

April 2018

Letter to Indian Agent Mallet from Indian Commissioner

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Letter to Indian Agent Mallet from Indian Commissioner

About

Government Relations with Native Americans, Native American Reservations, Office of Indian Affairs

Transcription

L.

Department of the Interior

Office of Indian Affairs

Washington January 9th 1877

Edward Mallet Esq.

U.S. Indian Agent

Tulalip Agency

Washington Terriorty

Sir In reply to your letter of the 13th ultimo you are advised that the Tulalip Indian Reservation belongs to the Indians by virtue of the Treaty of Point Elliott dated January 22, 1855 {Vol.12.p.927} and the order of the President defining its limits, December 23rd 1873 and is not subject to entry or settlement by whites or any others than Indians. Until a few years ago, Indians were privileged to cut timber or wood from the reservation, but the supreme Court of the United States has now decided that there is no law granting that privilege unless it be for the ulimate purpose of cultivating the land. The Inidans have the sympathy of the Office in the distress this decision brings upon them but it has no power to arest the operations of the law and relieve their necessities except to advise them to cultivate their land, they will then be entitled

to the use or benefit of the timber required to be cut by
such cultivation. Unless your Indians will agree
to do this, you will demand that they comply with
the law and refrain from further cutting of timber.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

(Signed) J.Q. Smith

Commisioner

Washington "[?] 1292"

Identified Persons

J.Q.Smith; Major Edmond Mallet

Identified Places

Tulalip Agency

Recipient

Major Edmond Mallet

L.

Department of the Interior
Office of Indian Affairs
Washington January 9th 1877

Edward Mallet Esq.
U.S. Indian Agent
Tulalip Agency
Washington Territory

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J. D. Smith
Commissioner

Washington "W 1292"

Jan 9.77.