VINCENT

O.H.

TELEGRAPH.

File No. 1748595.

Department of the Interior,

Ottawa, August 3rd 1913.

NIGHT LETTERGRAM.

John Semmens, Esq.,
Inspector of Indian Agencies,
Winnipeg, Man.,

Claim of George Thomas Vincent and other members of Archdeacon Thomas Vincent's family, disallowed on the ground that they were Ontario Half-breeds and therefore, not entitled to scrip.

Charge Interior.

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VINCENT

1.

Stonewall. Manitoba
18th April 1902

John Mc. Kenna Esquire
Half Breed Commission
Department of the Interior.
Ottawa. Ont.

Dear Sir.

Your Communication of 11th April 1902. re the Claims for Scrip, for myself & family, made at different times, has duly come to hand. In reply, permit me first to thank you, very much, for the kind, Considerate, & Gentlemanly manner you received me in Winnipeg, when I had the pleasure of an interview with you. I consider that I was greatly favored in having my business promptly attended to, when so many others were waiting around to have their Claims examined.

I must admit now that some of the statements you have made have come upon me as a surprise, and I am quite at a loss to Conjecture by what process of reasoning, or to understand by what means you have Come to the Conclusion that Moose was, & not Albany the point of residence, during the period stated. Now, My daughter Minnie, May have said, in a general way, that the family Residence was at Moose; that is, in the same way as I might have my letters addressed to Moose, being the the better Known place, While, in reality, I was staying at Albany. This I have often done. Now, however, it seems to me that, if the Claims I have advanced are fairly &

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justly Considered, they will be accepted in the same way, as others have been, of parties residing at Albany at that time, and who have long since removed to Port Williams. Ont.

To be Correct I have Carefully examined my old journals, to ascertain, if possible, if any Mistake has been made. The following is the result of My search. I was born at Oxnabrugh, in Rockwater, on 1st March 1835. My father retired from the Co. in 40 or 41. and settled, some below Winnipeg, where I was brought up. In June 1855. I left for Moose Factory, to assist in Mission work. Up to 1860 I had no permanent residence. In August of that year I was appointed to the Charge of the Albany River District, with Albany as my head quarters. Date 8th Aug. 1860. In Summer of 61. I got married; in 62. My eldest son John H. was born on 13th June at Albany. 63. & 64. I was still at the same place. On 27th July. 64 My second Son Geny Thomas. was born. In Sept. 1865. I was ordered to Moose to fill Mr. Hardens place, who went to England on furlough. I took my family with me. At this period I ran both places. Mr. & A. - 18th July 66. My elder daughter Clara C. was born at M. 1867 Mr. Harden return in the Autumn. I went back to Albany alone - it being too Cold to take my family with me - 1868. Feb 8th minnie was born at M. In June of same year my family returned to Albany. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. This year on 2nd Feb my youngest son Charles S. was born. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. Mr Harden went to England again and I had to fill his place at Moose for another 2 years. Took my

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family with me. In 1890 the Bishop returned, and I went back to Albany. In 91. My wife died. I remained on at Albany until 1900. and then retired.

Now, you will observe from the foregoing that during a period of 40 years; that is, from 1860. to 1900. the family residence was at Albany 36 years. 4 Years at Moore Viz 66.67 & again 88. & 89. Simply to do another mans work.

Now, if this is not positive proof that the family residence was at Albany at the time in question, I must confess that I do not know what proof is. I am exceedingly sorry to give you so much trouble, but you will understand that the Settlement of this Claim - which I believe to be a just one - is a very important matter to myself & my Children. Trusting that you will kindly Consider this matter again, with all good wishes

I remain. Dear Sir.

Yours faithfully

✠ Fr. Vincent

Archdeacon.

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VINCENT

Mr McInnes -

On Dec 3rd 1901, Revd Archdeacon Thomas Vincent son of Thomas Vincent and Charlotte Thomas, appeared before our Commission at Winnipeg and inquired about the following applications made in 1885 for himself and his five living children:

1st Vincent, Rev Arch. Thomas, son Thomas Vincent, born 1836
2nd John Arnden Vincent son Arch. Thos Vincent " 1861
3rd George Thomas do " " " 1863
4th Edna Caroline do daughter " " " 1865
5th Mary Minnie do do " " " 1867
6th Charles Stuart do son " " " 1872

The above six claims are listed on schedule made at Winnipeg under Nos 249, 250, 251, 252, 253 & 254. -

From Winnipeg you wired on Dec 3rd 1901 to the Dept of the Interior for papers bearing on these claims. File 281,429 was forwarded to you at Winnipeg.

File 281,429 discloses the fact that Rev Archdeacon Thomas Vincent filed a claim on Nov 27th 1885 in the form of a letter setting forth the information contained in schedule list made at Winnipeg Nos 249. to 254 inclusive. Mary Minnie Vincent's claim was made separately when she appeared

in person on 26th July 1894 at Winnipeg before Mr Roger Goulet (File 362316 on 281429.) Her application was disallowed "applicants residence on 15th July 1870 was in the Province of Ontario." The disallowance of this case took place on 6th Oct 1894 by Mr A.M. Burgess D.M. Int.

According to Rev Archdeacon Thos Vincent own letter (Nov 27th 1885 with file 281429), his daughters sworn statement of 26th July 1894 and his own statement (Schedule list No 249) the family has resided at Moore Factory from 1856 to 1886 and even to 1894 and possibly later than that. Consequently, the family's ~~was~~ residence was in the Province of Ontario on 15th July 1870 when all the children were born between 1865 & 1872.

As to Rev Archdeacon Vincent himself, he states he was born in 1836 at Osnabrugh post on Lake Joseph. St mothers very little as to where he was born, as long as his residence was at Moore Factory in 1870 on 15th July. I think neither Rev Archdeacon Thomas Vincent nor his five children's rights as aboriginals, were ever interfered with.

19/4/1902. J.D. McInnes

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