

Send me the Macmillan

of 1852 for the types for 1853.

Through the hands of G. C. Knapp

Jan'y 1854 David Thompson

25<sup>0</sup>

Collector

Maxon faced  
Jan 2 1854  
Jan 1853

CH211

5

1223

Dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for the letter of the 20th August. I am not very young, and have no respect for an old man's words, or that with any intention of entering into a controversy, or at least a continued one, on this head, I shall express my opinion, which is, that the Company, as it is called, should be maintained, as to be useful to the public, & profitable to the Nation. They will not accept the condition of being placed under the study, or under the rule, of losing the character they have maintained ever since, except with a few years; and I hope probably, to be able to compete with them, in the 2nd grade - for the last 40 years. They will not give up their affairs, & transfer the administration of the Company, to Canada, or our Church affairs, because it shall be the pleasure of either, or both, to undertake the responsibility of it. This case is singly stated in the letter of Mr. Skelton, the Chairman of the Co. to the Secy. of State, laid before the Com. of the House of Commons, & printed with the reports. You & I, at all events, shall send him to see

Yours

CH.21



Howick 31 July 1857

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letters which found me here. We disagree in no respect regarding a settlement of the Hudson's Bay matter. The only doubt I have is whether Canada will be disposed to undertake the expense of the Government of any portion of the territory now desired, when it is placed in her option. And your experience will tell you in what ~~part~~ a precarious condition the peace of the whole frontier will be placed, if while our authority was superseded, no other efficient one was substituted for it. As it appears to me the whole agitation has arisen from a desire on the part of Mr Kennedy and some of his associates, to re-open

the Fur Trade which you also know, will be as ruinous to themselves as to the whole Indian Territory, west of the Lakes, and especially in the southern districts. When the question is settled here and pursued it will be in pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee, all agitation will cease, except in public respects, and in these the directors of the Company will be much more anxious to consult than to oppose the wishes of the people of Canada. It is much more their interest to have the goodwill and support of Canada in protecting their fur Trade, than to ~~acquire~~ <sup>remain possessed</sup> of an acre of land which can be really useful to others.

I may have undervalued the facilities of settlement on the Red River and on the Apobiano. The experience of the agriculturists in the

former have not been favorable. The winters have been severe - the locusts have made great destruction now and then - and the overflowing of the River has made some part of the country swampy. But I may be in error in supposing these greater impediments ~~to~~ <sup>than</sup> they are to the success of Colonization. But my greatest doubt was as to the probability of any spontaneous immigration when so much land was still unoccupied in districts in Upper Canada in better circumstances - and the difficulties attending all successful settlement when there were no neighboring settlers, and no facilities of market and export. Thus a want of taxable means to pay the expenses of a Government. But these are questions for the consideration of Canada in which the Hudson's Bay Company is no further concerned than in an indemnity for money they

may have laid out in the country required from them, and in a sufficient authority being established in the ceded Territory for the preservation of peace and order. If the country to the south of Chief Justice Drape's line shall be decided not to belong to them, on the proposed reference to the Privy Council, their of course they have still left claims to a voice in the matter.

I don't think you will find these opinions differ much from those you express. People in Canada suppose I have a deep interest in the matter, I have between 2 & 3000 stock in the H. B. Co. But I am the only person left of those who could have protected the interests of your old associates, the Factors and Traders in the interior, and I have felt it my duty to stand by them both from old associations

6<sup>th</sup> August 1857D. & B. & Co.  
Markinch

D. B.

I am glad your former letters last week. Another, dated the 20 of last month, has reached me here. We differ as little in the opinion of people in this last letter, as in the former ones. The real danger to all parties, is from the influence, these disputes & dissensions, will exert on the Hudson Bay Company, may have on the restless population of all districts on the Red River, & the adjoining prairie on either side of the line. Mr. Kennedy's objection will not have injured the cause. But there is no reason to fear any serious danger, from any bad feeling on the part of the Half Breed, towards the Company's establishment. On the contrary, they are too much dependent upon them for employment, & supplies; & I have always considered, too sensible of the good treatment they have received, & the advantages of the Company, to wish to change masters, for the mixed race of Americans, & Canadian

Speculations

speculators, who shall sell under to the <sup>Hudson's</sup> ~~Hudson's~~ <sup>Company?</sup>  
 Bay Company. You say, they will join up the charter,  
 and will wish to maintain it, for there is no way,  
 or until some authority can be established, which  
 can assume the responsibility now there upon the  
 Company, of doing its best, to maintain order, &  
 peace in the Country. Like the Canadian Govt.  
 under the responsibility, & the power about  
 on maintaining the mercantile affairs for the administration  
 of Govt. of Justice? I doubt it exceedingly,  
 when the great agitation with respect to the  
 Fur Trade, has subsided. What will they <sup>gain</sup> ~~gain~~  
 by it? But if they are <sup>inclined</sup> ~~inclined~~, the Hudson  
 Bay Co. are not likely to be very merciful, in  
 the time, in which they shall disagree, into any  
 of their Past Periods, but of their whole  
 territory, rights, & charter, retaining as long as  
 means for the sake of their Trade in the interest  
 them

them for the Shareholders in England, the  
 exclusive right of trading for a definite period.  
 It will be found, as many other things in this  
 world, a poppin, man coveted, before its  
 value is known, then when it is ascertained -  
 & I suspect, not so acceptable, when really  
 placed within their efforts, or when their effort  
 more difficult, in acquiring it.  
 What is expected for the moment, is the best  
 temporary arrangement that can be made. Since I  
 left town, the Committee has made their report -  
 in which, the Chairman, the present Secretary of  
 State, Lord John Russell, & Sir J. Parkington, two  
 years ago, have concurred but for which, Mr.  
 Gladstone, has dissented. There was but one  
 difference of opinion, as I understand, with respect  
 to the expediency, of issuing the trading license  
 to the Hudson Bay Company. In all other  
 matters, as I have said before, the Govt. &  
 public



1123

Regarding Reserves for Indians

1857

To Justice Drooper

Gray & Beal  
25<sup>th</sup> July 57

It is my humble opinion  
that Sir, tho' the short sighted  
Major may think otherwise, that  
you will gain immortal Honor  
by getting the Territories beyond  
the Heights of Land which  
have been described set apart as  
a reserve for generations of  
Indians yet unborn & the H.C.  
appointed at heart for a definite  
time as Trustees for them -  
under certain Rules & restric-  
tions

I appeal to your own  
sense of Justice to those poor  
Indians, look what a poor  
set they are among Whites,

Endeavour them to keep them  
 in their former states,  
 else the day will come when  
 the British in Canada will  
 must support them. All  
 the Nations South of the  
 base at them are all what we  
 call the Strong wood Indians  
 The Bow & Arrow is of little  
 use to them. They must have  
 support - South of that River  
 are what we call the Plain  
 Prairie Indians & are less  
 independent of Whites, they  
 are here to day & 100 miles  
 off to morrow than and the  
 Missisissippis river.

What a great Trade  
 will it be to Canada if the  
 whole country is laid open

to all the Fur Traffickers  
 in the world in less than  
 two years. I wish all the  
 animal Trade would be  
 gone for ever - is it not  
 better to make it laste for  
 ever as it is - & allow the  
 Nations to support them -  
 & sell <sup>rather than</sup> to become  
 a Burden to Govt -

This arrangement I  
 am sure the H. Co. will readily  
 come into for a limited time  
 more or less -

It is a very great error  
 to think that Furs are very  
 plenty here - The Silver, or  
 black Fox <sup>spoken of here</sup> is scarce. I do  
 not think in 20 years I will  
 see 20 such Foxes - &

& the annual W. C. returns  
 may show how many they  
 annually get - from the whole  
 country - by the Crown taking  
 a part of the Country as a Fee -  
 I am sure would not that I take  
 the point in dispute at once,

If I suggest any thing  
 to you better Judgment  
 I shall be glad of it.

Within the limits I

I have described - we have  
 room enough for all the

Population of Great Britain

I have the Honor to  
 be W. C. Your Obedient

John McDonald

Fisher Street

111  
Hornby 31 July 1857

Dear Sir

I thank you for your letter which found me here.  
We disagree in no respect regarding a settlement of  
the Hudson Bay matter. The only doubt I have, is  
whether Canada will be disposed to surrender the  
exclusive of the fur<sup>m</sup> of any portion of the Territory  
we desire, when it is placed in her option. And  
your experience will tell you, in what circumstances  
condition ~~the~~ fear of the Mohawk parties will be  
blame, if Mohawk one authority was suspended,  
no other official one was substituted for it.

As it appears to me the Mohawk agitation has arisen  
from a desire on the part of Mr. Kennedy & some of  
his associates to re-open the Fur trade, which you  
also know, will be a ruinous to themselves, as to the  
whole Indian Territory, east of d. Superior - &  
especially in the Southern districts. When the  
question is viable here, as I presume it will be,

in

1113  
in pursuance of the recommendation of the Court, also articles  
will be, except in public debts; & in them, the  
Directors of the Company, which would seem anxious to  
consult, than to oppose the wishes of the people of  
Canada. It is much more their interest, to have the  
good will & support of Canada, in particular, than  
your trade, than to remain possessors of an area of land,  
which can be really useful to them.

I may have understood the facilities of settlement in  
the Red River, & in the prairie. The opinion  
of the agriculturists in the former, has not been favorable.  
The winters have been severe - the locusts have made  
great destruction now & then - & the overflowing of the River,  
has made some part of the Country, swampy. But  
I may be in error in supposing them quite independent  
than they are to the views of Colonization - Doubt  
my partial doubt, was as to the probability of any  
spontaneous immigration, when so much land was  
still unoccupied in districts in W. Canada.

Letter

1114  
Letter circumstances of the difficulties attending all  
things, & no facilities of market, & export.  
That, a want of capital money, to pay the expenses  
of a Journal. But there are questions for the consideration  
of Canada, in which the Hudson Bay Co. is so greatly  
concerned, than in an indemnity for money they may have laid  
out in the Country beyond your limits, & in a sufficient  
authority being established in the central territories for the  
pursuit of justice, & order. If the Country to the South  
of C. Justice Doyon line, should be decided not to  
belong to them, on the proposed agreement to the King  
Council, then of course they have still less claims to  
a voice in the matter.

I don't think you will find them opinions  
differ much from those you express. People in Canada  
suppose I have a deep interest in the matter. I  
have taken 2. & 3000000 in the H. B. Co.  
But, I am the only person left, of those who could  
have protected the interests of your old associates -

then

the Fathers, & heroes in the interior, & I have felt  
 it my duty to stand by them, with your del-  
 egation, & the rightful claim they had on any  
 opinion I could give them, & I am really rejoiced  
 of the abuse of them, & am sorry in this opinion  
 has been to dignify them of that means of opinion,  
 but which you know they have worked so hard, &  
 made so many sacrifices. I am

Dear Sir

Your faithful servant

John Mc Donald

Edin. Office

John Mc Donald Esq.

11211

My Dear Sir

I have received  
the money two letters from  
you which I assure you  
give me great pleasure  
& I read them over carefully  
& shall endeavour to make  
myself master of the subject  
before it come before the House  
for discussion. -

I file away your letters  
& intend to use them in the  
best manner I can, relying  
upon your permission to shew  
them to any of my friends &  
perhaps have them used on  
the floor of the House -

But the subject will not  
come up for consideration  
for some time, yet - &

then probably it may be  
 referred to a Committee to  
 report upon when my dear  
 Sir I think your personal  
 evidence before that Committee  
 might be the most effectual  
 way of carrying your views  
 But I will keep you advised  
 of any thing that is going  
 on upon that subject in  
 which you take so deep &  
 interest & have such a  
 personal knowledge.

I wrote to New York yesterday  
 being anxious to hear how  
 all are getting on, &  
 hoping that the second Bay

will not be inferior  
 to the other — by the  
 time he <sup>grows</sup> gets up we  
 may want him as Governor  
 General in the new South West  
 Province that we talk of  
 forming. I have a great  
 many letters to write so  
 that you must excuse me  
 writing you often but am  
 always honored & pleased  
 when I receive one of  
 your communications

My Dear Sir

Ever yours most truly

R. Howard

Genl Mc Donald Esq  
 Cornwall

Toronto 20 March  
 1858

1144

will not be inferior  
to the other  
the best part of the  
my work has a business  
ground a the year what but  
because the are both of

many I have a great  
many letters to write to  
that in next year we  
writing for often but in  
always business & family  
the I receive one of  
your communication

My dear Sir  
I have your kind letter  
of the 10th inst. received  
and am glad to hear  
that you are well  
I am  
Yours truly  
J. B. Bull  
1777

My Dear Sir

You will think  
me a bad correspondent  
for I did not answer your  
last letter, but really we  
are so hard worked here  
that time is taken up  
fully. — The subject of the  
Hudson's Bay Territory has not yet been considered  
which you gave me such  
valuable information & the  
whole of which letters I have  
carefully filed away to  
refer to when the subject comes  
up — but just now there  
is a Bill before the Railroad  
Committee, on which I am

very desirous to get your  
 opinion, for I have my  
 great doubts of the prudence  
 of giving such powers to a  
 Company as are there sought.

"It is a Bill entitled 'an  
 Act to incorporate the North  
 West Transportation & Land  
 Company' a copy of which  
 I enclose to you — The parties  
 say it is only the opening  
 out of the old North West  
 Route as used by the old  
 Company — I fear there may  
 be found great danger in  
 giving powers there sought  
 to a set of speculators with  
 out much capital I think  
 that they may pre-stall a  
 better regulated company  
 when the time comes & that

in the mean time we  
 run the risk of embroiling  
 the Country in a war  
 with the Indians, that  
 may cost the Province a good  
 deal, for having given them  
 a charter & one to even  
 buy lands from the Indians  
 they will expect the Province  
 to protect them in perhaps  
 their unjust overreaching of  
 the Indians & further they  
 may come in collision with  
 the Hudson's Bay's Trading  
 Posts & perhaps ruin  
 in a few years the Indians  
 by inciting them to kill off  
 all the Buffalo for the  
 hides & tallow but

My Dear Sir you can  
form a far better opinion  
upon the danger to be  
feared or the advantages  
that may accrue to the  
Country (if any) by granting  
them their Charter - will  
you please at your earliest  
convenience to give me  
your opinion -

I hope my dear Sir  
you enjoy good health -  
there is a heavy shower  
of rain now falling & it  
is much wanted

My Dear Sir

Yours ever most

John McDonald Esq  
Grey's Creek

W. Harwood  
Ipswich 8 July  
1858

Gray's Creek Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> July 1858.

Dear Sir

That there are fine country west  
 of us, at present as it were useless, there is no  
 doubt of particularly no doubt as far as regards  
 my own observation because I have seen most  
 part of the Territory just for agricultural &  
 purposes. To make that country available there  
 must be a suitable expedition, & easy communi-  
 cation. This must be the first point in view -  
 for the consideration of a grand Nation - That  
 there is gold on the western coast, as well as  
 Coal & other Minerals on the whole coast, there  
 is no little doubt of. The communication there  
 you ought to be commensurate with the  
 object in prospect - namely upon a grand  
 Nation with of a great Nation, consider  
 for a moment the result. The Pacific of Africa  
 takes in a few weeks T. Francis Breen, &  
 from thence in as many days to New York  
 & from thence in ten days to the London Market.  
 My Dear Sir, There can not be done by  
 a small company with a capital of one  
 or two hundred thousand pounds. Such

Such a company would be only throwing  
 obstacles in the way of a great scheme  
 No, let things remain in status quo. The  
 English Nation will arouse soon to take  
 some measures for such an accomplish-  
 ment.

The Territory is quartered in only  
 accessible at few points, Hudsons Bay - either  
 by the present route of the N.W. Co. Boats - by  
 Nelson River - or a way might be opened  
 by James Bay to the E. end of Lake  
 Winnipeg to Red River - offers one accessible  
 point - where the large H. B. Co. Ships make  
 one annual voyage, Steam Pipela might  
 be expected to make three. The distance can  
 not be made more than to Quebec.

Another route may be opened  
 by a rail road from Montreal direct to  
 Red River - by the Ottawa, Lake St. Pierre,  
 keeping north of all the large lakes.

Another route might be to run  
 the Grand Trunk Rail Road to Belleville  
 where it strikes north of all the lakes.

But I fancy the route at present  
 contemplated will be the chosen one.

from the shores of Lake Superior - The  
 right of Land from Fort William, by  
 Portage des Chiers, is very light - perhaps  
 a more eligible departure may be  
 found with a less effort.

Now if the present Parliament  
 should think it proper to give a charter  
 to the present projecting company I see  
 no great objection to the Bill, The Indians  
 must be paid for a right of way. They  
 never expected such from the Indians - as  
 their object was different. There will  
 be no great danger from any difficulties  
 with them, at least until they enter  
 the Prairie - as they are then more in  
 numbers & entirely independent.

The water will still be within the  
 limits of Lower or my former Father's  
 Territory described as a Boundary between  
 the Canada & the Territory which I  
 thought necessary to retain by the Crown  
 as a reserve, north of what I should  
 call all that was required for Provinces  
 The country being all I may say, I may  
 be said - what he called Bois Forts. The

The Nation called, The Strong would  
 Sittans - Some deviations I must  
 mention from said Boundary - By  
 a more Southernly course by the way  
 of the Sascahewan - say from Fort  
 George (some called) to a more Southernly  
 Gap in the Rocky Mountains to get to  
 Fraser's River -

I would object to such a  
 company exchanging Cash for good Lands  
 except in the same locality - I would  
 not allow them to jump on Leap from  
 Lake Superior to the rich Valley of the  
 Sascahewan - then to occupy the  
 whole Valley & learn a wilderness -  
 behind them -

There is another consideration  
 would they make a Rail Road sufficient  
 for all the commerce of India &  
 China - or of Canada - would they  
 make them large enough for exports  
 of Goods - sufficient for 250 only  
 the Commerce of India, but for the fur  
 Trade & the productions of the Country -  
 I am of opinion that such a Capital  
 would go but a little way in the proper  
 shape

Do you my dear Sir - How long in what  
 time would such a company finish  
 a Road to Fraser's River at the rate  
 of 100 Miles in 5 Years - we can not wish  
 in this age of Speed by Steam & Telegraph  
 Mustang - no number of the present House  
 now in Toronto - would use to build  
 a Mill in north of Fraser River gold  
 run any substantial out of Toronto - rather  
 would they small capital build a rough  
 sweeping Road for perhaps

Then my dear Sir I  
 have thrown together my ideas in an  
 brief a manner as I care in regard  
 to the Bill before the House to  
 incorporate a company for the North  
 West Transportation, whether such  
 will correspond with your own &  
 any other Members of the House &  
 what the result may be time only  
 will show

I have the Honor to be  
 Dear Sir  
 Yours faithfully  
 John McDonald  
 H. M. U. Harwood  
 N. P. O.

B. G. took a scheme well for the greatest  
 was undertaken by any nation in earth  
 I hereby of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, in times  
 of going this world was very bright  
 got to the River in 25 years in some way  
 out to Texas River - the Gold would be  
 all gone

And thus 10 miles breadth  
 from Lake Superior to the Pacific would  
 be passed to the crown with all  
 claims - Timber & - Fort & flesh  
 on the whole route - the shortest  
 route will be followed to regard less  
 of quality of soil to let the good in each  
 to the fish in the waters preserved  
 for the rise of the settlers to let the  
 projected company should obtain as  
 their right as indicated in the 10 miles

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[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes at the bottom of the page]

Original of  
a letter to  
H. De Haven  
Mr. D. P.  
Hunt  
9<sup>th</sup> July 1878

Sept 15<sup>th</sup> M<sup>o</sup> 1858

Worship<sup>ful</sup> &

Dear Sir

In perusal of the Message re-  
garding the W.B. Territory from the Home Gov<sup>t</sup> I had  
before you - I shall endeavour as briefly as I  
can to give you my views upon the Subject in  
addition to what I have already said upon  
~~the Subject~~ a link missing in the chain may  
ruin the whole.

The Canada cannot afford to  
manage that Territory as it must be, if  
taken from the W.B. Co.

I would therefore recommend  
the formation of three separate Colonys, viz - The  
Territory I have described within the boundary  
mentioned to you, from the Strait of Belleisle  
to the Mackay M<sup>t</sup>, as one Colony - the second  
from the Light of Land of the Mackay M<sup>t</sup> to  
the Pacific, South to 49. & North to the Russian  
Territory - The third, Vancouver's Island - each  
of those Colonys surely will be extensive enough  
to form one Province, & Kingdom of itself.

Suppose it so - then it will  
be necessary to descend to particulars  
Suppose the first to be called



I shall now endeavour to follow the Preface  
 I see no necessity to discuss the  
 validity of the Charter if you get what we want  
 of the Secretary, in this point is right - the dispute  
 would arise between Canada & the W. Co.  
 neither would be require arbitration - The  
 terms I have described is all we want  
 of a new Colony - It would be at  
 the cost & under the rule of the British Govt &  
 the Colonists - & at no cost to Canada - under  
 the administration & Protection of the British  
 Govt.

The Renewal of a further time  
 to the front of the Territory which I have already  
 described north of said Boundary - I consider  
 that 20 years is too short a period for obtaining  
 reasons - I would extend it to 30 or 100 years

It is not required that the W. Co.  
 should vacate the country all at once or at all  
 What is required is to recede or population  
 & services & that the W. Co. should renounce  
 all control or sovereignty over any part  
 of the country South of a fixed Boundary

Nothing will be required  
 that the W. Co. should renounce a right to  
 trade as all other His Majesty's Subjects  
 will have the same of the Province or Colony  
 It will be absolutely necessary for them to  
 carry on the American Trade both in New  
 France & the Saskatchewan. & allow them some  
 necessary privileges for their purpose

But I do not see that in this  
 case, there is any right invested in them to  
 any claim of compensation, In the first  
 place let us refer to St. William. The North  
 West Co. were Squatters & the W. Co. has  
 no better title, It may be necessary for them to  
 obtain that Settlement as a part of compensation  
 to the interior, let them do so, but not with  
 the right of Soil unless the British Govt.  
 requires it <sup>for a purpose</sup> ~~at that time~~, I see no cause for  
 compensation, it is no place of before, should  
 such be required. The first Portage can  
 be easily reached impracticable at no great  
 expense. Neither do I see any necessity  
 for compensation for any other Ports in  
 the interior, as the C. Co. will have the right  
 to obtain all those ports for their own free trade  
 or sell such ports to any individuals who  
 may wish to purchase for ~~any~~  
 purposes I would however except from  
 this general rule - The three Ports on Red River  
 of the Govt. for military purposes - In  
 my opinion they are too far in the proper  
 places, beyond of the River, at River to Town  
 or River to St. Pierre - or rather Lac St. Charles  
 like I mentioned would be more desirable

admirable Stations viz. at the head  
& tail of my Settlements. They  
are better they are as a check upon the  
Settlers only - & as defence against an  
enemy - to my disputed Boundaries

If Gov<sup>t</sup> intends to keep up a  
line of Fortifications to secure the frontier  
from Squatters &c. I see no other  
than a Preliminary fort at Lake St Helens,  
& Pembina on the Red River. Sep<sup>r</sup> &  
I see no other route, than Bow River  
(the South Branch of the Tascatchewan  
I know no other River to bring them  
across the frontier - except it may be  
some tributary to the Bow River, above  
Fort Chaska. In Dist perhaps at  
the Great Bend of the South Branch.  
It is a beautiful spot - with a fertile  
spot - in very Prairie - I think at  
the Deer River above Fort Chaska  
could be eligible - The Deer River  
takes its course in the N<sup>o</sup> near the sources  
of the Tascatchewan - I see no other  
way - where Frontier Forts could be built  
but by this route, the Red River  
Forts can be of no future use

I must express the impropriety  
of any Forts being carried on except  
for present use or for the use of the  
Settlements - particularly within the  
limits of the Territory reserved for the  
Settlers, as the Station to which depends  
on just in some parts - just lines supply  
them - the latter supplies the former &c.

In regard to Vancouver's Island  
& the N. West coast. If the M<sup>o</sup> Co's wishes  
entirely from those parts - I should think  
that they are entitled to some remuneration  
for their improvement. If they remain  
in such parts - why ask for any remuneration  
They paid nothing for purchase - why  
ask for more than improvements - they  
gain nothing why expect any thing

If Boundaries are fixed between  
what we may call the Colony & the exclusive  
rights of the M<sup>o</sup> Co. Surely the M<sup>o</sup> Co. has  
no right to expect that the Colony has to  
defend their Boundaries - they must have  
the right to watch over their own Territory  
as a farmer must watch over his own  
field of corn. If they find any trespassers  
they should have the right to Pound such

as a farmer had the right to  
bound his neighbors' pigs

The country west of the American  
Canadian Settlement along 49. I consider a  
my own territory waste in the West  
But as might be it as possible we ought to  
keep a proper fence parallel to the  
with our neighbors in order  
to keep them at home &  
I see no other way than by  
the South Saskatchewan

15th  
13th  
11th  
9th

After Mr. ... from the  
Red River Settlement to the sources  
of the Saskatchewan - Red Deer River  
I consider the best route for a road  
road - I see no impediments in the  
near the gorges of the mountains

Sir Geo. Simpson

Hudsons Bay House

Lachina 21. April 1859

Ayhaapi

I have to acknowledge your letter of 11. inst: and although very much pressed for time, on the eve of departure for my summer tour in the interior, I hasten to reply, in order that my testimony may be added to a sketch of your life which I understand your son is engaged in preparing. — CH 211

I had not the pleasure of your personal acquaintance in the North West, but you were well known to me by reputation, as one of the leading men of your day. Your general popularity was of itself evidence of many good qualities, which I need not at present specify. But I may notice, as prominent points in your character, your influence over the Indians, both by your kindness and firmness; the admirable discipline maintained among the

Armed to under your command: your knowledge  
of the acts most useful in the Indian Country:-  
your dexterity as a canoe man, & huntsman and  
horseman; your courage and enterprise. In  
short, according to the reports I heard, you possessed  
in a high degree the qualifications most useful  
in the career you had selected. -

I regret that I have not time  
to go into further details of what I know of  
your past useful and active life: but I trust  
this testimony to your many good qualities  
may be acceptable to your son.

Believe me

Very truly

your

Yours

John Macdonald by  
Geo. C. C.

St. Louis  
1859

Hon Ed: Ellis - London

I answered.

I received your former letter last week, another, dated the 20 of last month, has reached me here. We differ a little in the opinion expressed in this last letter as in the former one. The real danger to all parties, is from the influence, the disputes and disagreements, with respect to the Hudson Bay Company, may have on the rest of the population of all distinctions on the Red River, and the adjoining prairies on either side of the lake. Mr Kennedy's agitation will not have injured the case. But there is no reason to fear any serious danger, from any bad feeling on the part of the Half Breeds, towards the Canadian inhabitants. On the contrary, they are too much dependant upon them for employment & supplies; I have also understood, too sensible of the good treatment they have received, and the advantages of the connexion, to wish to change masters, for the mixed race of American Speculators, who alone could succeed the Hudson Bay Company. You say, why not

give up the charter? nobody wishes to maintain it, farther than is necessary to until some authority can be substituted which can square the responsibility which was thrown upon the Company is doing its best, to maintain order and peace in the country. Will the Canadian Gove<sup>rs</sup> undertake the responsibility, and the expense attendant on maintaining the necessary officers for the administration of Government and of justice? I doubt it exceedingly. When the present agitation with respect to the fur trade has subsided, what will they gain by it? But if they are so inclined the Hudson Bay Co<sup>y</sup> are not likely to be very accessible, in the way, in which they will dispose ultimately of the Red River settlement &c of their whole territory, rights and charter retaining as congruous as the value of their trading in the interior than for the share holders in England the exclusive right of trading for a definite period. It will be found as every other thing in this world, a possession more coveted ~~before~~ before its value is known than when it is ascertained, & I support, not so acceptable, when really placed

within their offer, as when there appears more difficulty in acquiring it. what is essential for the moment is the best temporary arrangement that can be made, since I left them the committee has made this agreement in which the chairman, the present secretary of state Lord John Russell Ser. Mackenzie

Mr. Gladstone was dissentient there was however no difference of opinion as I understood with respect to the expediency of removing the trading license to the Hudson Bay Co<sup>y</sup>. In all other matters as I have said before the Gov<sup>ts</sup> and public of Canada may be assured the Gov<sup>ts</sup> here will be much more disposed to do what they wish than what the Hudson Bay Co<sup>y</sup> may desire and if there be the least probability of division on their part. It is much more essential to the Company to have the support and good will of Canada in maintaining such great of this privilege & Authority as it may be expedient to bear with them, for the sake of order & peace in the Indian Countries than to contest points, with either the Gov<sup>ts</sup> of Toronto or Downing Street which can be of no ultimate advantage to themselves —

I say temporary arrangement, is the order of the day, in civil things. The winter I went

cannot tell how the fate of the Hudson Bay territory and of others near the sea may be influenced by incidents and accidents within the next 21 years. The term of the renewal of the license Mr Kennedy could have his own say. — you who have some experience of the Indian trade can inform your neighbours, ~~and~~ will have the advantage in the

The Hudson Bay Co. & Canada will have the two shares but there are others on the watch for the issue of the boils, who will undoubtedly enjoy what was got by the contest if it is not lost in the contest.

Yours faithfully

Edward Ellice

To Mr. Donald of Bath