

W. G. Fairbank
Nov. 23. 1888
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C134/219
29 Hampden St
Palsall Heath
Birmingham
Nov 24/88

Dear Sir

Pardon me troubling you with this, but believing that many members of your noble Society would be pleased to extend their knowledge, and at the same time practically assist the remnants of a once powerful and noble race in their efforts to walk the peaceful paths of journalism, I have much pleasure in bringing before your notice the "Indian" the only paper published by the Indians of Canada. I enclose a copy for your perusal, and you will find it replete with interesting matter for all who take any interest in the progress and condition of that especially interesting and unjustly treated race. By one of those unaccountable influences which take permanent hold of the mind; when a mere child I began to feel an interest in the ~~the~~ race, their mode of life, manners or customs, legends &c, all possessed an irresistible charm for me, and developed a sympathy which has grown with my years. For many years I have corresponded with Mr. Law, Seneca and Cherokee Indians, and knowing my strong sympathy with their people, the publishers of the "Indian" desire me to accept an Agency to promote its circulation in England. They offer me a generous commission, which I shall devote to covering my expenses only, as I am only too pleased to do something for them & do not desire any recompense until at least I

obtained a numerous body of subscribers. I deeply
regret my circumstances will not allow me to make
any pecuniary sacrifice, but if I had it, I
should only be so thankful to devote a fair
share of my means to the assistance of the
Indians. But regrets are no use, therefore I
try to do what little I can in other ways,
and I most sincerely hope that my appeal
to you will result in securing at least a few
subscribers, for I am most anxious to prove
my sympathy is real and practical, & this
is the only way I can show it. I need not
attempt to convince you of the vast amount
of good a native paper may effect, we all
know the newspaper is the most powerful
weapon of modern times, therefore all who
desire to see the Indians thoroughly enlightened
and their just claims acknowledged, cannot
show their sympathy better than by
supporting the only paper published by the
red men of Canada. Trusting you can
bring this matter before your members &
supporters, & that it will be the means
of obtaining some subscribers, I remain
Yours sincerely
W. J. Franklin

"The Aborigines Protection Society"

P.S. As a proof of my sympathy with the race, it may not
be out of place to mention that my eldest son is named Sami
after the first of that nation, & the first Indian I ever saw.