

Indian Office

Kingston, March 29<sup>th</sup> 1844.

Sir,

His Excellency the Governor General, having duly considered the testimony taken by Mr. Supt. Clench whilst holding a Court of Enquiry into charges prepared by the Indians of St. Clair and Aux Sables against the Chief Mawonish in regard to your claim to be considered as Head Chief of those Indians. I am commanded by His Excellency to inform you, that he deems the testimony sufficient to establish your claim and that he will in future recognize you as the Head Chief and the Oregon through whom all matters appertaining to the Indians on the St. Clair Frontiers and Aux Sable will be received.

I have further to inform you that His Excellency has had under his most serious consideration the manner in which the Amenity of the St. Clair Indians has been expended, and I am to Express to you, His Excellency's Opinion that all issues of Money for distributions among the Indians are highly prejudicial to their real interests. And that in future the Amenity shall be expended under the Especial direction of the Indian Department, in the Establishment of Schools for the Education of the Youth of both Sexes in the

in the Purchase of Working Oxen, Cows,  
forming implements &c. in the Purchase of  
good and Substantial Houses, and  
for other Purposes of General benefit to  
the Indians.

I am also to inform you that  
prior to the Expenditure of any part  
of the Community, the Resident, Supt.  
will be instructed to meet the Chief  
in Council, and offer such suggestions  
for their Consideration as he may deem  
beneficial to the Community at large  
and receive from the Indians any propositions  
which they may have to make, to  
carry out which an Expenditure of Money  
will be required. That in the event  
of the Resident Superintendent declining  
to sanction any of the Measures  
proposed by the Indians, he will  
give his reasons for so declining  
to the Indians in writing, if they  
should desire it. And the Resident  
Superintendent shall always have Power to  
refuse his sanction to any demands  
or Measures originating with the Indians,  
but not approved by the Majority  
of the Council. You will be pleased  
to make these regulations as public as  
possible among the Indians, in Order  
that they may fully understand the  
Manner in which their Affairs will  
in future be conducted.

I am the Dear to be Sir.

Your obt. Servant

L. P. Lewis.

C. S. I. Affairs.

The Chief

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