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Indian Reserve
Commission Office
Victoria.
October 30th 1886

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I visited the Laich-quil-tach, (or Eu-claw-taw,) tribe of Indians on the 5th October, and following days, for the purpose of defining lands for their use.

This tribe is divided into four bands; viz. the Kah-kah-mat-sis, We-way-a-kum, Kwe-ah-kah, and We-way-a-kay having a population, in the aggregate, of three hundred and thirty-one. They inhabit portions of the coast between Loughboro Inlet, Johnstone Strait, and Cape Mudge, on Discovery Passage.

At one time these Indians were constantly at war with one or other of the Northern tribes, and were consequently held in dread by them, but of late years they have been more peaceably disposed, and have obtained their living by fishing, and hunting; while many of the younger members have sought employment in logging camps, canneries, and also in the hop-fields, South of the boundary line.

They have made no effort to cultivate, nor is there much to tempt them to do so, as the country they

The Right Hon ble
The Superintendent General
Indian Affairs

* illegible margin notes

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INDIAN AFFAIRS
VICTORIA

they inhabit is, for the most part, worthless; and though a small portion might be made productive, it cannot be done without a great expenditure of labor.

I did not succeed in meeting any considerable number of the tribe at any one point, yet at each village that I visited, a few members were present, and to them I explained that I was commissioned by the government to define reserves for their use; that I was there for the purpose of consulting with them as to their requirements; and I pointed out to them the advantages they would derive from having lands so set apart, which would virtually give them the control of their fisheries.

With their assistance I marked off the following plots of land.

- No. 1. A reserve at the mouth of Salmon River, Johnstone Strait; it contains three hundred and twenty-five acres, mostly subject to overflow: the Salmon fishery extends the entire length of the reserve, and is capable of producing an immense supply of that fish. I am informed that it is little frequented by the tribe of late years, though formerly it was the winter residence of the "Kar-kar-mat-sis band.
- No. 2 Ho-may-no, a reserve of thirty-seven acres; it is situated at the head of Heydon Bay, Loughboro Inlet. The land is very worthless, but the stream which

which flows through it supplies several families with salmon for winter consumption.

No. 3. Loughboro, a reserve containing forty acres, valued during the fall and winter as a spot where a limited supply of fish can be procured.

No. 4. Mat-la-ten, the winter village of the sub-tribe, We-wai-a-kum, who have built a number of new, and substantial lumber houses. Of the hundred and eight acres embraced in this reserve forty to fifty, which at present are heavily timbered, can, if cleared, be cultivated; the soil being fairly good.

Two small rocky islets, South East of the village, on which are a number of Indian graves, are included in this reserve

No. 5. Ma-tsai-no, situated at the head of Philipp's Arm, Cardero Channel, contains one hundred and twenty-eight acres.

The Indians were unusually anxious to have this land secured to them. Could they be induced to clear it, it might be converted into an excellent farm, for the soil is mostly good, though heavily timbered.

A valuable fishery exists on the river, and game is plentiful in the neighborhood.

No. 6. Sa-ai-youck, a reserve of forty seven acres, situated on the North shore of Cardero

Cardero Channel, about a mile West of Arran Rapids. Immediately at the back of the village which stands on this reserve, are some forty acres, at present covered with Alder and Maple; this may be easily cleared and cultivated, as the soil is good.

It is a convenient dog-fish station.

- No. 7. A fishing station, containing ten acres, situated on Valdes Island, at the head of Village Bay.
- No. 8. A reserve of thirteen acres, situated on the North-West shore of Open Bay, Valdes Island: it is a fishing station, about two acres of which immediately fronting the shore, and now covered with Alder trees, may be converted into gardens.
- No. 9. A reserve situated on Drew Harbor, Valdes Island, and containing two hundred and ten acres, is chiefly used by the Indians when working in the neighboring logging camps: The soil is poor and the timber, small though straight, and of good quality.
- No. 10. A reserve of nine hundred and forty-six acres, situated at Cape Mudge, on the Eastern shore of Discovery Passage.

On this stands the winter village of the We-wai-a-kay, the largest band of the tribe: at the back of the houses about four acres have at one time been cleared, and at the Southern End of the reserve, a piece about forty acres in extent is clear of

of timber, and available for cultivation; the soil is light, and of good quality.

The remainder of the reserve is heavily timbered with fir, balsam, and maple, though there are small patches of three or four acres each, that would repay clearing and cultivating.

In addition to the allotments already referred to, I visited the Campbell river, where I was informed the Eu-cla-taus are desirous of possessing land: Here there is a valuable fishery; and possibly one or more patches suitable for agriculture may be found: I proceeded some miles up the river, but as the Indians were all absent, I deemed it advisable to delay making reserves until they are present to point out the places they wish to have.

I regret that I was unable to make this selection, as it would have completed the reserves for the tribe. Nor was it possible for me to visit the tribes of Indians resident at Bute, and Toba Inlets, as the Steamer, 'Sir James Douglas,' was required for duties in connection with the Marine Department. I therefore decided to return to Victoria.

In closing this report I must not omit to acknowledge with thanks the valuable assistance I received from Captain Devereux. It was in a great measure due to the promptitude with which he met my wishes on all occasions with regard to the movements of

of the Steamer, that I was able to accomplish so much, in so short a time.

Sketches and Minutes of Decision of the above reserves are enclosed herewith. Similar Sketches and Minutes accompany all the reports of the reserves recently defined by me for the use of the Indians on the Coast of the Island, and Mainland.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

P. O'Reilly
I.R.C.

Indian Reserve Commission Office
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October 22nd 1896.

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At one time these Indians were constantly at war with one or other of the Northern Tribes, and were consequently held in dread by them, but of late years they have been more peaceably disposed, and have obtained their living by fishing, and hunting; while many of the younger members have sought employment in logging camps, canneries, and also in the hop-fields, south of the boundary line.

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