

Indian Department, Toronto 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1856.

Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant on the subject of the extension of water frontage and the small gore of land required by the Great Western Railroad Company to complete their works at Lornia and to inform you that the most fair method of determining the value of the land is by arbitration. The Department acts as Guardian of the Indians interests and can not therefore consent to their having a distinct Arbitrator appointed by themselves. For the same reason it is considered better to invest the capital derived from the sale of Indian lands for the benefit of the Indians themselves as thereby they enjoy an annual revenue from such sale besides the realization of the principal sum - If the wishes of the petitioners as stated in your letter before referred to were complied with, this would not be the case.

With reference to your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, suggesting that the places of Judge Burritt & Mr Durand as valuers should be supplied by Mr A. Vidal, I am directed to inform you that any other two persons whom the Railroad Company and yourself may agree upon to act as Arbitrators will be satisfactory to this Department.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient Servant.

R. S. Pennington  
Superintendent General