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with his Department as to these Indians, and also the correspondence relative to the conditions on which you are willing I should work in the Interior during the remainder of this season, describes your instructions to me as "most impolitic and calculated to 'do more harm than good'". I am extremely unwilling to impute any other than public motives to this act, but I cannot find any reasonable explanation for it.

Are these Indians, still without land 22 years after the establishment of the colony and 8 years after Confederation not blame any, now, even after what they most desired and repeatedly asked for, has been sold and placed beyond their reach, unless the Dominion Government took great trouble to get it back? I do not believe that Mr. Wulken or any of his colleagues has acted improperly, but they are ignorant of Indian Affairs and indifferent to them, and several influential persons in Victoria are much interested in land speculations in connection with iron discoveries in Canada Island, and a possible railway terminus at Butte Bluff, and they would rather that the Indians, even at this late period in the history of the Province, were left out in the cold for some time longer.

I cannot in any other way account for an outbreak of spite in the Victoria Press as soon as your orders to me to work on the coast became known, and when the place I intended to visit first also became known. Immediately north of the Klakame, Miamum and Kumatlaka tribes is the large and somewhat determined tribe of the Eucataw. They already have sent to me to arrange for visitors. These Indians claim among other places, Salmon River Valley, respecting which there are conflicting accounts, but which some say is the best agricultural

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valley in Vancouver Island. The Indians will not allow anyone to settle there. It appears to me highly necessary that the land question of the Eucataw should, if possible, be adjusted in good time, because if any developments took place as is possible, in this country, the Cowichan difficulty could be reproduced with the Eucataw, and the Department involved in endless trouble.

The Hudson Bay Co. claims on the Coast require to be examined. At Port Simpson and the Indians have very little land, and the Methodists have a successful mission there.

The following notices have lately been published, and the land applied for seems to me to include all the good part of the land at Port Simpson.

I have called the attention of the Honorable Government to the non-adjustment of Indian claims there, and at Skidegate and Telegraph Passage, where others have applied for land. If the Hon. Government pay no attention to my request as regards those places, and at Nassau and Skeena where also I asked them to withhold lands, I shall be disappointed and shall regard their action as a commentary on their ^{own} right objecting to your orders for my undertaking work on the coast.



Canadian Telegraph Sept
Victoria

S. Powell Medical Assistant
in partner - Victoria

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