

16

Indian Reserve Commission.
Victoria, B.C.

November 17th 1894.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that in conformity with the instructions contained in your letter of the 5th March last. No 111.246, I availed myself of the opportunity afforded by the trip of the steamer "Quadrant" to Victoria, to proceed in her to San Juan Harbor where I arrived on the 29th ultimo. On reaching my destination I had an interview with Peter, the Chief of the Paheema tribe, and also with Jim Nawassim the Indian most interested in the question of the fisheries. On the following day, accompanied by Nawassim and some of his friends, I proceeded to the land, and after a careful examination I defined it as a reserve.

The Paheema Indians possess three reserves allotted to them in 1882, and 1889, numbered 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

No. 4 is situated on the right bank of San Juan river about six miles from its mouth. It contains about 28 acres and comprises that portion of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 12, Township 10 Renfrew District, lying to the West of Harris Creek, and to the North of the San Juan river.

The soil is of excellent quality, but unfortunately it is subject to overflow at certain seasons of the year. It is however

much

The
Deputy Supt General
of Indian Affairs

17

much valued by the Indians as a fishing station. One house has been built on the land, and a small patch is under cultivation; there is a good supply of timber on this reserve for purposes of fuel, fencing &c.

A Minute of Decision and Sketch of Reserve No. 4 is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant
P. O'Reilly
JRC

Indian Reserve Commission.
Victoria, B.C.

November 19th 1894

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit for your information, my report of the operations of the Indian Reserve Commission, and of the two survey parties connected therewith during the past season.

Mr. Skinner and his party proceeded, on the 5th May, to the Cheungagan country in accordance with my instructions, and surveyed the recent alterations and additions to the various Indian reserves at Cheungagan and Similkameen, and subsequently that at Douglas Lake. After carrying out the above work, which occupied him until 13th July, he left for Chilcotin and undertook the survey of the several reserves for the

The
Deputy Supt General
of Indian Affairs

18

the Soda Creek, Chiloiten and Canim Lake bands of Indians which he accomplished on 19th October.

Mr. Skinner also surveyed the 160 acres of land on Carpenters mountain purchased by the Dominion government on 5th March 1881, from Mr. Poley, the then Official Administrator of the Estate of H. S. Poley, for the use of the Williams Lake Indians. On his return journey Mr. Skinner connected Schouchien and Kulkwa reserves situated on the Thompson river near Lytton, as directed in your letter to me of 24th March, W. R. 286.

Mr. Skinner reports that the weather during the season was unusually fine, and he having accomplished the whole of the work assigned to him may be attributed to this favorable circumstance.

Under my direction Mr. Surveyor Diverence, with his party, left headquarters on 19th May to proceed to the remote districts of the Cariboo and the Coast, but owing to delays caused by the great distance to be travelled and the unusually bad state of the weather roads, his supplies did not reach him at the stipulated time, and he was unable to take the field before the 31st May.

Mr. Diverence has completed the survey of all the reserves in the Cariboo district, and those for the Stony Creek and Fraser Lake bands in the Coast district. Of the reserves unfinished in the latter are the Necanic and Tache on Stuart Lake, and those for the Tumbler band of Indians on Tumbler Lake.

Mr.

19

Mr. Diverence reports having had an exceptionally wet season, notwithstanding which, and other difficulties he had to contend with, he has accomplished a larger amount of work than could have been expected.

The operations of the survey parties next season can, in my opinion, be most profitably employed in the Skeena river valley; this would include the survey of the reserves left unfinished by Mr. Diverence on Stuart and Tumbler lakes.

On consequence of the protracted litigation in the Supreme Court, and the frequent adjournments in the case of the Attorney General of Canada - vs - McTee et al, in which the members of the Commission are important witnesses, the work of the Reserve Commission was unavoidably interfered with, for it was not until the month of August that the case was finally settled, and a judgment given for the Crown.

On the 10th September I proceeded to Kitjic, on the Fraser river, and there completed the allotment of reserves for that band of Indians. Subsequently I took advantage of the sailing of the government steamer "Quadrant" for the West Coast to visit San Juan Harbor, and the river of that name, in order to define a fishing station for the Pachecua Indians, which I am glad to say was accomplished to the satisfaction of all concerned.

With a view to securing for the Protection Indians a sufficient supply of timber, negotiations were opened last year with the Provincial Government and with Mr. Eldon, whose property adjoins the reserve, for the purpose of effecting an exchange of land. This arrangement has been satisfactorily carried out, and under it Mr. Eldon has conveyed to the Crown

20

for the use of the Indians, 194½ acres in lieu of a Crown grant from the Provincial Government for an equal number of acres; a conveyance has been duly executed by Mr. Ellis and forwarded to you.

The Ipsachton Reserve at Chetsohatch has, under instructions from you been repaired and, and repaired, as also the reserves at Duasomichan, Cowichan Bay and Shawinigan.

Many applications have recently been made by the Indians, through their agents, in different parts of the Province for addition and extensions to the reserves originally allotted to them. The applications that have been favorably considered by the Department, and which consequently the Commission has got to deal with, are situated at Alkali Lake and Caroe Creek in the interior, and Klashoon and Nicammon on the West coast of the mainland.

Copies of the reports furnished by Messrs. Skinner and Devereux, together with schedules in detail of the work performed by them, are herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient servant
J. P. O'Reilly
JRC.

21

Indian Reserve Commission.
Victoria, B.C.
November 21st 1894.

Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 17th July, No. 2373/90, in which you inform me that that portion of the Northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 10, Kuperus District, lying to the West of Harris Creek was available for an Indian fishing station, - I have the honor to inform you that I have recently visited the land in question, and after examination have, subject to your approval, duly declared it a reserve for the use of the Pichana tribe. This reserve contains about 28 acres, all of which is subject to overflow at certain seasons.

A Minute of decision and sketch is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your obedient servant
J. P. O'Reilly
JRC.

The Hon^{ble}
The Chief Commissioner
of Lands & Works.

22

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria. B.C.

30th November 1894.

Sir,

I am in receipt of your communication of 30th ult. which I have referred to Mr. Duvorne for explanation, and have ascertained from him that the voucher for your pay has in the usual course been forwarded to the Department at Ottawa for approval. A cheque for the amount due you should be received here in a few days, when it will be forwarded to you without loss of time.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Mr. A. D. Davis
Kamloops. B.C.

Your obedient servant
W. P. O'Reilly
H.C.

Telegram

Victoria. December 6th 1894

Deputy Supt General
of Indian Affairs
Ottawa.

Reserve Commission eight thousand dollars
Survey not less than twelve thousand
For details of next seasons work see my report
19th November

W. P. O'Reilly.

23

Indian Reserve Commission
Victoria. B.C.

December 12th 1894.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a statement of my expenditure as Indian Reserve Commissioner for the months of October and November amounting to \$76.00 together with vouchers in duplicate in support thereof, and disburse for the same period.

Expenses for the months of July, August, and September are also enclosed herewith.

I send \$32.00 by Post office order, being a refund of allowance previously paid to Mr. Green.

In reply to your communication of 29th October, No 104561, in which you remark that the rate of wages paid to casual channemen, viz \$2.00 per diem, is considered too high, I would point out in explanation that the men on the occasion were employed for a few days only, that they provided their own board and lodging, and that they knew no pay on rest days or Sunday; under these circumstances men could not be engaged on the same terms as those employed for the season by Messrs Skinner and Duvorne.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant
W. P. O'Reilly
H.C.

The
Deputy Supt General
of Indian Affairs

Diary