock, unproductive, is held by the Six Nations.
† £6,000 of this income is predicated on the anticipated sales of the tract recently surrendered at Lake Huron.

— No. 2. —

(No. 154.)

No. 2.
Governor-General
Sir E. Head, Bart.,
to the Right Hon.
H. Labouchere.
15 Dec. 1855.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir E. Head, Bart., to the Right Honourable H. Labouchere, M. P., dated Government House, Toronto, 15 December 1855.

(Received, 1 January 1856.)

(Answered, No. 42, 21 February 1856, page 39.)

• Vide p. 39.

In a despatch, dated 24th January 1855, No. 11,* Sir George Grey was pleased to observe, with reference to Indian matters, "But before adopting a conclusion on the practical questions which it (Mr. Oliphant's Report) suggests, I shall await the communication of the opinions which you may form, after you shall have had an opportunity of giving it your consideration."

I have, in consequence of what was there said, endeavoured to obtain the best possible information, and to consider the least objectionable means of gradually effacing from the Estimates of the Imperial Parliament all and any charges for the Indians of Canada. In doing this, I have given full weight to the propositions made by Mr. Oliphant, in his report to Lord Elgin; and I am prepared to say that I think the scheme set forth by Lord Bury, in the annexed report, would be more effectual in itself, and more satisfactory in every way, than the contingent expiration of the charge at the end of seven or eight years, as proposed by Mr. Oliphant. In the first place, in order to assume that the charge would so expire, we must suppose that all went perfectly smooth: that the Saugeen lands turned out as good and as valuable as it is hoped they will; and that the surveys, the sales, and the payments, all were made and effected at the precise moments anticipated. How little any such uninterrupted success is to be anticipated, we may judge by the attempt to commence the sales this autumn, which has failed, as I believe, by the neglect, if not the wilful misconduct, of one of our surveyors. This delay alone will postpone the first receipts from this large tract for eight months or more.

There is no necessity for my explaining the details of Lord Bury's scheme, which he has set forth himself, and to which I earnestly solicit the attention of Her Majesty's advisers.

If this plan were adopted, a sum of 80,000 £., representing the average payment for (say) seven years, would have to be voted by the Imperial Parliament, and invested in six per cent. Canadian Debentures, in the name of some official trustees, in England, and the interest would be paid to the Indian Department here in perpetuity. The result of such an investment would be the immediate and entire disappearance of the charge from the Estimates of the House of Commons, not merely its expiration at the end of eight or ten years, as contingent on the success of certain sales and transfers of property in this country. Whether it is worth the while of Great Britain to purchase the redemption of the charge at such a price, it is for Her Majesty's Government to judge. I approach the whole subject with pain and misgiving, because I never feel quite confident of the possibility of reconciling the perfect good faith of England towards the Aborigines with the natural wish of the Queen's Government to effect the abolition of all charge on the Imperial revenue; a course which I know to be, in the abstract, right and desirable in every way. This misgiving in my own mind makes me perhaps catch at an expedient which neither a British Government nor a British House of Commons may deem admissible; but such as it is I submit it to your consideration, and I shall be ready to do my utmost to carry out that or any other course of policy which may appear best adapted for obtaining the same results.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Indian Department, Toronto, 5 December 1855.

To his Excellency Sir *Edmund W. Head*, Bart., Governor-General of British North America, &c. &c. &c.

May it please Your Excellency.

1. BEFORE entering on the general affairs of the Indian Department, I beg leave humbly to lay before your Excellency a few observations.

2. Your Excellency has been pleased to inform me that it is the wish of the Imperial Government that the Indian Department should cease to be an annual charge upon it, and further, to order me to consider the best means of enabling the Imperial Government to effect this change in a manner consonant at once with justice and economy.

The despatch which orders the reduction of the department says: "But it will be proper to turn attention to the gradual reduction of the Indian establishment itself, now that the object (the distribution of presents) for which it was organized, is in course of rapid extinction. I shall be glad to receive a report from you on this subject."

The honourable Colonel Bruce then Superintendent-general, reported for the information of the officer administering the Government, upon the practicability of following these directions. His report will be found enclosed in a despatch from his Excellency Lieutenant-General Rowan to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

In it, Colonel Bruce speaks in strong terms of the inexpediency of decreasing the department any further. General Rowan in his despatch just referred to, says: "Colonel Bruce has entered so fully into the subject, that it might be sufficient for me to record my entire concurrence (for the reasons which he has assigned) in his opinion, that, in the actual condition of the Indians, a department specially devoted to their protection is indispensable, and that the existing establishment which was reduced to its present standard in the year 1845, is by no means excessive, although taking into account the increasing intelligence of the Indians, it may hereafter be found possible as vacancies occur, gradually to modify the present system with a view to increased economy, without impairing its efficiency."*

3. After this date the question appears to have dropped, till it was re-opened by Mr. Oliphant in his report to his Excellency the Earl of Elgin, enclosed by his Excellency in a despatch to Sir George Grey.

Mr. Oliphant, during his tenure of the office I now hold, received the commands of the Earl of Elgin to devise a scheme for relieving the Imperial Government of this annual burden. In obedience to his Excellency's command, he produced a report which recommends that the entire burden of supporting the department should be borne by the Indians themselves. The Earl of Elgin was then on the point of returning to England, and Mr. Oliphant's report was acknowledged by Sir George Grey, in a despatch to your Excellency dated 24th January 1855,† in which he says:—"Mr. Oliphant's report is a valuable one, and has not failed to attract my attention; but, before adopting a conclusion on the practical questions which it suggests, I shall await the communication of the opinions which you may form after you shall have had an opportunity of giving it your consideration."

4. In accordance with the intimation conveyed in the latter part of this extract, your Excellency was pleased to send me to Upper Canada‡ in the early part of June last, in order to make a careful personal inspection of various tribes of Indians scattered over the Province. I had every facility afforded me from all persons concerned in the department.

5. I believe that Mr. Oliphant considered it to be his duty, not to discuss the justice of the case, but simply to state how far the Indian Department could be made self supporting, in case Imperial aid were withdrawn without equivalent compensation; and moreover, to propose a mode of proceeding, which should totally absolve the Imperial Government from any further expense in the case of the Indians of Canada. Though I am fully sensible of the value of the information contained in the report he in consequence produced, I cannot agree with the opinions he founds upon it.

6. My duty appears to me to be keeping in view the wishes of the Imperial Government, to examine the various courses which it is competent for it to pursue. This involves two questions:—First, whether from pledges given to the Indians or from other causes, it may not be difficult for the British Government entirely to withdraw their assistance; Secondly, to inquire into the practicability of the scheme already before your Excellency, to examine how far, if adopted, it would in practice, attain the ends proposed, and, if necessary, to suggest a substitute for it.

7. I have omitted all details not absolutely necessary; for further information, I would refer your Excellency to the report of the Commissioners Rawson and others, to his Excellency

Wishes of the Home Government to be relieved from the expenses of the Indian Department.

Duke of Newcastle to General Rowan, 21 January 1854, Appendix, No. 1, p. 31.

Lieut.-General Rowan to the Duke of Newcastle, 3 March 1854, Appendix, No. 2, p. 38.

3 November 1854, Lord Elgin to Sir G. Grey, No. 66, 18 Dec. 1854, p. 3.

+ Page 39

What courses can be adopted to attain this object.

* I have quoted the entire despatch in the Appendix (No. 2), as I shall have occasion to draw your Excellency's attention to it again in another part of this Report.

† The seat of government was then in Quebec.

Excellency Sir Charles Bagot, on the reconstruction of the Indian Department, and to the report of Mr. Oliphant already mentioned.

How far the Imperial Government is pledged to continue its pecuniary support.

Conduct pursued towards the Indians of America by the Spanish, United States and British Governments contrasted.

10. In order to ascertain whether pledges given to the Indians or other causes render it inexpedient for the Imperial Government to withdraw from them its pecuniary support, it will be necessary to examine the manner in which they have heretofore been dealt with.

11. The system pursued towards the aborigines of America by Great Britain, has differed from that both of the Spanish Government in ancient times towards the savages of Central America, and that adopted in more recent days by the United States.

12. The former appearing to assume that the Pope had granted their land to the Spaniards, refused altogether to recognize any rights of the Indians; and took little further trouble about them, except to enslave them, or to defend themselves from constant and harassing attacks.

13. The United States authorities deport whole tribes to more distant hunting-grounds, by peaceable means if possible, but, if necessary, by force, as soon and as often as the increasing tide of white emigration appears to demand wider bounds.

14. The system of Great Britain differed from the other two, much in practice and still more in theory. She acknowledged a qualified right of property in the Red man by purchasing his land. She refrained from insisting on her rights as conqueror, and, in return for the territory he ceded, promised him protection. If at that time the policy which now appears to be implied, by withdrawing the Imperial aid, had obtained, the aborigines would have been left alone, to resist or succumb to the incursions of the whites, without Government interference; but a different course was adopted. The Indians were recognized as having a species of right to the land; a bargain was made; the Indians have kept their part of it, for we (that is the Crown or the colonial community) have their lands. To cease altogether from affording them pecuniary support would have in their eyes the appearance of a breach of faith, a withdrawal from the payment of a promised equivalent. If it be urged that the Indians are a part of the colonial body politic, and that interference or assistance has been gradually taken away from the other elements of the colony to which they belong, the answer is, they can scarcely be considered as such, whilst they neither possess the right of suffrage, nor incur liability to arrest for debt. With the white population, moreover, interference is neither needed nor would it be acceptable; but the Indian has not sufficiently profited by the lessons of the dominant race to acquire the degree of civilization necessary to protect his own interests. He is still treated as a ward or child. The necessity for protection is as strong now, perhaps stronger, than ever; and I venture to think that the Imperial Government, if their attention were properly directed to the inevitable consequences of the withdrawal of their assistance, would continue to extend to the Indians at least the same amount of protection as was vouchsafed by our ancestors.

Assistance and protection of Government still required by the Indians.

Three alternatives remain, if Imperial aid be withdrawn.

15. It would, I think, be hopeless to attempt suddenly to merge the Indians in the general mass of the population. If, therefore, Imperial aid be withdrawn, three alternatives would remain:

- (A.) The Indian Department must be abolished;
- (B.) Or it must be handed over to the Provincial Government;
- (C.) Or be supported by Indian funds alone.

I beg to submit to your Excellency the arguments which naturally occur against either of these modes of proceeding.

Necessity of having a department for Indian affairs.

* Page 31.

16. (A.) Strong reasons must naturally, of course, exist to induce the Imperial Government to depart from a system that has so long prevailed; and though no reasons are detailed in the Duke of Newcastle's despatch already quoted (Appendix 1.),* the impression on his Grace's mind would appear to have been that the distribution of presents having ceased, no further work remained to be done by the Indian Department.

17. This distribution has, however, always been the smallest part of the duty of the department; indeed, the correspondence and general business of the office now greatly exceeds that of former years.

18. The land sales alone have become so large and important, that a department in some form is an absolute necessity. The purchase-money for Indian lands is paid by annual instalments, which bear interest; the books in this office are, therefore, unavoidably intricate and extensive; a glance at them would prove not only the necessity for the existence of a department, but would show how intimately interwoven with it are the affairs of that large portion of the white population who have purchased lands situated in the various Indian surrenders. All such accounts would, of course, be thrown into inextricable confusion by the dissolution of the department.

19. But the strongest argument against the abolition of the Indian Department is the total ruin in which it would involve the Red race. Left to their own resources the Indians would have no longer any defence against the whites, who forcibly squat upon their lands and plunder their timber. Even now the department, with the statute-book at its own back, can scarcely restrain these intruders from their work of spoliation. Half-civilization, such as they now possess, would lend the Indians nothing but its vices. They are helpless to resist aggression; the very care previously lavished upon them, which saved them the trouble of bestirring

bestirring themselves, and exempted them from the rights and duties connected with property, has incapacitated them for taking charge of their own affairs.

20. They have too much of the sullen pride of the savage, on the one hand, to endure life as helots, the only terms except beggary which would be open to them, and, on the other, are too much accustomed to the first lessons of civilization to relapse completely (even if they had not been deprived of their hunting-grounds) into their primitive barbarism. Want and disease would hasten for a few short years what I believe, notwithstanding all the care now bestowed, is fast coming to pass, the extermination of the Red man.

Control of the Indian Department should continue with the Imperial Government.

21. (B.) This might, it may be said, be obviated by throwing the management of Indian affairs into the hands of the Provincial Government, who really reap the benefit of the lands acquired in the name of the Crown. Such a mode of proceeding is, however, open to objections, which are strongly stated in the following extracts :

22. Extract from the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Aborigines of the British Settlements :

"The protection of the aborigines should be considered as a duty peculiarly belonging and appropriate to the Executive Government, as administered either in this country or by the Governors of the respective colonies. This is not a trust which could conveniently be confided to the local legislatures. In proportion as these bodies are qualified for the right discharge of their proper functions, they will be unfit for the performance of this office. For a local legislature, if properly constituted, should partake largely of the interests, and represent the feelings of the settled opinions of the great mass of the people for whom they act. But the settlers in almost every colony, having either disputes to adjust with the native tribes, or claims to urge against them, the representative body is virtually a party, and therefore ought not to be the judge in such controversies.

• • • • •

26 June 1837.

"Whatever may be the legislative system of any colony, we therefore advise that, as far as possible, the aborigines be withdrawn from its control."

23. Extract of a despatch from Lord Glenelg, which concludes with the following words :—

"It should be regarded as a fixed principle in any arrangements that may be made regarding the Indians, that their concerns must be continued under the exclusive care and superintendence of the Crown. My meaning cannot be better expressed than in the words of the committee : 'They think it right to observe, in general, that, in the recommendations which they have offered, they assume that the Indians must continue to be as they have hitherto been, under the peculiar care and management of the Crown, to which, whether under the French or English dominion, they have been taught exclusively to look for paternal protection, in compensation for the rights and independence which they have lost.'"

24. (C.) The third alternative, viz., throwing the support of the department entirely upon Indian funds, is the one adopted by Mr. Oliphant in his report. To examine that will, I conceive, be the fairest way to test the feasibility of the plan.*

Examination of Mr. Oliphant's scheme for rendering the Indian Department self-supporting.

25. It is to be remarked that, while enumerating minutely all the sources from which the Indians derive their incomes, he himself cautions the reader that a large part of the funds of which he treats exist only in anticipation, or are otherwise unavailable at present. He says,† "At the same time it is to be remarked, that these changes (which he had just detailed), however desirable and reasonable they may appear, must necessarily be altogether prospective in their character."

† Page 6.

"I have roughly estimated the extent of funds which may be anticipated to arise out of the sale of the Saugeen surrender, but at least five years must elapse before the total sum can be placed to the credit of the Indians.‡ It may extend over a longer period, and must, at all events, be subject to many changes before it can be considered available for the purpose to which I have designed it. The fact of this fund having rendered the proposed financial changes feasible, would necessarily imply the postponement of the alterations until it had accrued in its entirety; but there are other grounds upon which the immediate adoption of any scheme with this object in view would be inexpedient."

26. Of the whole sum, upwards of 4,700 l. which he proposes to raise from the Indians for the support of the department, more than 2,200 l. must be struck off as unavailable, for the following reasons; 1,100 l. is merely the estimated amount for which certain lands in Upper Canada, lately surrendered, will sell at a future time, say seven years hence.

27. £1,150, which he also counts upon, is money annually voted by the provincial Parliament (1,000 l. for charitable purposes, and 150 l. for schools),§ which it is, of course out of the power of any one, except that body, to divert from the specific object for which it is voted. One large portion, therefore of the funds necessary for carrying out his scheme will

§ Page 7.

* For such part of it as relates to this subject, see Appendix, No. 5.

† By the terms of sale as they now stand, the whole sum cannot accrue under seven years; probably not so soon.

will not be available for several years, and another, under existing arrangements, not at all.

28. Counting, therefore, only the available money that could be applied to the support of the department, we find—in Lower Canada, nothing.*

† Page 7.

(Mr. Oliphant proposes,† by diminishing certain salaries, to reduce the expenditure in Lower Canada from 1,267 *l.* 17 *s.* 2 *d.* to 1,000 *l.*, and to apply the annual provincial grant to meet it, devoting in its stead, to charitable purposes, balances of that grant unexpended in former years,‡ until such balances are exhausted, and then supplying their place by selling some land which has recently been granted to the Indians. This cannot be done. See page 7.)

The funds appropriated by Mr. Oliphant to the support of Lower Canada being, however, unavailable, there remains to be provided for that division of the province 1,267 *l.*

‡ Page 8.

29. I quote from Mr. Oliphant's Report, the expenditure in Upper Canada.¶

¶ Page 8.

	Sterling.
Manitoulin Establishment - - - - -	£. 730 9 8
This he proposes to leave still on imperial funds;¶ I need not, therefore, further allude to it.	
Sundry charges, not including presents - - - - -	£. 2,570 9 1
Head quarters - - - - -	900 - -
	£. 3,470 9 1

Page 8.

Page 9.

To meet this, he appropriates the Indian general fund, which consists of balances of floating interest of Indian land sales in the Receiver-general's hands, yielding annually about -

£. . s. d.

437 - -

This sum has usually been reserved to meet extraordinary expenses not chargeable to any particular tribe, gratuities or compensation for losses in special cases, &c. &c.

A levy according to income on various tribes of Upper Canada:**

Six Nations - - - - -	£. 1,100 - -
Nine other tribes - - - - -	1,100 - -
Saugeen Indians - - - - -	1,100 - -
	3,300 - -
TOTAL - - - - -	£. 3,737 - -

** Page 9.

The 1,100 *l.* to be contributed by the Saugeen Indians will not accrue for eight years. We must, therefore, deduct (for the present, at least) as unavailable -

1,100 - -

Leaving available only - - - - -

£. 2,637 - -

To meet, according to Mr. Oliphant's calculation, expenditure in Upper Canada -

3,470 9 1

Lower Canada - - - - -

1,267 17 2++

£. 4,738 6 3

++ Page 7.

30. It must also be remarked, that this scheme provides only for what has been paid for out of Imperial funds; but from the Indian funds themselves a much larger sum has and must still continue to be paid, in addition to the charges thus for the first time imposed upon them.)

31. I must repeat, that Mr. Oliphant states the necessary expenditure at 4,738 *l.* 6 *s.* 3 *d.* As I have endeavoured to show there is only 2,637 *l.* to meet this now and even at the close of the Saugeen land sales, and under the most favourable circumstances, there will still be a deficiency of 1,000 *l.* per annum. If, however, 4,738 *l.* 6 *s.* 3 *d.* covered all necessary expenditure, this deficiency might easily be made up from Indian funds. But, in fact, these figures give an inaccurate or rather an incomplete idea of what is required. Mr. Oliphant's Report only treats of raising an annual sum to replace the Imperial grant, but besides the Imperial grant, about 4,777 *l.* of Indian funds are annually expended by the department.

This

* The St. Regis Indians have interest from investments - - - - - £. 390 - -
 Iroquois of Caughnawaga - - - - - 15 2 - -
 The remaining nine tribes scattered over the province - - - - - - - -
 Out of this the Lower Canada Indians could spare nothing.
 ‡ These amount in the aggregate to about 1,000 *l.* currency.

This charge would have to be borne by the Indians, irrespective of the new charge of 4,738 l. 6s. 3 d.*

32. From the examination of Mr. Oliphant's scheme, we therefore deduce the following facts: a period of from six to eight years must elapse, if this report be adopted, before any change at all can be made. It is one entirely prospective in its character. Land recently surrendered to the Crown (known as the Saugeen Reserve) must be sold, and the accounts closed, before the sum on which Mr. Oliphant counts as the basis of his scheme can be made available. Supposing the land all to be sold at once, of which there is no reasonable hope, the terms of sale (one-third of the purchase-money on each lot down, and the remainder in six annual instalments) would defer the collection of the whole into one sum for seven years, and experience of like sales has shown that this would be even further protracted. Even then, the Imperial funds would not be completely relieved; the Manitoulin Island establishment being left a burden on them. The object of entirely erasing the Indian Department from the Estimates would therefore not be attained.

This object unattainable.

Examination of Mr. Oliphant's Report summed up.

Page 6.

33. To divert 1,000 l. currency now annually voted by the Provincial Parliament for the relief of certain destitute Indians, towards the general support of the department, would involve the intervention of the Canadian Legislature to sanction such proceeding, and, according to the principle laid down by the Committee of the House of Commons, on the Aborigines of British Settlements (section 22), and the Committee of the Legislative Council (section 23), such course would not be advisable, even were the Colonial Legislature disposed to agree to it.

34. It is further proposed that the sum required for the support of the department be made up from a variety of sources, such as retrenchments of salaries, by retaining per-centage on certain land sales, and by a levy, according to property, on all the tribes of Upper Canada. To apportion these exactly would involve an excessive amount of complication. The fault of the department even now is the unnecessary complication of its details. Were this not the case, I question the abstract justice of alienating these various funds.

35. The amount proposed to be raised is after all not adequate even to the present demands of the department. New ones, moreover, will soon arise, for which it makes no provision. The department has now been in existence in its present shape, viz. a civil department, under the control of the Governor-General since 1845; before that time it was military in its character, and the officers enjoyed military rank. Many of its present employes belonged to it before its reorganization; some of them have been in the service nearly half a century. The oldest of these must soon retire on pensions, or be continued to the detriment of the department: no provision is made for this.

36. It would swell the limits of this report to give an account of each source of revenue of the Upper Canada Indians, and the charges upon them, which are numerous, various, and fluctuating; but I beg humbly to express my opinion, that they are totally insufficient to bear the support of a department unless aided by Government in some form.

37. Such a burden would consume so large a proportion of the Indian funds, that the efforts now being made to raise them in the social scale would be completely paralyzed. So far as the improvement of the Indian is concerned, it would cause the labour of years to be thrown away, and would entirely undo whatever has been done among them in the way of civilization. A large proportion of them are now coming by slow degrees to appreciate education; the elder and even middle aged Indians are too apathetic and indolent to get over their hereditary, vagrant and careless habits. With them the lesson of civilization will never be more than half learned; with careful attention we may prevent them from lapsing completely into barbarism; we never can brighten them into intelligence. One change for the better is apparent; they appear to a certain degree to appreciate for their children those advantages of which they are too indolent to avail themselves. Whatever funds may accrue to the Indians by the sale of their lands will not be too large, nor will they be unworthily employed in redeeming them, as far as in us lies, from their hereditary curse. For the reasons above stated, I venture to express my opinion that either of the three alternatives mentioned in paragraph 15, present insuperable difficulties.

38. It now, therefore, remains for me to set before your Excellency as briefly and clearly as I can the course which I humbly venture to recommend. It is of course difficult to show why the support of the Indians should continue to devolve upon the Imperial Government, without knowing distinctly the reasons which have suggested to the latter the intention of withdrawing their assistance. The practice of our ancestors indicates the views then entertained on the subject, and is good evidence of their interpretation of the contract, or quasi contract they had made. Though that policy has not as yet been totally abandoned, it appears to be considered either that the Indians no longer need assistance, or that precedent, in this instance, forms no valid reasons for the continuance of the policy it sanctions;

Course recommended.

* Note.—The Expenditure of the Department for 1855, was—	£.	s.	d.
Imperial Grant (without presents)	3,470	9	1
Indian Funds	4,777	—	6
	£.8,247	9	7

in other words, that a burthen which weighs on the British people without affording adequate compensation, has been borne long enough.

39. If my former surmise be correct, I venture to believe that this report will show they are still in urgent need of protection and pecuniary aid. If the latter, I cannot of course presume to offer any observations. I may, however, venture to direct your Excellency's attention to the fact, that a new deprivation coming so closely on the cessation of the presents, would be a very considerable hardship to the Indians, while their uniform loyalty to Her Majesty's person, renders questionable the propriety of any step which might have the effect of alienating their affections. I have every reason to fear that such would be the effect of the withdrawal of Imperial aid, an act which, right or wrong, they would consider as a breach of faith.

40. The following table sufficiently proves the existence of their loyalty. Indeed, I have reason to know that some tribes put themselves to considerable inconvenience, in order to be able to send in these unsolicited contributions to the Patriotic Fund.

SCHEDULE of Subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund by the Indians.

	Currency.
Six Nations	£. 122 15 7
Lakes Huron and Simcoe (three bands)	16 1 8
Rice and Mud Lakes	12 10 -
Alnwick	25 - -
Port Credit Indians	25 - -
Saugeen and Owen Sound (two bands)	17 10 -
Mohawks, Bay of Quinté	10 - -
	£. 228 17 3

41. I venture to submit to your Excellency the following extract from the speech made by an old chief named Sawyer, in a general council of his tribe held at Port Credit; also one of chief Seneca Johnson at Onondago, when I was last in Upper Canada, as I believe it presents an accurate picture of the feelings with which the Indians regard the cessation of their presents. After referring loyally to Her Majesty, and pointing out some of the improvements made by this band, Chief Sawyer said: "Since you ask me to express our wishes, I trust I will not be deemed unreasonable in expressing a hope that our great Mother the Queen may be pleased to reconsider the stoppage of our presents, which we always considered were promised to us and our posterity as long as a remnant of us remained; but perhaps we are wrong, and no such promise was made: our aged and more destitute people feel keenly the loss of their blanket. The young and hearty people may work and earn clothing, but the other classes that I have described cannot. We desire to convey to the ears of our Father at Quebec, through you, our heartfelt thanks for the interest he takes in our welfare, and to pray that he will use his influence to procure the continuance of our presents to our poor and aged people for a few years longer."

Chief Johnson said: "You have invited us to lay before you, for the information of our great Father at Quebec, all our wants and wishes; we have no doubt you mean what you say, and we will therefore begin by asking for a general statement of our monied affairs, in order that we may be able to tell our young men how much funds we have, and how the interest has been applied, and that we may be put in possession of written proof that such sums are due to us. This request is made because our presents are about to be stopped (not having been promised, as is alleged, in writing) to be perpetuated as long as grass grows and water runs; such however was the promise."

At the same council they voted, without being solicited, 25 *l.* to the Patriotic Fund.

Proposal for commutation.

42. Though I have stated strongly my opinion that it is inexpedient to withdraw Imperial aid from the Indians without compensation, I would, however, have it distinctly understood, that I by no means stand forward as an apologist for the present system in all particulars. During the seven years that must elapse before Mr. Oliphant's scheme could in any case come into action, the department would have to be supported as now, by Imperial funds. I would humbly suggest to your Excellency the inquiry, whether the Imperial Parliament might not find it more advantageous to vote, once for all a sum, which invested in Canadian debentures at six per cent. would yield sufficient annual income to support such charges as ought in fairness to be borne by the Imperial Government, and so erase the Indian Department entirely and at once, from the Imperial Estimates. No scheme as yet before your Excellency fulfils either of these two conditions.

43. For that purpose, all that would be required is a sum equal to the amount of Imperial money expended by the department during the last seven years. I say Imperial money, because many charges have been and still ought to be borne by the funds of the Indians. The amount expended in those seven years has been, 77,431 *l.* 1 *s.* 5 *d.*; that actually voted by the Imperial Government, 90,185 *l.* The balance between the amount voted and the amount expended, reverted to the Crown. The annual expenditure during that

* For Proceedings of Council. See Appendix, No. 4, page 33.

† For Proceedings of Council. See Appendix, No. 3, page 32.

that time has averaged yearly, 11,061 l. 11s. 6d., but the decrease of expenditure caused by the cessation of presents, would enable us to keep up the department for the sum I have named.

£. 77,431 (I speak in round numbers, but the exact amounts will be found in the accompanying tables)* would produce, invested in Canadian debentures guaranteed by the Provincial Government, about 4,645 l. a year. The expenditure of Imperial money, as I will endeavour to show, ought to be within that sum.

44. If, then, this could be obtained, the Indian Department, including Sir Francis Bond Head's experimental establishment at Manitoulin might for the future be erased from the Estimates. As this change would only alter the mode of supporting the Indians, and not change the character of the connexion between the department and the Imperial Government, which would have supplied the capital, it would be advisable to place the whole fund under the immediate control of the Governor-general, under the name of the Imperial Indian Fund; this would mark the Imperial character of the department, the importance of which, I think, cannot be too highly estimated. The principal should be invested through the Receiver-general of this Province, in provincial debentures which bear 6 per cent. interest; it should stand in the name of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the interest thereof be placed to the credit of the Governor-general, who, I suppose, would transmit to the home authorities an annual statement of the expenditure. The personal supervision of the Governor-general, and the rigid following up of a system of checks on money warrants, which has recently been adopted, would render the expenditure of the annual interest as secure as at present, and go far to obviate all unnecessary complication.

45. The expenditure, which is defrayed from Indian funds directly or indirectly, is already under the exclusive direction of the Governor-general. The annual 1,000 l. voted by the Provincial Parliament is, and of course must remain under the control of the Governor-general in Council, who authorizes payment from it on the recommendation of the Superintendent-general of Indian affairs.

46. The charges that would properly fall on the Imperial Indian Fund, are,—

The Manitoulin Establishment - - - - -	£. 730	9	8
Head Quarters of the Department; viz.:			
Salaries of Accountant - - - - -	419	3	6
Chief Clerk - - - - -	246	11	6
Accountant in the Receiver-general's Office - - - - -	51	7	4
Five Visiting Superintendents - - - - -	963	-	3
Contingencies:			
Pensions to old officers - - - - -	600	-	-
Ditto wounded Indians - - - - -	52	-	-
Ditto already on list - - - - -	253	-	-
Provisions for destitute Indians - - - - -	333	-	-
Gratuities in lieu of presents - - - - -	300	-	-
Contingencies of Head Quarters - - - - -	520	-	-
Clerk to one of the Visiting Superintendents - - - - -	82	3	10
	£. 4,550	16	1

Charges proposed to be borne on the "Imperial Indian Fund," to be created under the scheme for commutation.

47. It would appear by this table, that a small balance would remain unemployed; practically, I am inclined to think this would not be the case, but it is difficult to do more than approximate to the amount required to meet some of the charges which from their nature vary from year to year; I have therefore placed all fluctuating charges under the head of contingencies. The exact amount they will require in any one year is not ascertainable.

48. If, however, any balance should remain, I humbly suggest to your Excellency that it might be employed in the first instance, say for one or two years, as a fund for the assistance of Indian education generally, either by increasing the efficiency of the present industrial school at Mount Elgin, and adding to it a manual labour school, or by assisting, at the discretion of the Governor-general, such schools, missions or other educational establishments as he might think proper. The 600 l. I have set down as provision for superannuated officers might ultimately be insufficient for its purpose, and the balance mentioned above, with interest (should any part of it, or of the contingent fund have been lying idle) might then be applied to increasing the superannuation fund.

49. There is one charge on the list which requires a few words of comment; viz., 300 l. for gratuities in lieu of presents. I was aware that it was your Excellency's opinion, that any arrangement by which the hardship mentioned by Chief Sawyer, whose speech I quoted above, could be mitigated, would be both just and expedient. The complaint is very general among the Indians, that the aged and infirm suffer severely from the loss of their presents. On the 13th of August last, I caused the following circular to be addressed to the visiting superintendents of the Indian Department, with a view of discovering it, by

Assistance to infirm Indians.

* Appendix, No. 7, page 24.

by some small gratuities, it was possible to mitigate the blow the old Indians have experienced.

(Copy.)

" Private and confidential.

" Dear Sir,

" Indian Department, Quebec, 13 August 1855.

" The presents are about to cease, but the Superintendent-general would like to have a nominal return of a limited number of Indians under your superintendence whom, from age or other infirmity, and good character, you would wish to recommend as the recipient of a blanket annually, as a special mark of consideration.

" If such mark of favour could be obtained, it might be considered by the tribes as a compliment, and really be the means of mitigating a hardship to worn-out and deserving chiefs and warriors, and their wives.

" I should remind you that this communication is private, and not to be talked of to the Indians. No individual under the age of 60 should appear on your list, and the indulgence would even, if obtained, not be extended to any except those who may be now recommended.

" I have, &c.

(signed) " S. T. Chesley."

Their answers have not yet been received, but in submitting this report to your Excellency, I appropriated the sum of 300*l.* to the purpose. This at the ordinary price would produce 300 blankets. These blankets, if distributed judiciously, and accompanied by some remarks on the fact that it was a special favour from Her Majesty who had heard of the sufferings of the Indians, might produce an effect which would render the appropriation not only solidly useful, but highly politic.

50. I would suggest that from the lists sent in, the oldest and best conducted Indians should be selected as the recipients of this bounty, and that none should be hereafter added to it. By this means the whole sum would eventually revert to the department, and become otherwise available.

51. The charge of 600*l.* for pensions to old officers requires some comment. I would here refer your Excellency to General Rowan's despatch (already quoted and inserted at full length, Appendix 2)* in which he says, speaking of the old officers. "Your Grace will perceive that these gentlemen have in most instances served for a very long period, indeed some of them, who entered the department towards the beginning of the present century, took part with the Indians in several hard-fought engagements during the American War of 1812-14. It has been the uniform practice in the department, which was always under the exclusive control of the Imperial authorities, to pension deserving officers of long standing on their retirement from active service, either in consequence of their age and infirmities, or of reductions in the establishment. Under these circumstances, as the discontinuance of the salaries allotted to missionaries and schoolmasters only takes effect after the death or removal of the present incumbents; and I cannot doubt that whatever course Her Majesty's Government may see fit to adopt with regard to the establishment itself, the officers who have so long and meritoriously discharged the duties devolving upon it, will be treated with the same just and liberal spirit." I have appended a list specifying the length of service of the oldest of the officers of the department, which will show the necessity of losing no time in attending to General Rowan's suggestion, (Appendix 6) † Though it is evident that such a sum as 600*l.* would be quite inadequate to afford a retiring pension to each officer of the department according to his length of service, yet I think it would be equally unjust to those who have served long and well if no such provision were made, and to the other requirements of the department if a larger sum were set aside.

52. I would suggest that it be given more in the form of a gratuity at the discretion of the Governor-general, who of course must be intimately acquainted with the merits of the various employées, than as a regular pension to which each might look forward with certainty at the close of a certain term of service. For this latter purpose 600*l.* would be manifestly insufficient.

53. Should this report be approved, the period of its adoption would present a favourable opportunity for changing and simplifying some of the details of the department.

54. When on the report of Mr. Rawson, it assumed its present shape in 1845, certain relics of its former military character were retained, which are both costly and inconvenient. Of this nature is its connexion with the Commissariat. The issue of all stores, and indeed every expense which is defrayed from Imperial funds, now passes through this branch of the public service. I will mention a few of the inconveniences which this division of labour entails.

55. Salaries of certain officers at head-quarters are paid by the Commissariat from the Parliamentary grant. Some are paid in a still more complicated form, their incomes being derived in unequal proportions from the Imperial Government, the Indian general fund, and from per-centages on land sales.

56. The Commissariat issues presents, and pays the carriage of our stores. Some of these are purchased in Canada, some in England, and some come through the Commissariat from the Ordnance department.

57. We

Pensions to old officers of the department.

* Page 32.

† Page 34.

Some changes recommended in the details of the department.

57. We have separate estimates for Canada West and Canada East; this as they are both paid from the military chest is a useless complication, and causes much unnecessary correspondence and delay.

58. The Commissariat business is, not all transacted in one place; requisitions from this department being not unfrequently transferred from one military station to another.

59. The result of this is that it frequently arises that a demand for a certain article which should be furnished by the Commissariat is followed by a lengthened correspondence before it can be discovered in what store it is to be found; and it not unfrequently happens that an article required at one extremity of the Province is in store at the other; and that the carriage consumes more than its value. The department alone knows when and where such articles would be required, and would take care to store them in an easily attainable position. Every consignment of Commissariat stores for issue to the Indians, is accompanied by a Commissariat officer; this is needless trouble and expense. The visiting superintendents of the Indian Department (who are under bonds to the Indian office) might be advantageously entrusted with the distribution of stores, to those Indians among whom they live, and discharge each in his own district, all the duties now performed by the Commissariat.

60. The Commissariat officer having charge of stores, is guided necessarily by the personal knowledge of the superintendent, for their correct distribution; it seems therefore unnecessary to send another officer when one as well or better qualified is on the spot. These remarks are not intended in any degree as a complaint of the Commissariat, but simply as showing the inconvenience of transacting the business of one department through another.

61. Before closing this Report, I venture to submit to your Excellency a few remarks on the prospects and present condition of the Indians.

Prospects and present condition of the Indians.

62. Old officers of the department, and persons who for a long series of years have been connected with them look with hopeful eyes on the efforts of the Indians to attain self-civilization. Persons who cannot from their own recollection compare the present with the former condition of the Indians, see more readily how much remains to be done, than the results of past labours among them. Mr. Chesley, an old and valuable officer of the department, whom I requested to favour me with his remarks on the subject which I am now about to discuss, writes as follows:—

“To a casual observer, the advance of civilization and in agriculture amongst the Indians in Canada would appear tardy, and some persons, without troubling themselves with much inquiry, are ready to assert that no progress has been made in either. But those who have taken an interest in the welfare of the small remnant of the once numerous races of Mohawks and Chippewas that are still stretched along the north shores of the St. Lawrence, and the vast lakes westward, especially the few officers of the department whose connexion with them looks back some 40 winters, can easily discern a large amount of improvement in the moral and social condition of all the settled tribes, who have been more immediately under the supervision of the Indian Department. The little improvement that had been achieved by the efforts of the various missionaries and officers of the department, was nearly lost during the war of 1812, 1813 and 1814, when all the tribes, with their wonted loyalty to the British Crown, flew with alacrity to its standard, and were therefore, during that war, estranged from their previously peaceful dwellings and rude plantations. The commencement of their change from semi-barbarism to civilization may be fairly put down to the year 1815. At that period, their knowledge in cultivating the ground was confined to the use of a rude grubbing hoe, with which they planted small patches of Indian corn, mixed sometimes with beans; and an axe, or tomahawk, which was chiefly used in peeling the bark from the trunks of the ash and elm trees, to construct their cabins. The Indian then laughed at the folly of the pale-faces in ploughing the ground to prepare it for receiving the seed; by this process, said they, the good soil is turned under, and the bad uppermost. They also ridiculed the use of harrows, and, above all, flouring-mills, the former, they said, did nothing but turn up the loose roots and stones, whilst the latter separated the grain and wasted the best part of it. These and other like prejudices, retarded, and, indeed, almost altogether prevented any visible improvement, until about the year 1818, when, by the immigration of white settlers from the mother country, the back woods were turned into cultivated farms, which had the double effect of driving away the wild game upon which the Indian depended for subsistence, and also of showing him a better and easier way to get a livelihood. By dint of perseverance and persuasion on the part of the missionaries and the local superintendents, under the directions of the department, the Indian prejudices have been in a great measure overcome. They devote nearly all their disposable funds for educational purposes, agricultural implements, building comfortable houses, and purchasing cattle and improved seed grain. In almost every tribe of the settled Indians in Upper Canada are to be found some whose farms compare not disparagingly with those of the adjoining whites. Amongst them may be named Peter Smith, one of the Six Nations, who had last summer 60 acres of wheat under crop; and John W. Hill, of the Bay of Quinte, had 45 acres.”

Letter from Mr. Chesley.

63. The conclusion which has strongly suggested itself to my mind during my tour of inspection in Upper Canada is, that the only obstacle to intellectual equality between the White and Red races is to be found in the difference of language. Till the obliteration of the native tongue, or at least till every Indian speaks the language of the country he inhabits,

the Indian can, I think, never be merged on equal terms and with an equal chance of success in the mass of the Anglo-Saxon or French-Canadian population. If that could be effected, the rest would follow. There is no want of mental capacity in an Indian. In one, at least, of the schools which I have visited, the scholars are fully equal, if not superior, to the average pupils of the common schools of the whites.

64. It was a long and arduous work to bring the Indian to suffer any attempt at civilizing him. For years, too, the attention of the authorities was much more anxiously devoted to making him a faithful ally in war than to ameliorating his condition in peace. It may almost be said, that till 1845 the civilization of the Indians was never the object of a definite and well organized scheme.

Missions.

65. Though I would not willingly introduce anything into this report which might have the appearance of controversial discussion, it is evidently necessary, when speaking of the moral condition of the Indians, not to pass over in silence the degree of success attained by the different missions.

66. The form of teaching which experience would seem to point out as best suited to the mind of an Indian, is that adopted by the Methodists. Much of their success may, no doubt, be attributable to the class of men who officiate as the ministers of that sect.

67. I think it is observable, as a general rule, that the Methodists live more intimately among their converts, and appear better qualified than others to share without repining the rude life of the savage they teach. The ministers of other denominations do not shrink from the hardships inseparable from the back-woods' life; but I think few can enter so familiarly and intimately, I may almost say so instinctively, as the Methodists, into the wants and feelings of the Indians.

68. Their system of classes, also, appears better suited to satisfy the mental wants of the Indian than any other. By this system, the converts are divided into small bands, or classes, each under the direction of a class-leader, whose business it is to exercise constant supervision over those under his immediate care. I believe he is bound to see and converse with every member of his class at least once a week.

69. The missionary has thus the state of each individual brought clearly and constantly under his notice, and his own individual efforts are more likely to be well directed. Of the civilizing effect of their instruction, I can speak in the highest terms. Most of our schools are under Methodist supervision; those at least of Upper Canada.

70. The Lower Canadian Indians are mostly Roman-catholics, who have always been the first pioneers of Christianity. None labour more zealously, or with more self-denial, than their present successors. They christianize, but they can hardly be said to civilize in an equal degree. This may be owing, perhaps, to the mode of instruction, which fails in sufficiently inculcating self-reliance. The Roman-catholic Indians are taught to look so exclusively to the missionaries for guidance, that in their absence they are almost entirely helpless. It is almost useless, as far as civilization is concerned, to convert, unless, along with the still greater lessons of Christianity, that healthy spirit of self reliance be inculcated which constitutes the great distinguishing difference between the blind follower and the reasoning convert. Doubtless, in Lower Canada, there are difficulties to contend with that are not encountered in the Upper Province.

71. Except at St. Regis and Caughnawaga, few of the Lower Canada Indians have a settled home. A tract of land has been lately granted to them by the Provincial Parliament on the Lower St. Lawrence; but they have not enjoyed it for a sufficient time to allow of any conclusion as to its effect.

72. The Church of England are extremely successful where they have once established a foothold. On the Bay of Quinté, and among the Six Nations, their influence has been most beneficially exerted, as will be seen by reference to paragraph 95.

73. Their converts are, however, not nearly so numerous as the Methodist in Upper Canada. Their missionaries are, as far as I am acquainted with them, most exemplary men.

74. It is impossible that a missionary, living entirely among the Indians, should not acquire a very great degree of power among them in temporal matters. That this is not always judiciously exercised, is the fault of individuals, not of the system. The heads of the various missions are, however, always ready to interpose with authority, where the Indian Department can only do so indirectly.

75. The Indians of Upper Canada are for the most part Christians; those of Walpole Island, many of whom still remain heathens, are indeed the only exception. A Church of England missionary has resided among them, but as yet his efforts have not been crowned with great measure of success. I must, in justice to this gentlemen say, that from all I hear, no man could be more devoted to his work.

Schools.

76. I now turn to the subject of schools. In most of the reserves of Upper Canada, the Indians support schools somewhat resembling the common schools of the whites. These, however, from want of regular and efficient organization, are in such an unsatisfactory condition, as to be almost utterly useless. The small pittance which the Indians can afford

to give a school teacher, is insufficient to attract a well-qualified man. Besides this, it is idle to hope that Indian children, when at home, will attend with even tolerable regularity during the whole year. They almost invariably accompany their parents on their hunting and fishing excursions, as well as to the sugar bushes, at the season for making maple sugar.

77. Very careful supervision is requisite to effect any considerable improvement on the present plan. This we have no means of bestowing; but I think a better class of teachers might be obtained by shutting up the schools during these wandering seasons, and keeping them open only during half the year; giving, however, the same remuneration for the shorter period, as formerly for the whole year. It would be advantageous too, if some method were adopted of obtaining uniformity in the plan of instruction, instead of leaving it, as now, entirely at the mercy of the local schoolmasters. A return is made every three months, showing the branches of education taught, number of pupils, regularity of attendance, &c.; but such information is insufficient and meagre.

78. These common schools ought, if properly managed, to be preparatory to the two training establishments at Alnwick and Mount Elgin. I think attendance at one of the latter, after a certain time passed at the preparatory schools, ought to be made compulsory. The Indians, generally, would not dislike this. There are a sufficient number of tolerably well educated men among them to turn the public opinion of their brethren in favour of it, and they would be willing as well as able to do so.

79. I confess, however, that I entertain very slender hopes of seeing the common schools become really useful. The children must be absent from home, removed from the moral influence of that constitutional apathy which distinguishes their parents, and, if not checked, will descend on themselves, before they can be permanently benefited.

80. It seems absurd to suppose that a state of laziness and squalor, must necessarily be the lot of an Indian; but without constant supervision, such will assuredly be the case, and supervision is not possible except by centralization. This brings me to the principal matter I have to lay before your Excellency under the present head.

81. The two educational establishments instituted by Lord Elgin, are both situated in Upper Canada; one at Alnwick, near Cobourg, on Lake Ontario; the other called Mount Elgin, after its founder, at a beautiful spot on the bank of the Thames.

82. Of these, Mount Elgin, which is under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Rose, an influential member of the Methodist society, is infinitely the best conducted. The pupils are generally intelligent, clean and orderly; some young men who have completed their course of education there, are now perfectly ready and able to take their places as members of the general population, as soon as the money in commutation of their annuities is given them to make a start in life. This method was devised by Colonel Bruce, to give the pupils who have completed their course of instruction, a fair beginning. I conversed with these young men, and found them extremely intelligent, and in information quite equal to the average of the respectable class among whom they will henceforth live.

83. After what I had seen of other Indian schools, I was much struck with the improvement exhibited by all the pupils in this. With most of them, the shy unwillingness to answer when spoken to, which is generally very observable, was abandoned for a bearing remarkable for eagerness and quick apprehension. The elder pupils all spoke English; and I was particularly struck with the aptitude all seemed to evince at figures. The Indians generally have a remarkably quick appreciation of music, and learn readily to sing from notes. The whole of the pupils joined in this exercise, and sang in parts with considerable correctness. Of the farm (entirely cultivated by the boys) I can speak in the highest terms.

84. The Alnwick School, presided over by the Rev. Mr. Musgrove, also of the Methodist persuasion, was not satisfactory. The children were not nearly so clean, nor were their dormitories and other apartments kept well ventilated, or in good order, as at Mount Elgin.

85. I was too much pressed for time to hold an examination of the children, but they appeared decidedly less intelligent; and the itch, which was very prevalent, spoke little for the cleanly habits inculcated.

86. The boys had, however, done work about the house and grounds neatly and well, and some of the lads who have completed their course are a credit to it, and would be so to any similar establishment. I may add, that I purposely visited Alnwick without any warning. This was not the case at Mount Elgin. This circumstance could not, however, have caused the marked difference I saw.

87. Taking then into consideration the different degree of success which has attended the two establishments, I would submit to your Excellency whether it would not be advisable to close the Alnwick School, and remove it to Mount Elgin, or to some part of Upper Canada, near the Saugeen peninsula.

88. The former of the two schemes is the one to which I should myself incline, as I think the centralization of the two establishments at a spot so fitted for the purpose in every way, and the supervision of both by a single head, would greatly increase their efficiency, and render it easier to carry out any improvement which experience may from time to time suggest.

89. I have ascertained that the Alnwick band of Indians would not object to surrender their reserve to the Crown, and migrate to Mount Elgin. The full value would most likely be obtained for the Alnwick school-house and improvements, and the proceeds might be applied to making the necessary arrangements at Mount Elgin.

90. It is fair to state that the objections to this plan are, principally, the perhaps natural unwillingness of the Saugeen Indians, who are large contributors to the school fund, and who will, when the projected sales are completed, subscribe still more largely, to send their children so far.

91. The long distance which separated them from Alnwick, was, perhaps, one of the principal causes of the want of success visible in that establishment. On the other hand, if the school be too near the habitation of the parents of the pupils, the difficulty of enforcing their constant attendance will be much increased.

92. It is not easy to decide whether the apparent injustice to the Indians, of not consulting their wishes as to the site for the school, or the danger of the failure of the establishment which might follow from yielding to them, ought to have most weight with the department in deciding this matter.

Comparative degree of improvement in the different bands of Indians of both sections of Canada.

93. With regard to the general condition of the Indians, I think the easiest way to present to your Excellency a definite view, will be to adopt an arbitrary number, as expressing the average standard of civilization among the general mass of the white population, and comparing the various tribes of Indians with it.

94. It is with much diffidence that I venture to submit this plan to your Excellency. It can never tell the whole truth, and even the scanty observation it gives must depend in some degree upon hearsay evidence, or necessarily imperfect observation; still, I think it may afford an indication of the state of the Indians throughout the province. I have adopted the number 15, as a convenient standard.

95. In Upper Canada, taking the standard as 15:—

The Chippewas of Sarnia (Methodist) will be to it as	- - - - -	8
Walpole (Church of England)	- - - - -	1
Thames (Methodists)	- - - - -	3
Moravians (Moravians)	- - - - -	2
Saugeen (Methodist and Presbyterian)	- - - - -	3
Owen Sound (Methodist and Church of England)	- - - - -	3
Colpoy's Bay (Methodist)	- - - - - not personally known.	
Beausoleil (Methodist)	- - - - - ditto.	
Snake Island (Methodist and Church of England)	- - - - -	2
Rama (Methodist)	- - - - -	3
Missessagas - Rice Lake (Methodist)	- - - - -	6
Mud Lake - ditto	- - - - -	6
Skugog Lake, ditto	- - - - -	6
Alnwick - ditto	- - - - -	6
New Credit - ditto	- - - - -	7
Mohawks - Bay of Quinté (Church of England)	- - - - -	8
Ditto and others, Six Nations (Church of England)	- - - - -	7
Wyandotts - Amherstburgh (Church of England and Methodists)	- - - - -	6

In Lower Canada:

Iroquois - St. Regis	- - - - -	7
Caughnawaga	- - - - -	7
Iroquois } Nipissings } Algenquins }	- Two Mountains - - - - -	7
Abenequois - St. Francis	- - - - -	6
Becancour	- - - - -	5
Algenquins - Three Rivers	- - - - -	2
Hurons - La Jeune Lorette	- - - - -	10
Amalacites - Isle Verte	- - - - -	4
Micmacs - Restigouche	- - - - -	3
Tribes of the Upper and Lower Saguenay and the north } shore of the St. Lawrence }	Savages - - - - -	0

Holding property in common.

• Page 10.

96. Mr. Oliphant in his report animadverts strongly on the system which now exists, under which the members of a tribe hold all property in common. He says,* "All the articles thus purchased (by requisition) are common property, and the use of them is only allowed to individuals for limited periods. Everybody is, therefore, utterly indifferent to their preservation; nor is it to be expected that persons will be willing to enter upon agricultural operations, with the possibility of never having the use of the most necessary appliances at all, or at least only for a short period. When the tribe is large and poor, but very few can thus benefit, and a most injurious patronage is vested with the chiefs, who confine the distribution to their immediate favourites."

Evil effects resulting from holding all property in common.

97. With these remarks I venture to express my entire concurrence; but it is difficult to devise any means by which the Indian shall be allowed to have a direct interest in property of his own, while his known improvident habits render it impossible that he would keep it for any considerable time.

98. The

98. The Indians, as a general rule, will sell anything for which a purchaser offers, often without minutely inquiring into their right to do so, and this through their ignorance or carelessness.

99. The system of holding in common does not tend to impress the value of property on their minds; the old adage, that what is everybody's business is done by no one, is unusually applicable in this case.

100. The plough is too often left to rot in the fields during the winter, and the seine on the river shore; and it has happened more than once that a yoke of oxen has been over-worked while there was a demand for labour, and allowed to die of starvation afterwards, because it was no individual's stated business to feed them.

101. These careless habits are the moral effects of the system now in force; to eradicate these habits, and at the same time to modify the system which they in the first instance rendered necessary, requires great caution.

102. If it was attempted to teach the Indian to feel responsibility, by giving him the absolute control of property, he would instantly sell it, and become worse off than before. The present state of things, on the other hand, shows, and reason points out, that if he has no rights of property at all, he will never assume the responsibility they impose.

103. With a view to ascertain the opinions of some gentlemen who, from near connexion and long intimacy with the Indians, would be likely to give sound advice, your Excellency directed me to write the letter which I here insert, placing the views which you had been led to entertain on the subject in the form of a series of questions.

Scheme suggested by Sir Edmund Head.

104. Mr. Oliphant in his report had broached opinions very similar to those which your Excellency desired me to embody in the letter I allude to. He says, "In order, however, more thoroughly to develop the system by which such results may be anticipated, it seems indispensable that the same privileges of responsible ownership which are granted with regard to moveables, should also be extended to land, subject however to certain modifications. The liabilities which attach to the possession of landed property are so different in their character, so much more complicated and onerous than those which attach to moveables, that it by no means follows that a people which is sufficiently enlightened and civilized to assume the one is also in a condition to undertake the other. On the contrary, I do not think that the Indians are far enough advanced to become actual freeholders. Their own desire upon the subject, frequently expressed to me, has been that they should be allowed allotments of the reserve to be settled upon themselves and their children, not by a deed in which the Crown should relinquish the fee, but that by an arrangement of the tribe they should be guaranteed from intrusion, and at the same time prevented from alienating to other members, except at the recommendation of the local superintendent, where such a conveyance would be manifestly for the benefit of both parties."

• Page 10.

Concurred in by the Rev. Dr. M'Murray

105. The letter to Mr. M'Murray was as follows:

Reverend Sir,

Indian Department, Quebec, 19 May 1855.

His Excellency the Governor-general has reflected with much interest on a conversation which he had with you when you were at Quebec, on the subject of gradually civilizing a portion of the Indians. His Excellency is most desirous of receiving from you and from others most conversant with this people, such hints as may be made the ground-work of future action in so important a matter. The outline of the plan which his Excellency had in view may be briefly stated as follows:

I. That each local superintendant should be called upon to report the names of those members of each settlement under his care, whose previous education and habits of industry make it likely that they might be fit and desirous of assuming a mode of life different from the majority of their race.

II. That if, on inquiry, such a desire was manifested by each or any of these individuals, such person should undergo a sort of examination or inquiry before two or three commissioners interested in the welfare of the Indians, and thoroughly conversant with their habits and wants.

III. That the following points should be inquired into by such commissioners:

1st. Whether the individual Indian had shown proof of steady industrious habits, so as to be fit to earn his own bread.

2d. Whether he was acquainted with any trade.

3d. Whether he could read and write, and was acquainted with the elements of religion.

4th. Whether he had any notion of the rights and duties conferred and imposed by civil society on its members.

IV. That on its appearing that the above questions could be answered satisfactorily, the Governor-general should have power to confer on such individual a portion of Indian land not exceeding _____ acres, to be ultimately held in fee and common socage, and should advance for a year or two a certain small sum for the purchase of seed and agricultural implements from the Indian funds, but that such individual should cease to have any claim on the funds of the tribe in any other shape.

V. That for two years the individual in question should be on probation, and the patent for his land should not issue till the second year was ended, when he and his children after him should be deemed capable of exercising the rights and privileges, and to be liable to all the duties and all the charges incident to the rest of the Queen's subjects; all protection for debt contracted since his first entry on his land should cease.

I am quite conscious that the outline of the scheme above suggested is most imperfect, but his Excellency has directed me to state it even in this form, in the hope that it may lead to some information or suggestions being offered by yourself or other benevolent persons interested in the welfare and progress of the Indian race.

Rev. W. M'Murray, D. D.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) Bury, Supt. General.

106. The Rev. gentleman, as will be seen by a reference to the Appendix, in which his answer is quoted at length,* highly approved of the plan here shadowed forth, proposing at the same time some slight modifications of its details.

107. The greater part of your Excellency's scheme as interpreted and commented on in Mr. M'Murray's letter, appears to me very practicable, and the department might immediately begin to carry it out with great advantage; but there are one or two points on which I venture to submit some observations.

Language.

108. This scheme, though comprehensive and embracing all that concerns the object of which it immediately treats, is not, I think, capable of being carried out without strong efforts being made in another and parallel direction.

109. I would reiterate that the most civilized Indians are those who speak the English or French languages. Indeed no degree of improvement ever takes place in an Indian's condition and mode of life till he learns the language by which he is surrounded. I venture humbly to suggest to your Excellency that in any modification of our present system, a knowledge of the English language should have a more prominent place than it has at present.

110. All other plans directed towards another class of wants, teaching the Indian the habit of taking care of his own concerns, and giving him, like the white man, an individual interest, may, I think, go on at the same time, theoretically, but will be found practically only to succeed this primary want. I mean to say, that till an Indian has learned English or French, and so placed himself on an equality with the population by whom he is surrounded, he will not, in most cases, take advantage of the other. An Indian, ignorant of these tongues, labours under insuperable difficulties.

111. As an instance of its good effects, I may mention the Hurons of La Jeune Lorette. Their proximity to Quebec has forced them to learn French, and indeed has obliterated the Indian language; they, in consequence, though not possessed of a foot of land, or enjoying a farthing of annuity, treat on equal terms with their white neighbours, and have lost almost entirely the distinguishing characteristics of Indians.

Indian Protection Act.

112. The next point to which I would humbly direct your Excellency's attention is Mr. M'Murray's answer to question V. It is there proposed, that "for two years the individuals in question should be on probation, and the patent for his lands should not issue till the second year was ended, when he and his children after him should be deemed capable of exercising the rights and privileges, and to be liable to all the charges incident to the rest of the Queen's subjects; all protection for debt contracted since his first entry on his land should cease."

113. Mr. M'Murray, in his answer says, that two years is too short a probation, and suggests four years probation. He then, passing to the consideration of the Indian after fulfilling his period of probation, proposes the abolition of the Indian Protection Act.

114. Two years certainly, as Mr. M'Murray says, appears to me too short a probation. But I do not think that even after the extended period he proposes, it would be well absolutely to put the fee of the land out of the hands of the Crown by an ordinary patent, at least for a few years, until it was proved by experience how the scheme is likely to work.

115. Perhaps the preferable plan would be to grant a license of occupation for 10 years, convertible into the grant of fee, either to the first occupant or his children, at the end of that period, provided the Crown were satisfied with his conduct during the interval.

116. Some such scheme as this appears to be in contemplation in the United States. I cut the following from the "Philadelphia North American" newspaper of August the 15th, as it appears to bear on the subject:

"But the latest development of our Indian relation is, perhaps, the most important as affecting the fate of their race. What we allude to may be inferred from the following facts; in the state of Michigan there are about 7,000 Indians, in various stages of civilization. With them the United States Government has lately made a treaty, which looks to their ultimately becoming citizens. This treaty provides; that each head of a family shall have a permanent

a permanent home or farm of 80 acres, each single adult 40 acres, and each family of orphan children 80 acres, to be selected by the individuals, within certain tracts; and for which they shall receive a certificate from the Government. After actual residence therein for 10 years, the patent of title is to be issued, and for five years subsequently, they are to have exclusive privileges of purchase of reserved lands adjoining. In addition to this, they are to receive, in the aggregate, \$500,000 in money, with which they may make a fair beginning. At the end of five years, the tribal organization must cease. Here we have an indication of that policy which is to settle the future of the Indians. It is beyond the power of the general government to make them citizens of existing states, but the provisions of the treaty all look to such a result, and the State Government would probably make no difficulty in ceding to them the rights of citizenship."

117. "The system, as we now understand it is to extinguish the tribal organizations, and prepare for the final abolition of exclusive reservations, by giving each family a separate tract of land for residence. Of course, as a condition precedent to the success of such a scheme, it is requisite that the Indians should be civilized, and for that purpose reservations will still be necessary for the wild tribes. At the last Session of Congress, it was proposed to organize the country of the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws and Chickasaws into a territory or territories, to be represented at Washington like Kansas and Nebraska, and with the design of converting these Indians into citizens. A part of the project was the abolition of reservations and the requisitions of individual titles by the Indians. No doubt this will ultimately be done, but just at present the agitation on the subject of slavery interferes with it."

118. On the second of Mr. M'Murray's remarks on this subject, suggesting the repeal of the Indian Protection Act (which secures the Indian from liability to debt), I think that one of these questions depends on the other; the justice, I mean, of repealing the Protection Act, depends on the degree of success which attends the scheme of civilization. If an individual Indian obtains any sort of title to his land, the Protection Act should cease to defend that individual; but this indulgence will be extended to but few persons, and it would be hard to deprive a large majority who hold their lands in common, of protection, because a better educated minority can take care of themselves.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(signed) *Bury*,
Superintendent-general.

Sub-enclosures to Enclosure in No. 2.

LIST of APPENDIX to Viscount *Bury's* Report.

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Appendix, No. 1.

(No. 71.)

(COPY.)

Sir,
Downing-street, 21 January 1854.
I HAVE received your despatch, No. 22, of the 27th December last, accompanied by an estimate of the probable expense of the Indian Department, for the year ending on the 31st of March 1855; I see no reason to object to this estimate, and it will be submitted to Parliament.

But it will be proper to turn attention to the gradual reduction of the Indian establishment itself, now that the object for which it was organized is in course of rapid extinction. I shall be glad to receive a report from you on this subject.

The Officer administering the
Government of Canada.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.

Appendix, No. 2.

(No. 10.)

(COPY.)

Government House, Quebec,
3 March 1844.

My Lord Duke,

WITH reference to your Grace's despatch, No. 71, of the 21st of January last, I have the honour to transmit, for your information, the accompanying Report, which has been drawn up by the Superintendent-general of Indian affairs, in respect to the practicability of effecting a reduction on the Indian establishment in this Province, now that the customary issues of presents to the Indians are in the course of rapid extinction. Colonel Bruce has entered so fully into the subject, that it might be sufficient for me to record my entire concurrence, for the reasons which he has assigned in his opinion, that in the actual condition of the Indians, a department specially devoted to their protection is indispensable, and that the existing establishment, which was reduced to its present standard in the year 1845, is by no means excessive, although, taking into account the increasing intelligence of the Indians, it may hereafter be found possible, as vacancies occur, gradually to modify the present system with a view to increased economy, without impairing its efficiency. But I cannot leave this subject without bringing under your favourable notice the strong claims of the officers of the department upon Her Majesty's Government. On this point I can speak with the greater confidence, having been formerly brought, for many years, into frequent and close official communication with them, and thus had ample opportunities of observing their zeal and efficiency. On reference to the list appended to the Superintendent-general's Report, your Grace will perceive that these gentlemen have, in most instances, served for a very long period; indeed, some of them who entered the department towards the beginning of the present century, took part with the Indians in several hard-fought engagements during the American War of 1812-14. It has been the uniform practice in the department, which was always under the exclusive control of the Imperial authorities, to pension deserving officers of long standing, on their retirement from active service, either in consequence of their age and infirmities, or of reductions in the establishment. Under these circumstances, as the discontinuance of the salaries allotted to missionaries and schoolmasters only takes effect after the death or removal of the present incumbents, and I cannot doubt that whatever course Her Majesty's Government may see fit to adopt, with regard to the establishment itself, the officers who have so long and meritoriously discharged the duties devolved upon it, will be treated in the same just and liberal spirit.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle,
&c. &c. &c.I have, &c.
(signed) *William Rowan.*

Appendix, No. 3.

MINUTES of the Proceedings at Council, held in the Six Nations Indian Council House, in *Onondaga*, on Friday the 6th July 1835, pursuant to a Notice given by Mr. Superintendent *Thorburn*, by Directions of Lord *Bury*.

1. Present at the Council:—Mr. S. T. Chesley, on the part of the Indian Department; Mr. D. Thorburn, Local Superintendent; Peter Smith, Interpreter; 6 Chiefs of the Upper Mohawks, 4 Chiefs of the Lower Mohawks, 4 Chiefs of Oneidas, 8 Chiefs of Onondagas, 3 Chiefs of Senecas, 9 Chiefs of Cayugas, 3 Chiefs of Tuscaroras, 2 Chiefs of Nanticottis, Total, 39.

EXTRACT from Proceedings.

2. After Mr. Thorburn had introduced Mr. Chesley to the Council, Chief Seneca Johnson being appointed to preside, Chief John Johnson of the Upper Mohawks, opened the proceedings by a speech.

3. Mr. Chesley having replied, and stating the objects for which their father the Governor-general had sent him to visit his Red children, Chief Seneca Johnson rose, and spoke as follows:

4. Father, as we are exhorted by your address just delivered to abandon our roving habits, and to become farmers, and as we cannot farm without land, we hope that our great Father will not ask us for any further surrenders of the small quantity that is left to us.

5. Father, you have invited us to lay before you, for the information of our great Father at Quebec, all our wants and wishes. We have no doubt you mean what you say, and we will therefore begin by asking for a general statement of our monied affairs, in order that we may be able to tell our young men how much funds we have, and how the interest has been applied, and that we may be put in possession of written proof that such sums are due us. This request is made because our presents are about to be stopped, not having been promised (as is alleged in writing) to be perpetuated as long as grass grows and water runs. Such however was the promise.

Appendix, No. 4.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS at a Council held at the *New Credit* Indian Settlement, in
Tuscarora, on Saturday the 7th July 1855.

1. Present:—Mr. Chesley, on the part of the Department; Mr. D. Thorburn, Local Superintendent; Chief Peter Jones, Chief Sawyer.

(EXTRACT.)

The Council was opened by prayer and a hymn, after which Mr. Chesley, being introduced by Mr. Thorburn, addressed the Council in a speech.

2. Chief Sawyer replied at considerable length, concluding with the following words: "Since you ask us to state our wishes, I trust I will not be deemed unreasonable in expressing the hope that our great mother the Queen may be pleased to re-consider the stoppage of our presents, which we always considered were promised to us and our posterity as long as a remnant of us remained; but perhaps we are wrong, and that no such promise was made. Our aged and more destitute people feel keenly the loss of their blanket. The young and hearty may work for and earn clothing, but the other classes I have described cannot. We desire to convey to the ears of our kind Father at Quebec, through you, our heartfelt thanks for the interest he takes in our welfare, and to pray that he will use his influence to procure the continuance of the presents to our poor and aged people for a few years longer."

3. Chief Peter Jones, after consulting with his people a few minutes, during which all present raised their right hands in token of approval, stepped forward, and addressed Mr. Chesley and Mr. Thorburn as follows:

4. "We are informed that our mother the Queen, across the wide water, is engaged in a bloody war with a powerful adversary, and that already much blood has been shed, and many precious lives lost. We cannot raise the tomahawk in her assistance as we would do if the fight were on our borders. But we may be permitted to raise our hearts in fervent prayer to the great Spirit above, invoking his blessing on the head of our beloved Queen, and crowning her arms with success in the perilous conflict. We sympathize deeply with the bereaved widows and orphans of the brave men who have fallen by disease and by the sword in this fearful war; and in proof of the sincerity of our hearts, we desire that the sum of 25*l.* may be taken from our annuity fund, and forwarded to the proper quarter, as our contribution towards the Patriotic Fund."

5. Mr. Chesley thanked them in the name of their father, the Governor-general, for their unanimous expression of loyal feelings, and their generous and liberal contribution towards the Patriotic Fund.

The Council was then closed.

Appendix, No. 5.

Consists of an Extract from Mr. *Oliphant's* Report, commencing at paragraph beginning "It is impossible," at page 6, and ending at the words, "nine remaining tribes, 1,100*l.*" at page 8.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING ALTERATIONS

Appendix, No. 6.

Names of the OFFICERS and MISSIONARIES now on the Strength of the Indian Department who entered its Service previously to its Re-organization in 1845.

NAME	Various Capacities of Service.	Present Office.	Date of First Appointment.	Whole Period of Service.	
S. Y. Chesley	Interpreter, Lieutenant, Resident Superintendent of St. Regis, Land Agent and Accountant.	Accountant and Assistant to Superintendent-general.	Nov. 1813	42 years	Served through the whole American War, from the day of the Battle of Aylmer to 1 August 1815; was engaged at the taking of Ogdensburgh, at Hoople's Creek; Expedition to Four Corners, at Chateaugay and Plattsburgh. Age 60 years; speaks the Mohawk language fluently. A most valuable officer.
Thomas G. Anderson	Interpreter and Visiting Superintendent.	Superintendent	1815	40 ..	Did duty in a military capacity at Prairie du Chien and Macana, and as Superintendent at Coldwater, Manitoulin, Toronto and Coburg; 72 years of age; speaks Chippewa. Also a very valuable officer.
D. C. Napier	Secretary and Superintendent	Superintendent	1825	30 ..	Has performed the functions of these offices at Montreal and Quebec, is 67 years old. Does not speak any Indian language.
George Ironside	Superintendent at Amherstburgh and Manitoulin.	Superintendent at Manitoulin.	1826	20 ..	Has been at Manitoulin Island since 1845. Is 48. Speaks Chippewa imperfectly.
Frs. Assickenack	Interpreter	Interpreter	1849	6 ..	Is a full-blooded Indian, was educated at Toronto College.
D. Thorburn	Special Commissioner and Superintendent.	Special Commissioner and Superintendent.	1844	11 ..	Acted in the previous capacity since 1844, and in both since January last. Is 65 years old.
MISSIONARIES:					
Rev. Richard Flood	Missionary	Missionary	1834	21 ..	Resides at Carradoc.
Rev. F. A. O'Meara	Ditto	Ditto	1841	14 ..	Manitoulin.

Appendix, No. 7.

STATEMENT of the SUMS voted by the Imperial Parliament for defraying the Expense of the Indian Department in *Canada*, during each of the under-mentioned Seven Years.

Year ending 31st March	£.
1849	14,308
" - - - 1850	14,102
" - - - 1851	14,102
" - - - 1852	13,660
" - - - 1853	12,424
" - - - 1854	12,151
" - - - 1855	9,438
Sterling	£. 90,185

YEARLY AVERAGE - - - £. 12,883. 11. 5. sterling.

SUMS actually expended, as per Commissariat Accounts Current.

Year ending 31st March	£.	s.	d.
1849	12,369	2	6
" - - - 1850	9,712	11	10
" - - - 1851	16,453	12	10
" - - - 1852	12,238	5	8
" - - - 1853	8,771	10	6
" - - - 1854	9,869	11	-
" - - - 1855	8,016	7	1
£. 77,431	1	5	

YEARLY AVERAGE - - - £. 11,061 11 6 sterling.

CLASSIFICATION of the various Charges on the Parliamentary Grant during the foregoing Seven Years.

Year ending 31 March	PRESENTS.			SALARIES.			PENSIONS.			CONTINGENCIES.			Pensions to Wounded Indians.			PROVISIONS.		
	£.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1849 -	7,361	11	6	2,568	15	9	517	-	7	1,492	6	8	59	11	8	379	17	4
1850 -	4,823	4	1	2,572	9	1	475	16	-	1,327	6	3	52	-	-	461	16	8
1851 -	11,848	9	7	2,573	6	8	496	3	10	1,078	-	11	36	16	8	425	15	2
1852 -	7,944	8	2	2,391	14	4	417	1	-	1,031	1	1	63	7	6	390	13	7
1853 -	4,738	15	8	2,433	11	-	424	11	-	714	19	1	62	-	-	407	13	9
1854 -	6,103	19	3	2,596	18	11	289	9	8	561	10	9	52	-	-	275	12	6
1855 -	4,604	17	6	2,306	18	3	253	8	2	516	14	8	- included with General Pensions			323	8	6
£.	47,410	5	9	17,444	14	-	2,873	10	3	6,711	18	7	315	15	10	2,674	17	2

GRAND TOTAL - - - - - £. 77,431. 1. 5.

Appendix, No. 8.

My Lord,

Dundas, 22 August 1855.

YOUR letter of the 19th May last, has remained too long unanswered, and the period which I have permitted to elapse since its receipt may argue an indifference on my part to the subject of your Lordship's communication.

But such I assure you is not the case; after so long and protracted an absence at Quebec, from my parish, I found a great deal to attend to on my return, which occupied the whole of my time for many weeks.

Besides, I was very unwilling to reply to your Lordship's letter until I had submitted it to some of my brethren, who are now labouring amongst the Indians, whose opinions I was anxious to obtain before I ventured to express my own upon so important a subject. This necessarily involved a considerable portion of time, but if so, I thought it desirable to secure the counsel of those who were as deeply interested as myself in the welfare of the Indians of our country. I am happy to inform your Lordship that the outline of the plan which His Excellency the Governor-general had in view, and which he has done me the honour to submit to my consideration, has met with the unanimous approval of those gentlemen, whose views on the subject I solicited.

Indeed so admirably suited did we consider it, for the accomplishment of the object which his Excellency has in contemplation, that it is with a great deal of hesitancy I venture to offer any suggestions of my own.

There is very little doubt, my Lord, that the present condition of the Indians is, generally speaking, very deplorable, but at the same time one which may be greatly ameliorated; and I am of opinion that to accomplish any thing more than what has already been done will require the united action of the Government and those who have their spiritual welfare at heart. To the former belongs more particularly the management of their temporal matters, to the latter their spiritual concerns, and yet both must act in concert, for their civilization and conversion must go hand in hand.

The missionary who has been labouring amongst this interesting people can do little more than direct their minds to the consideration of the things of another world: this is particularly his province, for if he ventures to meddle with their temporal concerns he is sure to be censured, if not charged with having other objects in view than those which would evoke for their peace.

The missionary can lead the Indian to a certain point in civilization, but only to a certain point, when I think the action of the Government should be brought to his assistance, in some such manner as that proposed by his Excellency, viz. by making him in reality an owner of the soil; thus severing the leading-strings by which he has too long been held, and upon which he has too much relied, instead of upon his own exertions. The Indian, to be benefited, must be a party, and an interested party, in the great work of his civilization. But so long as he merely holds the land which he is called upon to improve and cultivate, simply as it were by sufferance, and to be deprived of it whenever a surrender may be required, over which he has little or no control, he cannot be expected to have the same interest in it as if it were absolutely his own, to be held by himself and his children in perpetuity, in the same manner and by the same tenure as the soil is held by his white neighbours around him.

By extending to him this privilege, he will at once become interested, which will be a very important step gained towards his civilization.

The missionary may succeed in arresting his thoughts, and turning them to the consideration of the welfare of his soul; and, in my opinion, it is then more immediately the part of the Government to render its assistance, and to direct his mind to the welfare of the body; and the first step, it occurs to me, towards accomplishing this, will be to give him an interest in his earthly possession, a title to his property, so that he may be assured that the labour he may bestow upon it may not be reaped by others, but by his own family after him, which has not always been guaranteed to him. There are instances of Indians having been removed from their settlements, when they had taken the first step towards civilization, namely, by clearing a portion of the forest, to a more remote part of the province, where they were expected to begin again to clear the land, with no better security than they had before; and have thus had the mortification to see the sweat of their brow enjoyed by the purchaser of their former possessions. Such a policy, my Lord, you will yourself see, is most unwise, and must have a most disheartening effect upon the Indian, who is not forward of himself to labour, and he will most certainly become less so if such a system should be continued.

But his Excellency's plan of giving the Indian, as soon as he is in a condition to hold it, his land in fee and common soccage, would effectually, if judiciously carried out, obviate for the future so ruinous a policy as that to which I have just alluded.

The Indian requires every inducement to wean him from his indolent and listless life; and when once his mind becomes engaged in, and turned to the pursuits of agriculture, even on ever so small a scale, a point has been gained, and no obstacle should be thrown in his way; on the contrary, every encouragement should be held out to him to secure his perseverance in well doing.

With these general remarks, I will now proceed to notice more particularly the several heads of your Lordship's communication.

I. Under this head, I would simply remark, that the local superintendent might be the channel of communication with the Government; but I apprehend he could scarcely be expected to have so intimate a knowledge of each individual case as those missionaries who might be labouring within the bounds of his superintendency.

Residing, as the missionaries do, with the Indians constantly, they would be most intimately acquainted with their several characters, and the best qualified to decide who were the farthest advanced, and the most prepared by their previous habits, to receive and make a good use of the boon which his Excellency wishes to extend towards them.

By application to them, I am sure they would be most happy to furnish the superintendent with the most accurate information he could require.

II. The duty prescribed under this head might safely be committed to the missionary; but to relieve him from the responsibility of the choice of candidates, and thus throw the onus upon him, as well as to keep down jealousies which would necessarily arise, it would be better to entrust it to the hands of some disinterested person or persons, who had the welfare of the Indians in view, and who would in reality attend to the duty, a most important one, in a conscientious and unbiassed manner.

It would even be more judicious to relieve the local superintendent also of this duty; for the charge of partiality would as likely be fastened upon him as upon the missionary, where the privilege could not at first be safely committed to all.

III. The queries under this division are so much to the point, and so fully meet the case, that I can suggest nothing, but dismiss it with this single remark, that many might be found, and certainly some who are quite capable of taking care of their property, who could not comply with all the requirements contained in the four queries. But doubtless exceptions would have to be made in this as in all other cases. The commissioners might have the authority given them to recommend those who could comply with the 1st and 2d, but not fully with the 3d and 4th.

IV. I am of opinion, that the object sought to be obtained under this head of his Excellency's plan, will require a good deal of judgment to carry it out beneficially.

In the first place, the greatest care possible will have to be taken in giving up the title of his land to the Indian at all, and therefore every safeguard should be thrown around him to prevent his disposing of it afterwards.

I know that many of the Indians desire it, and would not abuse the trust committed to them. But at the same time, I think as a first experiment, the privilege should be extended to but very few, to be selected from the most prosperous of the Indian missions or settlements. The number might readily be extended, if it was found to be beneficial, by the addition of a few every year. As to the quantity of land to be given to each individual, that will require a good deal of consideration. In the case of a single man, who should give up only his own individual interests, 100 acres might be as much as he could well manage. But in the case of a married man with a family, such an allowance would be altogether insufficient. This might be obviated by giving every male member of the family 100 acres, on attaining the age of 21 years, if he were otherwise qualified.

There would still be the interests of the female to be regarded, who is now entitled equally with the male to a participation in the funds of the tribe.

She might either receive an allowance of land, or her right might be commuted, by the payment

payment of an equivalent in money. Another difficulty would arise here. The Indian might contend that he would still be entitled to receive his portion of the funds of the tribe annually, realized from the sales of land made prior to his being placed in this new position. That the grant of 100 acres, or whatever quantity might be given to him absolutely, in no way affected his former rights: that the grant to him was only given from the lands still remaining in the possession of his tribe, in which he had an equal interest with the rest; in short, that it would only be confirming his title to a certain proportion of his own property.

If he ceased to participate in the funds of his tribe, simply because he had received a title to a portion of his own, and in addition received assistance for a year or two until he was established in his possession, I apprehend that he would soon discover that he would by so doing, be placed in a more unfavourable situation than those who had no such privilege extended to them. The share of the funds which he would relinquish in consequence of having received his deed, would go to swell the general amount of the funds to be divided amongst those who were not considered fit to assume this new position; and the larger the number who should thus surrender their share of the annuities, by accepting their title-deeds, the greater would be the sum to be divided amongst those who were ineligible.

There would naturally arise also, in the minds of the Indians, two very important questions. 1st. What would become of their funds, or their present capital, after all had received their deeds and the assistance proposed? And 2dly. What disposition would be made of their lands, should any remain, after all had the apportionment of 100 acres, or whatever quantity the Government might deem it proper to give them.

Until these questions were disposed of satisfactorily, I fear that few would be inclined to accept of the deeds for their respective shares. But before any deed was given to any Indian, I would suggest here, that the consent of the chief or chiefs of his tribe or nation, should first be procured.

The grant of a certain "sum of money for a year or two for the purchase of seed and farming implements," as proposed in his Excellency's plan, would have a most beneficial effect. But I would go a step further, and hold out premiums to encourage education, industry, frugality, cleanliness, &c., &c. amongst them. For instance, prizes might be awarded annually for the greatest number of acres of land cleared within the year; for the best cultivated farm; for the best stock of horses, horned cattle, sheep, pigs, &c.; for the best dwelling and farm-houses; for various articles, the produce of their farms, and amongst the children for the greatest improvement in their studies and regularity in their attendance at school. A premium might also be extended to the various handicrafts; and last, though not least, for the greatest cleanliness and neatness in their houses and families. This list I am aware might be greatly extended; in short, some such plan though on a smaller scale, as that which is now in use amongst the agricultural societies of the province, might be extended to the Indians, with very great profit and advantage.

V. I think the term named under this head for the issuing of the patent, is quite too short. I would strongly recommend that no patent should issue for at least four years. Perhaps another year's probation might be added as a general rule, with greater safety. It would be far better for the Indian to submit to a long probation at first, than that he should by too hasty a movement be put into a situation to be robbed of his land, before he was capable of taking care of it, or fully appreciated the boon bestowed upon him. I repeat here, that in the first instances, too great care cannot be taken to secure the Indian against loss: at the same time a fair trial should be given him to test his capability of holding his property in his own name.

With regard to the protection of the Indians from the common process of law for debt, I cannot but think that it has led to very unhappy results, and has, I fear, induced dishonesty, if it has not in reality produced it.

The Indian, I am convinced in many instances, knowing that he could not be sued, has contracted debts which he never intended to pay, or which he felt he ought not to pay to their full extent. With the knowledge that his creditor, in consideration of the risk he would have to run (in fact, to trust entirely to the Indian himself), has added so much to the price of the articles sold, that if even one half should be realized, he would be secure: the Indian has too frequently been careless about meeting the demands of his rapacious creditors, and satisfied that he could not be proceeded against for his debt, he has repudiated it altogether, and more especially if it has been chiefly for liquor.

The tendency of all this has been most prejudicial to their temporal and spiritual interests; and it is a matter I humbly submit, worthy of the consideration of the Government, whether such a protection is judicious, and whether it should not be blotted from the statute book, and the Indian be placed henceforward, in this respect, on the same footing with the white man. Having thus secured, as we may presume to the Indian his land, the next step I think should be to extend to him all the privileges of a subject: by this I mean those rights which are common to all the subjects of Her Majesty: as for example, the elective franchise, a part in municipal institutions, the right of being selected as a juror, and of holding and conveying property when, and to whomsoever he pleased; in a word, to place him at once in the same position as any other subject of the Queen, amenable to the same law, and entitled to the same privileges. For experience has, I think, abundantly shown, that the longer the Indian is kept in a comparatively helpless condition, and treated as a child, the less inclined he will be to assume the responsibility of providing for or taking care of himself.

But set him free as soon as he is prepared for the emancipation, and show him that he must rely entirely, like his white neighbour, on his own exertions; let him feel, in fact, that he is no longer a child, but raised to the dignity of a man, and I am convinced that an

important step will be gained towards his well-being, both here and hereafter. But all this forces on another consideration, viz., whether the Indian thus raised should not be permitted, like his fellow-subjects, the right to petition his Excellency in Council, through the chiefs of his nation or tribe, and also the Legislature, if necessary, instead of being compelled as is at present the case, to prefer his petition only through the medium of his own local superintendent. A subject of Her Majesty has the free and untrammelled right to petition, and so should the Indian when he is raised to his new position. The denial of this has, I am aware, given rise to numerous complaints and to more dissatisfaction than almost anything else. I am fully sensible of the objections to such liberty, that it might be attended, and doubtless would be accompanied with some inconvenience, and might induce them to refer every trivial matter to the Government, instead of submitting it in the first instance to their own superintendent, and thus render their applications frequent and troublesome, but not more so, I apprehend, than the constant applications of the whites. Some appeal from the decision of the local superintendent should undoubtedly be permitted: and, in certain cases, a direct application to the Governor in Council, irrespective of the superintendent, should be allowed, which, under proper restrictions, would be a powerful means of removing a great deal of jealousy and heart-burning, which its denial is almost sure to produce.

There is yet another matter connected with their own internal management which I think calls for some attention, and upon which I will offer a few remarks here: I allude to the appointment of their chiefs: this should be held, as it now is, in the hands of the Government; but I think the office might be invested with a little more authority than it possesses at present. To be more explicit: a chief, who had become christianized and civilized, might be appointed to the magistracy and to other offices, not only of trust but also of emolument, and especially the latter, should any such be found necessary amongst them.

But the qualifications for the office of a chief should be raised as the present occupants disappeared. The chief should be required to read and write the English language easily; his moral character should be unexceptionable, and he should be entirely free from that slavish vice, intemperance, which is rapidly obliterating the Indian name. If some such stringent departmental regulation could be framed and rigidly carried out as the following: that intemperance should invariably deprive a chief of his office, upon sufficient evidence being furnished of his guilt, and in fact, that the offence should be total disqualification for the chieftainship. I think it would be a wholesome restraint upon the individual himself, and have also an excellent effect upon the whole community. The nation or tribe would, at all events, have the benefit of a good example from their rulers, and a powerful stimulus would thus be given them to go and do likewise.

Upon the question of intemperance itself, as far as it affects the Indian, I need say nothing here, nor indeed offer any suggestions upon the subject. The whole question is now before the Legislature, and should any good result from its deliberations, the Indian will receive the same benefit as the white man; for the law, should one be carried, will equally affect both.

It is not without much diffidence, my Lord, that I ventured to offer the foregoing crude and imperfect suggestions; but if they can, in ever so small a degree, be made available to his Excellency the Governor-general in his noble efforts to elevate the present deplorable condition of these poor children of the forest, I should be abundantly rewarded, and feel that my time has not been lost, but devoted to the truest interests of this interesting, but too long neglected people.

To Viscount Bury,
Superintendent-general of Indian Affairs,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *William M. Murray*, D. D.,
Rector of Ancaster and Dundas.

—No. 3.—

No. 3.
Governor-general
Sir E. Head to
Right hon. H. La-
bouchere, M. P.
15 March 1856.

(No. 51.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General Sir E. Head to the
Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M. P.

Government House, Toronto, 15 March 1856.

(Received 1 April 1856.)

Sir,

(Answered 4 April 1856, No. 69, p. 42.)

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your despatch of February 21, No. 42, relative to the management of the Indian Department in this Province

As Her Majesty's Government have finally decided upon following the course set forth in that despatch, with a view of making the establishment entrusted with the care of Indian affairs self supporting, it only remains to adopt such measures as may seem best calculated speedily to ensure the object desired.

The returns of the number of persons recommended for the continuance of the yearly blanket, and an estimate of the cost, are in course of being made out, and will be forwarded immediately on their completion, as also lists of the Indians to whom pensions have been granted, with a statement of the respective sums allotted to them.

There

There are in the hands of the Commissariat Department in this Province a certain number of blankets, kettles and other articles, which were originally destined to be distributed among the Indians as presents.

A few rifles, with their appurtenances, which formed part of this stock, have been, at my request, put at the disposal of the Adjutant-general of Militia. The greater part of the other things are to be advertised for sale.

I would suggest, Sir, that the blankets and such other articles as may be considered useful should be reserved as applicable for the relief of the aged Indians above referred to. They would probably fetch merely nominal prices if sold by auction.

The few flags and medals also yet in store have been reserved, at my request, as not being worth selling, though useful as marks of honorary distinction.

I intend this despatch merely as one of an intermediate character.

I have, &c.
signed *Edmund Head*

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1. —

(No. 11.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *G. Grey*, Bart., M. P., to Governor-General Sir *E. Head*.

No. 1.
Right hon. Sir *G. Grey*, Bart., M. P., to Governor-general Sir *E. Head*.
24 January 1855.

Sir,

Downing-street, 24 January 1855.

I HAVE received your predecessor's despatch,* No. 66, of the 18th of December last, accompanied by a report from Mr. Oliphant, Superintendent-general of Indian affairs, respecting the surrender of certain Indian lands on Lake Huron, and containing remarks and suggestions of much importance on the prospects of the Indians in Canada, and the future course to be adopted towards them.

Mr. Oliphant's report is a valuable one, and has not failed to attract my attention: but before adopting a conclusion on the practical questions which it suggests, I shall await the communication of the opinions which you may form after you shall have had an opportunity of giving it your consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Grey*

* Page 3.

— No. 2. —

(No. 42.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P. to Governor-General Sir *E. Head*.

No. 2.
Right hon. *H. Labouchere*, M. P., to Governor-general Sir *E. Head*.
21 February 1856.

Sir,

Downing-street, 21 February 1856.

IN the concluding part of your despatch,† No. 154, of the 15th of December 1855, relative to the contents of the blue book for 1854, you transmit a Report from Viscount Bury as Superintendent general of Indian affairs upon the state and prospects of the Indians, and upon the measures which are in progress for gradually withdrawing the aid hitherto granted to them by the British Parliament.

I have carefully considered this Report, as well as that from Mr. Oliphant by which it was preceded, both of them able and comprehensive papers, and I have duly adverted to the remarks which you have made on the subject.

It has long been settled that the general presents to the Indian tribes, which are in progress of annual reduction, shall cease in 1858. Before this decision was adopted, the two questions whether the continuance of the presents was

† Page 16.

required by good faith, and whether it conduced to the civilization and welfare of the Indians, were fully considered; and both were decided in the negative. This decision therefore will remain unaltered.

But it has been represented that there is a certain number of aged and destitute Indians who would feel severely the loss of their annual blanket. This point was urged with great propriety of sentiment and language by Chief Sawyer at a Council, of which an account is appended to Viscount Bury's Report. Lord Bury appears to have addressed a circular letter to the officers of the department, calling for a return of really deserving objects coming within the terms of the foregoing description. He proposes that only the oldest and best conducted Indians should be admitted to the boon, that none of them should be less than 60 years of age, and that no fresh names should be hereafter added to the list. Kept within these limits, and supposing that the total pecuniary cost should be as moderate as is expected by Lord Bury, I have little doubt that Parliament would be willing to continue the small grant requisite for this bounty, viewing it as a charity to the individuals, and a mark of consideration for the tribes to which they belong. I shall be glad to receive from you as soon as it can be made out, a complete return of the numbers of persons recommended for the continuance of the yearly blanket, and an estimate of the cost.

The need however of an Indian Department will not cease with the issue of presents. Viscount Bury points out that the distribution of these presents forms only a small part of the duties of that office, and that a much larger part consists in a general guardianship of the Indians, and management of their property. Undoubtedly an Indian Department should still be maintained, but the question is from what source the requisite expenditure should be defrayed. Mr. Oliphant thought that an endeavour should be made to pay for it out of Indian funds. Lord Bury on the other hand, submits that these funds are altogether inadequate to the purpose; that they are already drawn upon (to an extent which amounted in the year 1855 to 4,700*l.*) for various public objects beyond those defrayed from the Parliamentary grant, and that a contribution from the latter source of about 4,500*l.* will still be wanted. He remarks that the Imperial grants for the last seven years have amounted to 77,000*l.* and he proposes that in order to put an end to the annual votes for this service, Parliament should be asked to grant, once for all, a like sum of 77,000*l.*, which invested in Canadian debentures would yield the annual income which he believes to be necessary.

I regret that I cannot hold out to you any prospect that this proposal can be entertained. Parliament could not, with propriety, be applied to for such a grant on account of this expiring service. It evidently is no more than consonant with equity and common usage, as was most justly observed by Mr. Oliphant, in his report on this subject, that where an agency is employed for the management of large pecuniary interests, its officers should be paid out of the funds which they administer. I am aware that the property of the Indians has been somewhat neglected, and that it may not be immediately adequate to bear any large new demand upon it, but still it is of great extent, and certainly it is difficult to suppose that with due zeal and judgment on the part of the Indian Department, it might not be made to do much more than defray the expense of its management.

Some useful information on the extent of the Indian property is connected with Mr. Oliphant's Report.

In Lower Canada I observe that grants are made by the Provincial Parliament for Indian purposes, to the amount of 1,150*l.* per annum; that 17,000 acres of land are owned by the Iroquois of St. Regis, who have also 6,500*l.* in public funds, yielding 390*l.* interest; that the Iroquois of Caughnawaga are engaged in various branches of trade and agriculture, and are quite independent in their circumstances, and that although other tribes are, no doubt, in a state of great poverty and helplessness, yet no less than 230,000 acres of land have recently been reserved to them for cultivation or for future surrender.

In Upper Canada there is an annual grant of 1,100*l.* to assist the necessitous tribes of Ojibways on Lakes Huron and Superior. There are various investments in public funds belonging to other tribes, yielding so much as 8,800*l.* per annum, exclusive of the large proceeds which are expected hereafter for the Saugeen Reserve on Lake Huron. There are large tracts of land, for some of which instalments to the amount of 7,000*l.* were due at the date

of

of Mr. Oliphant's Report to two tribes alone, viz., the Six Nations and the Chippewas; and beyond all this there is a floating fund common to all the Indians, called the "General Fund," which was worth 8,300*l.*, and produced about 500*l.* per annum when Mr. Oliphant wrote.

I am aware that much of this property belongs to separate tribes, and could not, therefore, be rendered applicable, except rateably, to the maintenance of a general department. And further that, as has already been noticed in an earlier part of this despatch, some part of the funds is already properly devoted to schools and other laudable objects. But still I think that it is impossible to close the review which I have just made, without feeling convinced that if those entrusted with the care of the Indians were made sensible that their establishment must be self-supporting, they would not fail to find the requisite means of accomplishing the object.

On the other hand, after the very long period during which the guardianship of the Indians has been provided for by Imperial aid, I do not doubt that Parliament will be willing to grant a moderate time for maturing and bringing into action a better system. Exclusive of presents, I find that the demand upon Parliament, at the present moment, may in round numbers be classified as follows:

	£.
Salaries and contingent expenditure of department	3,000
Provisions and gunpowder for the use of Indians who live by the chase	400
Pensions	230
	£. 3,630

The pensions will continue to be paid during the lives of the holders. You will have the goodness to cause me to be furnished with a return of their names, and of the amount of pension received by each.

The contingent expenditure of the department will, I hope, soon admit of some considerable reduction.

I perceive that the charge of the establishment at Manitoulin is treated in some of the reports as a matter more especially of Imperial concern, because it was an experiment instituted under the personal direction of a former Governor of Upper Canada, Sir Francis Head. I cannot at all admit, however, that this distinguishes it from any other branch of Indian management; and if you should think that the experiment has proved a failure, it will be for you to take any steps which circumstances will admit for remedying the evil, and placing the Indians concerned under more favourable conditions. The general tenor of the accounts from Canada appears to leave little doubt, that on the whole it is better for the Indians to be within reach of civilized communities, notwithstanding the risks and temptations to which they may be thus exposed, than by isolating them to keep them in a perpetual state of tutelage and helplessness. The statement that large bands of Indians in the more settled parts of the province are engaged in trade and agriculture, and are independent in their circumstances, and scarcely distinguishable from the neighbours by whom they are surrounded, appears conclusive on this point.

On the whole I think it probable that Parliament will not object to an application for a sum not exceeding 3,000*l.* per annum in aid of the Indian Department, and for the purchase of the usual provisions, and gunpowder for the use of those tribes which live by the chase, during a period of two or three years subsequent to the cessation of the Indian presents. But after the time thus allowed for giving effect to new measures, I apprehend that the officers of the establishment must look to the provisions of the funds required for its support, by the more efficient and profitable management of the extensive property which is entrusted to their care; and I have no doubt that with the notice afforded in the present despatch, you will take the necessary steps for securing their early attention to the subject, and for obtaining from them, well-considered proposals for the future maintenance and administration of this department.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere.*

ALTERATIONS IN THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

No. 3.
Right hon. H. La-
bouchere, M. P., to
Governor-general
Sir E. Head.
4 April 1856.

— No. 3. —

(No. 69).

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.,
to Governor-General *Sir E. Head*.

Sir,

Downing-street, 4 April 1856.

• Page 38.

I HAVE received your despatch, * No. 51, of the 15th of March, suggesting the
manner of disposing of some miscellaneous articles which are in the hands of
the Commissariat Department, originally destined for distribution as Indian
presents.

I quite approve of the course which you propose to adopt on this subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Labouchere*.

INDIAN DEPARTMENT (CANADA).

COPIES of EXTRACTS of recent CORRESPON-
DENCE respecting Alterations in the Organization
of the INDIAN DEPARTMENT in Canada.

(Viscount Lindesay.)

Ordered, by the House of Commons, to be Printed,
2 June 1856.

[Printed Sd.]

247.

Under 8 oz.

