# Completing the Puzzle without all the Pieces

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# Background

- The Algonquin Nation Secretariat conducts research on behalf of the Algonquin communities of: Timiskaming, Wolf Lake, Barriere Lake and has done some work for Kebaowek
- Of our member communities, Timiskaming has the most specific claims
- ► This particular claim deals with a Pre-Confederation reserve, non-treaty and a timber lease and subsequent surrender
- ► Two particular transactions relating to timber
  - Timber Lease 1870
  - Timber Surrender 1890 for whole of reserve
- The key document the original timber lease, has never been found
- We will focus on how we used other sources in order to get a clear picture of the events that occurred without having access to the lease that was the focus of the claim

## **Usual Research Practices**

- Consulting the Red or Black Series files at LAC
  - File was incomplete and many documents were removed before LAC received the file
  - ▶ No lease, no sketch and no supporting correspondence before 1875
- Checking the Reserve General Register or the Indian Lands Registry System
  - No progress was made here either
  - No copy, no terms of the lease
  - Didn't know what area it covered as that time the reserve boundaries were not confirmed

_ 18,724	SIX NATIONS RESERVE - APPLICATION BY JAMES OVEREND FOR A PATENT TO THE E 1/2 OF S 1/2 OF LOT 11, CON. 2, SENECA TOWNSHIP.	1880
- 18,752	WHYCOCOMAGH RESERVE - PATENT TO NEIL MCKINNON FOR LOT 10, WHYCOCOMAGH (SKETCH).	1880-188
18,753-2	TIMISKAMING RESERVE - SALE OF TIMBER (PLANS).	1875-189
18,753-4	TIMISKAMING RESERVE - SALE OF TIMBER.	1908-191

## Red Series Subject File

LAC RG10 Vol. 2103 File 18,753-2 Reel C-11,158

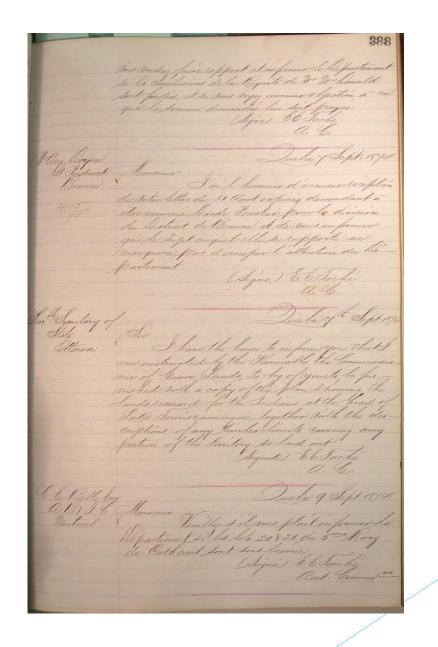
There were no plans found in this file and the lease was also missing

## **Next Steps**

- ► Having to piece together the whole picture from other sources highlights the importance of doing 360° research to help triangulate the facts
- While we knew about the lease, we also knew that it had been sold a few times over the years
  - Understanding the timber regulations of the time was important since timber sales had to be advertised
- Having the date of the lease provided us with a range to check the Incoming Letter Registers to see when the lease reached the department

# Letterbook of Crown Timber Agent

Letter from EE Tache, Commissioner of Crown Lands asking to be sent a plan of the reserve and the timber limits on it



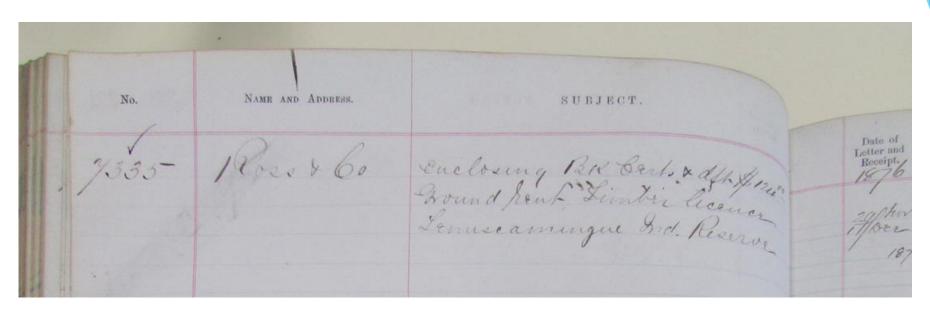
and instructed by the Honorall the Commission ner of Comen Lands, to beg of yourts be formished with a copy of the plan Showing the Lands reserved for the Indians at the head of Lake Semiscamingue, together with the des-Oriptions of any Hunber limits cerering any portion of the territory so laid out (Signed) 66 Jacke

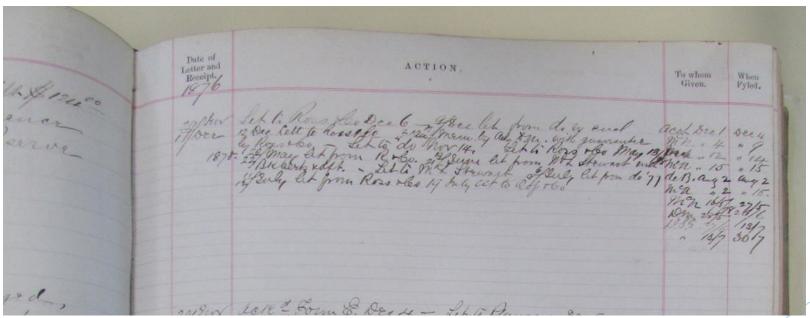
# **Incoming Letter Registers**

- All incoming letters to the department were recorded in a register, originally organized by region
- They were given a number based on when they were received
- A summary of what was in the letter was included
- Also recorded was what action (if any) was taken and when the letter was received and acknowledged

- Later all incoming letters are grouped together
- Since we knew the date range of the lease and the following timber activities we were able to look for letters relating to Timiskaming and timber

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Incoming Letter Register - Letter 7335

### Example from the Indian Affairs Letterbooks

Letter acknowledging the receipt of ground rent for timber license on the Timiskaming Reserve

M. B. Meword Ey Clusti to the Nie + Ocris Doronto . Thank to request that you will I unform no if an application was made to the Their and Quise Court as the dittings in buly last for partie to ifour in trust to the Breuters of this Town of Albemarle and Park Sote in 3 Range of the Villago of Martin; Arthilliam Bull Bank Certificate of deposit & Conft fort 304 and to request that you will faintly with Some when responsible pason sign at the food of the first page in acceptione of disterns a duplicato thereof will be forwarded to you In Show the his norticular much de steer waight 1 215 PL 273/10

(Deportment of See of State Inthe Browners Thavethe honor to admonthy ofto M. P. del. Va. Vo neight of your letter of the 13". Internelosinga Bank Citificate of deposit & Conft fort, 304 in pryment & Bones Ground lent Licene P 611.//0 fee for Finder anthe Indian Susum in the Township of Tomes canning- and I have the honorto encloso herino a Lienes in your Axor Covering the Timber when that Thomas and to request that you will jointly with Same ather responsible person sign at the fool of the first page in acceptance of the terms Thereof Preturn the Licence to this Office when a obufolicato thenof will be forwarded to you for retrictions - Three the honors for retrictions -Soughtown Department of de of State Thu M Munion Bogt

## Newspapers Ottawa Citizen, 1895

According to the timber regulations of the time, a sale had to be advertised

This edition from January 8, 1895 advertises the timber on the Timiskaming Reserve



Clarence street, is cont slaughter sale for 40 ods, groceries, clothing, vindow blinds, poles, etc. y goods at about half. groceries, 10 per cent. s at least 20 per cent.

#### n Wistake.

ntage of a bargain when . We do not may Oshe best ten sold, but we biggest parcel for the not izi business for tore in business for life. ten is good value for the present we are sellts-just think, 40 cents know a better way to If you do we do not. rect importers, 100 Riparks streets, Ottawn. ra's Park.

Hull what Sohmer Park an attractive resort vening's entertainment The attractions this including Prof. W. C. eld's greatest ventrilo-I and Ladell, theg reattal bar performers; Mr. t comic singer; the ce-, Page and Arial; the their laughable trick s; the celebrated Genie but not least, our pond great comedian and T. Wall. The admission And every evening the he way, is within three rom the Chandiere, is Ferris is the popular

OBAB!LITIES man trip on the TURDAY. Pop

delivered to all parts of the city as the shortest notice.



## Tenders for Indian Timber Limits

EALED TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to noon of Friday, the 3kh August next, for the green standing pine, spruce and tamarac timber ever nine inches in diameter at the wump, and all dead and falles timber, on the Temiscamingue Indian Reserve, which contains an area of & squa-e miles and is situated at the head of Lake Temiscamingue. In the County of Pontiac in the Province of

And also scaled tenders for the green standing pine over nine inches in diameter at the
stump and all dead and fallen timber, on the
Wahnapitae Ladian Reserve, situated on the
north shore of Lake Wahnapitae, in the District of Nipissing, in the Province of Ontario,
containing an area of four square niles.

Each tenderer shall state the sum he is willing
to pay in cash as a bouns for each limit over and
above the ordinary Crown dues ch. rescales

above the ordinary Crown dues chargeable undertariff of the Department, and there shall acder thrill of the Department, but any man economy each terder an accepted cheque on a chartered bank of the Dominion in favor of the undersigned for ten per cell of the amount of the tender, which sum shall be furtisled in the case of the fairner of the successful tenderer to compets purchase of imit as hereinafter spec-fied; a d in the case of unsuccessful tends.ees

the eneque will be returned.

The successful tenderer shall, within biliness, days from date of notice of acceptance, pay to-balance of bosses, togo, her with ground ress and homes fee, and furnish entisfactory bonds by himself and two surreits for the proper entrying out of the terms of he same.

The purposeer or purch serv will be allowed ten years for removal of the tember specified in the lineases, the Dep gramest reserving the right to authorize the cutting and removal of timber of oth reducciptions by the Indiana.

The highest or any tender will not non-marrily

Parth r intermediton on to the rate of dum etc.







## The Canada Gazette

#### PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

OTTAWA, SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1884.

#### DOMINION OF CANADA



#### APPOINTMENTS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL has been pleased to make the following appointments, viz:-

OTTAWA, 2nd June, 1884.

JACOB CARVELL GOUGH, of Port Arthur, Esquire; to be a Commissioner under the Act 32-33 Vict., chap. 24 (1869) as amended by the Act 33 Vict., chap. 28 (1870), and for the purposes thereof, vice Raymond [L.S.] Bruyère, Esquire.

21st June, 1884.

JOHN McLEAN, of Osgoode Hall, in the Province of Ontario, Esquire, Barrister-at-law; to be Deputy Judge of the County Court of the County of Elgin, in the said Province, during the illness of His Honor Judge Hughes.

of Ontario, Esquire; to be the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, under the provisions of the Act 47 Victs, chap, 18.

Office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery for Canada.

MEMBER returned to serve in the present

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Cumberland,-Charles James Townshend, of Amherst, Barrister at-law, in the room of Sir Charles Tupper, K.C.M.G., who hath accepted an office of emolument under the Crown.

RICHARD POPE, Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, Canada.

#### PROCLAMATIONS.

JOHN J. McGEE, Deputy Governor.

CANADA.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, QUEEN, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

To Our Beloved and Faithful the Senators of the Dominion of Canada, and the Members elected to serve in the House of Commons of Our said Dominion, and to each and every of you —

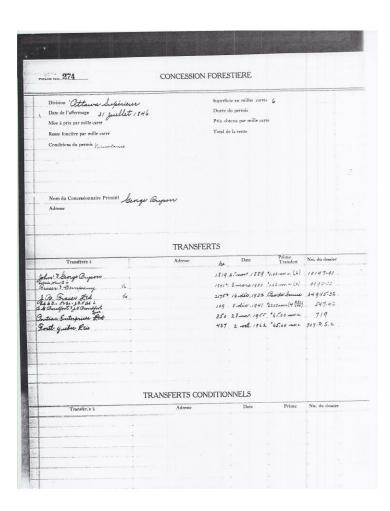
#### A PROCLAMATION.

ROBERT SMITH, Esquire, of Orgonode Hall, Barristoratlaw, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law;
to be a Puisné Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench
for the Frovince of Manitoba.

30th June, 1884.

JOHN TRIVON, of the City of Ottawa, in the Province
of Ontario, Esquire; to be the Deputy Minister of

# Transferring the timber license



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# Findings

- By checking the other sources of information, we were able to get a clear picture of what was happening up at Timiskaming during the time of the timber lease (also what was happening that wasn't supposed to be happening)
- Consulting the other less utilized resources really helped to fill in the gaps
- Despite not finding the original lease, we were able to track it as it changed hands throughout the years
  - Throughout the years the lease was never re-assessed and it wasn't until 1894 that a surrender was first taken for the timber on the reserve

# Things Learned

- Don't be discouraged if a key document is missing
- ► Try to complete a full 360 degree view of what was happening at the time
- If we had the lease, we might not have had to check everywhere else and would have missed out on the disparity between crown land dues and the dues being paid on the reserve
- There are always work arounds for when a document is missing
- The incoming letter registers are an under used resource; and while files may have been destroyed we have the summaries of letters and what action was taken
- Always explore other resources, for anything relating to timber, they had to be advertised and they should show up at one point