

Park House, 17th June

My dear friend,

I am very glad to hear from you and acknowledge, that I am to blame, in not writing to you sooner. You know my dislike to writing and will forgive me this time.

My trip to England was chequered with pain and pleasure. Magdalenes family consisting of two Boys, and two Girls, are very satisfactory, her good husband most valuable, but poor for his elevated position. Simons two Daughters are talented and charming, they have enough for comfort. Poor Miss Auldjo, is very unfortunate, no health, nor a well regulated mind John Auldjo out lawed, & will make no effort, to recover his position lost the Dummaglass estate through careless indolence. Has Neil McGillivray gone to Scotland to follow up his good fortune? I made a charming friend of your Nephew Sir John Campbell's widow, wt. 8 children very promising scions, Mrs Snodgrass also, very courteous and kind her only son, engaged in India Laura, has a drunken husband, lives abroad with four daughters, Helen Spenser, has a lovely family, the General commands the troops at Alverstake

I could not visit Scotland, Mrs Taylor's expected confinement prevented Hugh, coming for me. I found, that I was burning the candle at both ends having to lay out so much to make the house comfortable it is indeed much improved and I would be glad if you could feel well enough, to come to see it, after Mrs Taylors case is over

I feel contempt for Elizth's vacillating conduct, at 30, years of age, she should have known better, may God have mercy upon her and upon her broken hearted mother, who has ever been dutiful to her relations—farewell my dear friend, may God prepare us, for our change.

Yours affect^{ly},
Elizth Reid,
Wife of Chief Justice Reid.

My

In Order to preserve the natives of N. America from Destruction - In Order to prevent the farther aggression of the American republick, In Order to secure the Oregon Territory to the British Gov't as well as California to the Mexican Gov't In Order to secure the Canadas to the British Gov't In Order to prevent a continual state of Warfare amongst the different tribes of natives and to secure peace and amity amongst them -

It is necessary to organize all the different Tribes under One Head - as Chief - or Crowned Head, i.e. to form a federal union of all the natives under one General Gov't and to make the Mississippi River the fixed boundary between that Gov't and the American republick.

For this purpose All the Crown'd Heads of Europe should combine to accomplish this Object viz - To form a new independant nation West of the Mississippi River -

The way to accomplish this vital Object is plain and easy - viz -

Firstly - a Wise Chief to be selected, under what ever name might be deemed best to give him -

Secondly - a strong hold in a fertile part of the country - suitable, and central, to be built as a place of residence for this Head.

Thirdly - A certain number of the principal Chiefs of every Tribe to be selected as Ministers and Counsellors to this Head.

Forthly - A Body of five Hundred Horse, and five Hundred Infantry of chosen young Warriors Drafted from all the Tribes in equal proportion to be formed, to enable this Head to support

his authority and obey the laws -

Sixthly - Agriculture encouraged also manufactories and Mills, etc. -

Seventhly - Missionaries and school masters sent amongst the Tribes

Eighthly - Limits and Boundaries fixed between the Tribes allotting to each Tribe certain Grounds - as Hunting Grounds, etc. -

Ninthly - All the tribes now residing within the limits of the United Canadas to be sent West of the Mississippi as part of this confederacy - The property now belonging to them to be purchased by Gov't and paid by yearly Instalments in presents and part in paying the expences of their removal.

Tenthly - All the expences in this undertaking to be paid by the Sovereigns of Europe and their independance declared - Consuls from each Power - appointed to reside at the seat of Government and an annual allowance made by each European Gov't to support this ^{power} Governor for a limited number of years - until every thing was fully settled and the different tribes reconciled to the change and subjected to this one Power. All which is submitted to -

N.B. An independant confederacy of this kind is the only Barrier against the unbounded wish of the american republic to possess all N.America - the only way to limit their territory and prevent ^{them} their geting the Oregon Territory and California - The only safety to Canada - and much better than a doz'n regiments and strong Fortresses or ^{allis} others offensive and defensive. The Tribes West and North West of the Mississippi may be computed at ^{50,}56,000 Warriors -

To J. Macdonald
Greys Creek

Cornwall - Sunday Night

1881

My dear Sir -

After bidding good bye to the ladies this day -
I adjourned to the chequered Tavern - loaded down with the
Diablos Blue feeling for the first time since leaving England-
particularly - d - d - lonesome & feeling as if I had parted
with something more than what are commonly (in the Worlds par-
lance) termed friends - and therefore after hailing the landlord
for a tumbler of beer - to choke down my emotions - & a pipe to
puff away care, I sat down like a spoilt child, and vented a
shower of tears - (black ones) on the only morsel of paper to
be obtained, (a dirty half sheet)- and dedicating it mentally
to yourself - and calling it an acrostic - and myself a vagabond-
I took liberty of Enclosing It to the Editor of The Observer -
more for its truth than any merit I believe it to possess being
a bona fide "impromptu"

This Acrostic is dedicated to J McD. Greys Creek with every
sentiment of esteem & regard by a "Vagabond"

Girt by a belt of Poplar - stately tree .
Redolent with the breath of "River & Sea"
Embosomed 'mid a wood of aspect grand
Your charms sweet spot; unrivalled in this land
Seduced my wanderings, But oh far more
Commanded my respect, since on shore
Receiving welcome, to yon house I strayed
Each day regretting less that I delayed
Even though causing me a Parting pain
Kind friends adieu : God grant we meet again

This effusion my dear sir, seemed to have forced itself from me -
as if inborn.

Had I been perhaps more myself- I would have done better
justice to a subject - which at present at least engrosses much
of my thoughts -

It is owing to your having made me take some paper off
your table this morning that I am enabled to write to you -

You have heard no doubt that poor Finden was out
all night last among the islands -

Yours most truly

Colonel Turner!

Kingston 29th Sept. 1842

1842

My dear Sir,

I am favored with your letter regarding Lt Colonel Macdonells affray with Colonel Turner which I deeply lament should ever have taken place not merely on his own account but for the sake of the memory of his worthy Father, who I knew as a smart excellent Officer in the Peninsula.

I am most happy to say the affair is totally out of my jurisdiction and I am heartily glad not having anything to do with what is so extremely unfortunate, and must carefully abstain from mixing myself up with it —

I am happy to say that one of my most recent English letters gives me the pleasing intelligence that Sir Archibald and Lady Campbell are both in better health than when last in London — Sir John and Lady Buchan were then staying with them on a visit at Carth —

I remain

My dear Sir

Yours most faithfully

R Armstrong

Major General

John Macdonald Esq^{re}

& _____ & _____ & _____

1811
Regarding Reserves for Indians

To Justice Draper.

Gray's Creek. 25th July, 1857.

It is my humble opinion, Hon'ble Sir, tho' the short-sighted mass may think otherwise, that you will gain immortal Honour by getting the Territories beyond the Height of Land which I have described set apart as a reserve for generations of natives yet unborn and the H. B. Co. appointed - at least for a definite time - as trustees for them - under certain rules and restrictions.

I appeal to your own sense of justice to those poor Indians - Look what a poor set they are amongst Whites. Endeavour then to keep them in their primitive state - else the day will come when the British or Canadian Gov't must support them. All the natives north of the Saskatchewan are what we call the Strong Wood Indians. The Bow and Arrow is of little use to them. They must have support. South of that river are what we call the Plain and Prairie Indians and can live independent of Whites - they are here to-day and 100 miles off to-morrow towards the Missouri.

What advantage will it be to Canada if the whole country is laid open to all the interlopers in the world in less than ten years. Furs and all the animal tribe would be gone for ever - is it not better to make it last for ever as it is - and allow the Natives to support themselves rather than to become a burden to Gov't.

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

It is a very great error to think that Furs are very plentiful - This Silver or Black Fox spoken of is rare. I do not think in 20 years I ever saw 20 such Foxes and the annual H. B. Co. returns may show how many they annually get from the whole country.

By the Crown setting apart the country as a reserve, would not that settle the point in dispute at once ?

If I suggest anything to your better judgment I shall be glad of it.

Within the Limits I have described we have room enough for all the Population of Great Britain.

I have the Honour to be Hon'ble Sir Your Ob'dt Serv't

John McDonald.

Justice Draper.

Howick. 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'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 a precarious condition the peace of the whole frontier will be placed, if while our authority was superceded 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 Lake Lapluis, and especially in the Southern districts. When the question is settled here, as I presume it will be, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee, all agitation will cease, except in public disputes, 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 good will and support of Canada in protecting their fur trade than to remain possessors 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 Assiniboine. The experience of the agriculturists in the former has not been favourable. The winters have been severe, the locusts have made great destruction now and then, and the overflowing of the river has made some parts of the country swampy. But I may be in error in supposing these greater impediments than 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 better circumstanced, and the difficulties attending all successful settlement, when there were no neighbouring 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 Draper's line shall be decided not to belong to them, on the proposed reference to the Privy Council, then of course they have still less 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 or 3,000 stock in the Hudson's Bay Company. 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 and the rightful claim they had on any assistance I could give them, and I am wholly regardless of the abuse of these when dissent in this agitation has been to deprive them of their means of existence for which, you know, they have worked so hardly and made so many sacrifices.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your faithful servant,

Edw. Ellice.

John McDonald, Esq.

Balbirnie
Merkinch.

6th August, 1857.

Dear Sir:

I answered your former letters last week.

Another dated the 20th of last month has reached me here. We differ as little in the opinions expressed in this last letter as in the former ones. The real danger to all parties is from the influence these disputes and disagreements, with respect to the Hudson's Bay Company, may have on the restless population of all descriptions on the Red River and the adjoining prairies on either side of the line. 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 Company's curtailments. On the contrary, they are too much dependant upon them for employment and supplies; and I have also understood, too sensible of the good treatment they have received and the advantages of the connection, to wish to change masters for the mixed races of American and Canadian speculators, who alone could succeed to the Hudson's Bay Company. You say, why not give up the charter? Nobody wishes to maintain it longer than is necessary, or until some authority can be substituted which can assume the responsibility now thrown upon the Company of doing its best to maintain order and peace in the Country. Will the Canadian Government undertake the responsibility and the expense attendant on maintaining

the necessary officers for the administration of government and 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 Company are not likely to be very unreasonable in the terms on which they would dispose ultimately of the Red River settlement, but of their whole territory, rights and charter, retaining as you propose, more for the sake of their Traders in the interior than 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 possession more coveted before its value is known, than when it is ascertained, and, I suggest, not so acceptable when really placed within their offer, or when there appeared more difficulty in acquiring it.

What is essential for the moment is the best temporary arrangement than can be made. Since I left town, the Committee has made their request, in which the Chairman, the first Secretary of State, Lord John Russell, and Sir I. Parkington, two ..., have concurred, but from which Mr. Gladstone has dissented. There was, however, no difference of opinion, as I understand, with regard to the expediency of renewing the trading license to the Hudson's Bay Company. In all other matters, as I have said before, the Government and public of Canada may be assured the Government here will be much more disposed to do what they wish than what the

Hudson's Bay Company may desire - even if there were the least probability of objection on their part. It is much more essential to the Company to have the support and good will of Canada in maintaining such grants of their privileges and authority as it may be expedient to leave with them for the sake of order and peace in the Indian countries, than to contest points with either the Government of Toronto or Downing Street which can be of no ultimate advantage to themselves.

I say temporary arrangement. Enough for the day is the evil thereof. The writer, and most far-seeing men in Canada, cannot tell how the fate of the Hudson's Bay Territory, or of others near^{at} home, may be influenced by incidents and accidents within the next twenty-one years - the term of the renewal of the license. If Mr. Kennedy could have his own way - you, who have some experience of the Indian trade, can inform your neighbours - who would have the advantage in the conflict of interests that would follow? The Hudson's Bay Company and Canada might have the two shells, but there are others on the watch for the issue of these broils who would undoubtedly enjoy what was left of the oyster - if it was not destroyed in the contest.

Yours very faithfully

Edw. Ellice.

[John McDonald, Esq.]

I will not send your letters to the Chief Justice [Draper], for I do not know his address, but the Committee

was closed before they reached me. I only learn his opinions from his evidence, but judging from his evidence, and that of Mr. Ross, we do not differ much in opinion on the whole question.

3611

Glenquish. 14th Sept., 1857.

Dear Sir

I acknowledge, merely to thank you for your letter of the 20th August. I answered your former ones more from respect for an old North Wester than with any intention of entering into a controversy - or at least a continued one, on the Hudson's Bay Co. affairs.

That Company must be either abolished or maintained so as to be useful to the public, and profitable to the Traders. They will not accept the condition of being placed between two stools, or incur the risk of losing the character they have maintained every where, except with a few people who hoped foolishly to be able to compete with them in the Fur Trade - for the last forty years. They must wind up their affairs and transfer the administration of the country to Canada, or our Colonial Office, whenever it shall be the pleasure of either, or both, to undertake the responsibility of it. Their case is simply stated in the letter of Mr. Shepherd, the Chairman of the Company, to the Sec'y to State, laid before the Com' of the House of Commons, and printed with the reports. You and I, at all events, shall never live to see Rail Roads made from Canada to the Red River or Saskatchewan to connect the prairie with these flourishing settlements which are

foretold in both ! When I see even a road made between Lake Superior and Lake Winnipeg by which a waggon can travel - or a boat and a waggon can convey goods on reasonable terms to the interior - I shall begin to believe the further speculations of a visionary. And even in this case, unless all things in America are marvellously changed since I knew them, no such road could be maintained, or kept in repair, without sufficient settlements on the whole line.

Here I must beg leave to close our correspondence. I do so with great feelings of respect for you and some admiration, at your age, with your aspirations for progress, more required even than the progress we have both witnessed in America.

Yours faithfully

Edw. Ellice.

John McDonald, Esq.

3211

Gart 15th April /58.

Hon'ble and Dear Sir:

In perusal of the message regarding the H.B. Territory from the Home Gov't laid 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 - a link missing in the chain may injure the whole.

The Canadas cannot afford to manage that Territory as it must be, if taken from the H.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 Straits of Belleisle to the Rocky M'ts as one Colony, the second from the Height of Land of the Rocky M'ts to the Pacific, South to 49, and North to the Russian Territory. The third, Vancouver's Island. Each of those colonys surely will be extensive enough to form one Province, or Kingdom of itself.

Suppose it so - then it will be necessary to descend to particulars.

Suppose the first to be called The Red River Colony or Province, and the Port of Entry to be, as it must necessarily be, The Bay of Kaministiquia at Fort William in Lake Superior. Thus giving that Bay - from Cape Tonere, with 20,000 acres fit for settlement mentioned by Mr. Hind, due North to the Height of Land already mentioned to you as forming the Bounday between a reservation to the H.B. Co. and the Canadas. Thus we have the Colony or Province of Red River circumscribed and of itself extensive enough to contain the

Population of Europe.

It will follow that the Home Gov't is to have the sole management of this new Province. The first step required will be to give free grants to settlers on the Bay of Kaministiquia, with the right to any mines (Gold or Silver excepted) they may discover. I perfectly agree with Mr. Hind that settlements from Fort William to Lac La Pluis River must be partial. This River, I think, is susceptible of a large emigration, about half way there is a narrow which forms a gentle fall - this fall may be easily overcome by widening the River to the general width, in which case there would be no impediment to the N.W. point of Lac du Bois at Portage des Rats - for Steam Boats - and by a couple of locks at the Portage between Lac La Pluis and River La Pluis the navigation would be extended across Lac La Pluis. Then we would have to overcome the distance from Fort William to Lac La Pluis and from Lac du Bois to Fort Alex'r at the entrance of Lac Winipeg - then the navigation to Red River would be complete as well as to the Grand Rapid on the end of Lac Winipeg - and then but little would be required to extend the whole to the North Saskatchewan. There are, however, rapids in this River above Cumberland House of perhaps 25 miles which would require to be overcome before getting to the Prairies. No falls but a strong current running perhaps 7 knots - and at low water shallow.

I am not acquainted with the country between the River Kaministiquia and Lac de Pieres à Fusil (Flint Lake).

I cannot speak of it, but I know and have traveled by a River from Kaministiquia to avoid the long portage (Portage des Chiens) at the Height of Land from Kaministiquia to River La Savans running towards Lac La Pluis.

Thus have I described the route. I shall now endeavour to follow the message.

I see no necessity to discuss the validity of the charter if we get what we want of the Territory, in this Gov't is right. The dispute would arise between Canada and the H. B. Co. Neither would we require arbitration - the limits I have described are all we want.

If a new colony - It would be at the cost and under the rule of the British Gov't and its colonists - and at no costs to Canada - under the administration and Protection of the British Gov't.

The renewal of a further license to the parts of the Territory which I have already described north of said Boundary - I consider that 20 years is too short a period for obvious reasons - I would extend it to 50 or 100 years.

It is not required that the H. B. Co. should vacate the country all at once or at all. What is required is to recede as population advances and that the H. B. Co. should renounce all control or sovereignty over any part of the country south of a fixed Boundary.

Neither will it be required that the H. B. Co. should renounce a right to trade as all others - Her Majesty's

subjects - within the limits of the Province or Colony. It will be absolutely necessary for them to carry on the Pemican Trade, both in Red River and the Saskatchewan - and allow them some necessary privileges for this 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 F't William. The North West Co. were Squatters, and the H. B. Co. has no better title. It may be necessary for them to retain that settlement as a post of communication to the interior. Let them do so, but not with the right of soil. Unless the British Gov't requires it for a purpose, I see no cause for compensation. It is no place of Defence should such be required. The first Portage can easily be rendered impregnable at no great expense. Neither do I see any necessity for compensation for any other Posts in the interior, as the Co'y will have the right to retain all those posts for their own free trade, or sell such posts to any individuals who may wish to purchase for farming purposes. I would, however, except from this general rule the Stone Forts on Red River if req'd by Gov't for military purposes, tho' in my opinion they are not in the proper places. Higher up the River, at River La Sourie or River Q'Appelle, or rather Lac St. Helens, where I mentioned would be more advisable stations, viz - at the head and not at the tail of any settlements - they are where they are as a check upon the settlers only, and no defence against an enemy on any disputed Boundary.

If Gov't intends to keep up a line of Fortifications to secure the frontier from squatters, etc., I see no other than a military fort at Lake St. Helens, and Pembina - in the Red River Dis't - and I see no other route than Bow River (the South Branch of the Saskatchewan). I know no other river to bring them nearer the frontier, except it may be some tributary to the Bow River, above Fort Chesterfield, and a Post perhaps at the Great Bend of the South Branch. It is a beautiful spot, with a gentle ascent, entirely Prairie. I think at the Deer River above Fort Chesterfield would be eligible. This Deer River takes its raise in the M'ts near the sources of the Saskatchewan. I see no other way where Frontier Forts could be built but by this route. The Red River Stone Forts can be of no future use.

I must express the impropriety of any Fisheries being carried on, except for private use or for the use of the settlements, particularly within the limits of the Territory reserved for the natives, as the natives solely depend on fish in some parts - fisheries supply them, the Lakes supply the Rivers, etc.

In regard to Vancouver Island, and the N. West coast. If the H. B. Co. retires entirely from those parts, I should think that they are entitled to some remuneration for their improvements - if they remain in such parts, why ask for any remuneration. They paid nothing for possession, why ask for more than improvements - they gave nothing, why expect anything.

If Boundaries are fixed between what we may call the

colony and the exclusive right of the H. B. Co., surely the H. B. 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, and if they find any trespassers they should have the right to pound such as a farmer has the right to pound his Neighbour's Figs.

The country west of the American Pembina Settlement along 49, I consider a dry unwatered waste until near the M'ts. But as nigh to it as possible we ought to keep a progressive parallel pace with our Neighbours in order to keep them at home, and I see no other way than by the South Saskatchewan.

A line N. Westward from the Red River Settlement to the sources of the Saskatchewan in Red Deer River, I consider the best route for a Rail Road. I see no impediments until near the Gorges of the Mountains.

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, etc., on which you gave me such valuable information and the whole of which letters I have carefully filed away to refer to when the subject comes up, has not yet been considered, 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 & Trade 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 without much capital. I think that they may forestall a better regulated company when the time comes, and 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, and one to even buy lands from the Indians. They will expect the Province to protect them in perhaps their unjust overreaching of the Indians, and, further, they may come in collision with the Hudson's Bay Trading Posts, etc. and perhaps ruin in a few

years the Indians by inciting them to kill off all the Buffalo for the hide and 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 and it is much wanted.

My Dear Sir

Yours ever most truly

R. U. Harwood.

Toronto. 8 July, 1858.

John McDonald Esquire
Grey's Creek.

Gray's Creek. Sat'y, 9th July, 1858.

Hon'ble Sir:

That there are fine countrys 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 parts of the territory fit for agricultural purposes. To make that country available there must be a suitable, expeditious, and easy communication. This must be the Grand Point in view for the consideration of a Grand Nation. That there is Gold on the Western route, as well as coal and other minerals on the whole route, there is as little doubt of. The communication, therefore, ought to be commensurate with the object in prospect - namely, upon a Grand Scale worthy of a Great Nation. Consider for a moment the result - The riches of Asia taken in a few weeks to Fraser's River, and from Steamer in as many days to Montreal, and from Steamer in ten days to the London Market.

My dear Sir, this cannot be done by a small company with a capital of one or two hundred thousand pounds. 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 active measures for such an accomplishment.

The Territory in question is only accessible at few points. Hudson's Bay - either by the present route of the H. B. Co's Boats - by Nelson River - or a way might be opened by James Bay - to the S. East end of Lake Winnipeg to Red River

offers an accessible point - where the lazy H. B. Co's ships make one annual voyage - steam vessels might be expected to make three. The distance cannot be much more than to Quebec.

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

But I fancy the route at present contemplated will be the chosen one - viz, from the shores of Lake Superior - The Height of Land from Fort William, viz, Portage des Chiens, is very light - perhaps a more eligible departure may be found with less ascent.

Now if the present Parliament should think it proper to give a charter to the present projecting company - I see no great hindrance to the Bill. The Indians must be paid for a right of way. They never exacted such from the Traders, as their object was different. There will be no great danger from any difficulties with them, at least until getting into the Prairies, as they are there more in numbers and entirely independent. The route will still lie within the limits I have in my former letters to you described as a Boundary between the Canadas and 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 Emigration. The country being all I may say strong woods, or what we called Bois Forts. The natives called the Strong Wood Indians. Some deviation I must mention from said Boundary - viz, a more northerly course

by the way of the Saskatchewan - say from Fort George (once called) to a more northerly pass in the Rocky Mountains to get to Fraser's River.

I would object to such a company exchanging bad for good lands, except in the same locality - I would not allow them a jump or leap from Lake Superior to the rich Valley of the Saskatchewan, there to occupy the whole Valley, and leave a wilderness behind them.

There is another consideration. Would they make a rail road sufficient for all commerce of India and China, or if canals, would they make them large enough for vessels of burden sufficient for not only the commerce of India, but for the Fur Trade and the productions of the country. I am of opinion that such a capital would go but a little way on the proposed scheme. Pray, 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 cannot wait in this age of speed by Steam and Telegraph thus long. No member of the present House now in Toronto would live to handle a dollar's worth of Fraser's River Gold, nor any inhabitant of Toronto, neither would their small capital build a couple necessary Bridges perhaps.

Thus, my dear Sir, I have thrown together my ideas in as brief a manner as I can in regard to the Bill before the House to incorporate a company for the North West Transportations, whether such shall correspond with your own and

any other members of the House and what the result may be
time only will shew.

I have the Honour to be

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) John McDonald. N.S.

Hon'ble R. W. Harwood, M.P.P.

P.S. Such a scheme will be the greatest one under-
taken by any Nation on earth and worthy of the 19th century.
In times of yore, this intended company might get to Red River
in 25 years on less money to Fraser's River - The Gold would
be all gone.

And thus 10 miles breadth from Lake Superior to the
Pacific will be saved to the Crown - with all Mines, Timber,
etc. Fish and flesh on the whole route, and the shortest route
will be followed regardless of quality of soil whether good or
bad, and the fish in the waters preserved for the use of the
settlers, which this projected company would claim as their
right as included in the 10 miles.

J. McD.

Grey's Creek Sat'y, 29th July, 1858.

Hon'ble Sir

That there are fine countrys 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 fit for agricultural purposes. To make that country available there must be a suitable, expeditious, and easy communication. This must be the Grand Point in view, for the consideration of a Grand Nation. That there is Gold, on the Western route as well as coal and other minerals on the whole route there is as little doubt of. The communication therefore ought to be commensurate with the object in prospect - namely upon a Grand Scale worthy of a Great Nation. consider for a moment the result. - The riches of Asia taken in a few weeks to Fraser's River, and from Steamer in as many days to Montreal and from Steamer in ten days to the London Market.

My Dear Sir, This cannot be done by a small company with a capital of one or two hundred thousand pounds. - 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} ^{active} you to take ~~adverse~~ measures for such an accomplishment.

The Territory in question is only accessible at few points. Hudsons Bay - either by the present route of the H.B. Co's Boats - by Nelson River - or a way might be opened by James Bay - to the S. East end of Lake Winnipeg to Red River - offers an accessible point. where the lazy H.B.C's ships make one annual voyage, Steam Vessels might be expected to make three. The distance cannot be much more than to Quebec.

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

Another route might continue the Grand Trunk Rail Road to Belleville and then strike north of all the lakes.

But I fancy the route at present contemplated will be the chosen one - viz, from the shores of Lake Superior - The Height of land from Fort William, viz, Portage des Chiens, is very light - perhaps a more eligible departure may be found with less ^{ascent} ~~ascent~~.

Now if the present Parliament should think it proper to give a charter to the present projecting company - I see no great hindrance to the Bill. The Indians must be paid for a right of way they never exacted such from the Traders, as their object was different. There will be no great danger from any difficulties with them, at least until getting into the Prairies, as they are there more in numbers and entirely independent - The route will still lie within the Limits I have in my former letters to you described as a Boundary between the Canadas and 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 Emigration. The country being all I may say strong woods, or what we called Bois Forts. The Natives called the Strong Wood Indians. Some deviation I must mention from said Boundary, viz, a more northerly course by the way of the Saskatchewan - say from Fort George (once called) to a more northerly pass in the Rocky Mountains to get to Fraser's River.

I would object to such a company exchanging bad for good lands, except in the same locality - I would not allow them a jump or leap from Lake Superior to the rich Valley of the Saskatchewan, there to occupy the whole Valley, and leave a wilderness behind them.

1811

There is another consideration, would they make a rail road sufficient for all the commerce of India and China, or if canals, would they make them large enough for vessels of Burden sufficient for not only the commerce of India, but for the Fur Trade and the productions of the country. I am of opinion that such a capital would go but a little way on the proposed scheme. Pray 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 wait in this age of speed by Steam and Telegraph thus long. No member of the present House now in Toronto, would live to handle a dollar's worth of Fraser's River Gold, nor any inhabitant of Toronto, neither would their small capital build a couple necessary Bridges perhaps.

Thus, My dear Sir, I have thrown together my ideas in as brief a manner as I can in regard to the Bill before the House to incorporate a company for the North West Transportations, whether such shall correspond with your own and any other members of the House and what the result may be time only will shew.

I have the Honor to be

Yours faithfully

Hon'ble R.W. Harwood, M.P.P.

John McDonald.

N.S.

P.S. Such a scheme will be the greatest one undertaken by any Nation on earth and worthy of the 19th Century. In times of yore, this intended company might get to Red River in 25 years ^{or} ~~or~~ less money ~~and~~ to Fraser's River - The Gold would be all gone.

And thus 10 miles breadth from Lake Superior to the Pacific will be Saved to the Crown - with all Mines - Timber, etc. Fish and flesh on the whole route, and the shortest route will be followed regardless of quality of soil whether good or bad, and the fish in the waters preserved for the use of the settlers, which this projected company would claim as their right as included in the 10 miles. J.M.D.

Park House, 2^d " July - 60 -

2281

My Dear M^r M^c Donald

M^{rs} Taylor started with her three children, this morning to the sea side to recover them from the effects of Hooping Cough - I have promised to go with M^r Taylor the end of the month to bring them home again - I wish you could come to pay me a short visit, in the mean time, you surely can spare a few days - from your farming operations to see an old friend for the last time most probably I will have much pleasure in driving you about, to see old associations once more, for I still retain my Horses - come this week if possible and we shall have a long Gossip, M^r Taylor joins me in kindest regards to you

Park House 6th Jan^{ry} — 64 —

1850

My dear Sir,

I owe you many thanks for your kind sociable communication of Xmas events. I wish I could write with such facility, then you should have a very long story, as it is, I must be brief — but, to make up I enclose you a letter from our dear Maddie Brackenbury. I will leave her to tell her own story. She is a cheerful happy creature, in spite of her sojourn in a Godless land her boys are getting on bravely her pretty Girls, are under disadvantages in Spanish Society — I would rejoice to get them to old England again I grieve to hear of Col. Snodgrasss early Death ! his mothers only child ! She has Laura Campbell, and 4, Daughters living with her at Southampton She has some of M^{rs} Spencers children also, during the the Generals command in India. I pray God to spare his life in that horrid country, so fatal to Europeans —

My dear friend there is much misery in the world which you, and I, are exempt from by our fortunate position we cannot be too thankful for such health, & comforts as we enjoy — Your young people in Montreal, are well at a Ball at M^{rs} Molsons Belmont Hall, last week — I am now fortunately, exempt — from such folly ! it is quite time to think seriously of the uncertainty of all things My thoughts often wander to you, glad, that you are fully occupied. it makes you more happy, farewell always happy to hear from you
Yours affectionately Elizth Reid —

1311

Gart. 27th Oct., 1864.

Dear Sir:

I would not like you to be ignorant of those facts - in any shape or at any time - such may come before you, or, should you write upon the subject, which I think you ought to do, as they say, a stitch in time saves nine. I consider from my knowledge of that country that no time is to be lost if we consider the safety of that colony. The Hudson's Bay Company can do nothing and they will not embroil themselves in the matter with the natives. They stand in another light, with all Indians. They are there as merchants, supplying their wants, and they require those wants, and they give protection in arms and ammunition, whereas the colonists injure them by taking possession of their hunting grounds, destroying the animals they require for subsistence, without any sufficient equivalent.

Write, or make some one in your office write, upon the subject. I will give you any further information you or the person may want.

Yours, etc.

John McDonald.

The Freeholder is no paper for you to insert anything beyond local matters. It is not read beyond these countries.

Yours, etc.

John McDonald.

P.S. I see by the Globe that the Red River Colony is in danger and am well aware what the result may be.

J. McD.

It may be too late to shut the stable door after the horse is stolen.

To Hon. J. S. Macdonald.

Gart. Octr. 28th, 1864.

My dear Sir:

The hope that you will become a new man - and throw off the old - in which case you may yet become useful to the country - in future.

In the new order of things, the same course would, or rather might, retard, as it did, viz - The progress of the country.

It is time to sheath the sword and start working - I think it is time to draw the sword and prepare ourselves for world combat.

I would wish that some one would take up the cudgel in defence of a country interesting to me - a country much superior to what the Canadas are, and that in your seat in Parliament, you should be that one, and all information I have in my brain you should have.

You will not join La Flamme and Dorion in their endeavours to bring on Rebellion - Surely it would be of no use. The Canadian hates the Yankee - but if an army of 50,000 French were to land below, the Canadians to a man would join them, so that if you look at things as you ought - we want union, if we wish for welfare we cannot afford disunion amongst ourselves.

Yours etc.

J.S. McD.

John McDonald.

Office of Minister of Militia,

No. 476.

Quebec. 23rd February, 1865.

Sir:

I am directed by Sir Etienne Jaché to acknowledge his receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, offering certain suggestions for the defence of the far west and for the transportation of material - for which he desires me to thank you, and to say they will receive his consideration when the subject comes up.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your very obedient servant

J. G. Vansittart.

John McDonald Esq.,
Gray Creek,
Cornwall.

The North West Territory.

House of Lords

In the House of Lords on the 23rd ultimo, Lord Wharncliffe, in rising to ask what was the position of the question of establishing a Crown colony in the North-west Territory of British North America, and when some report thereon would be made to the House, said that fifteen years ago he had visited that territory and had a claim therefore, to some personal acquaintance with its circumstances. The question of the future position of this large tract of country, lying between Upper Canada and the Rocky Mountains, was one of great importance for many reasons. Our North American Colonies had recently taken steps for erecting themselves into a great Confederation, and we must therefore presume that the tie between them and us would no longer be so close as it had been. There was a probability, too, of a dispute arising between this country and the Western States on a question of frontier and population, and it was desirable that everything should be done by this country to avoid such a collision. The territory was of such a character as to be likely to become a most important colony. Captain Palliser had been sent to report upon it by the Government, and in his report he spoke thus of the Red River Settlement:

"The soil is that of an ancient lake bottom, consisting of variously porportioned mixture of clay, loam and marl, with a remarkable deficiency of sand. It is overlaid by a great tickness of vegetable mould, varying from two to four or five feet in depth. The chief wealth of the agriculturist would be derived from the rearing of cattle, large quantities of very nutritious grasses abounding everywhere, together with hemp, flax and hops, which grow admirably."

Of the lower part of the valley of the Assiniboine, he said:

"The lower part of the valley of the Assiniboine, for seventy miles before it joins Red River affords lines of surpassing richness and fertility to the extend of several hundred thousand acres."

And of

And of the valley of the Saskatchewan he said:-

"There are often to be found areas of land of fine quality, while the whole distance, sometimes equal to thirty miles between the hills and the river, is fine grazing land, and as it all lies within the limit of the partially wooded belt of country, there are bluffs that will afford shelter to stock. The richness of the natural pasture in many places on the prairies of the second level along the North Saskatchewan and its tributaries, Battle River, can hardly be exaggerated. Its value does not consist in its being rank ^{but} or in great quantity, from its fine quality, comprising nutritious species of grasses and carices, along with natural vetches in great variety, which remain throughout the winter sound, juicy, and fit for the nourishment of stock."

It was but two years ago that the Hudson's Bay Company had transferred their rights to another Company for a very considerable sum of money, and no doubt their administration had always proved a great obstacle to colonization. There were two ways of disposing of this territory - one, which he thought the wrong way, to unite it to Canada; and the other, which he thought the right one, to erect it into a separate colony. There was another point also of great importance, the recent proposed confederation of the different North American colonies, which was framed on the basis of allowing due representation to the various elements composing that confederation. That basis was, he believed, that a certain number of representatives should be given to Lower Canada in such a manner that at no time should there be a preponderance of the Protestant, and more active population of Upper Canada to the disadvantage of Lower Canada. In connexion with that point he would quote the remark of a gentleman who was well acquainted with that country and with the feeling of its inhabitants, in reference to the erection of this large tract of country into a colony in connection with Canada. The gentleman said, "Such a measure would of course enable Upper Canada to rule over and destroy the individualization of Lower Canada. Therefore, it was that all French speaking Canadians, and a large number of the most loyal people in both sections of the Province, opposed a change leading inevitably to universal suffrage and the extinction of the political influence of an educated minority."

Now,

Now, if the Hudson's Bay territory were added to Upper Canada, that portion of the province would overbear ^{the} remainder, and all the old contests of race and language would be revived, even perhaps to the end of civil war." Such was the statement of Mr. Watkin, who, from his connection with the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada and several years' residence in the country, was well qualified to speak upon this subject. Looking to both of these points, the distance from Montreal and the disturbance it would create in the balance of the constitution of British North America, he (Lord Wharncliffe) could not but regard this proposal to make the territory a colony dependent upon Canada as an unwise one. He was, therefore, of opinion that this large tract of country, capable of vast improvement should be erected into a separate colony. One of the most important points connected with that point was to be found in the fact that it was across that tract of country that a telegraph line could be most conveniently run from Lake Superior to the Pacific. The facility and profitable nature of such an enterprise could be imagine from the fact that the line from St. Louis to San Francisco cost only £ 26 per mile, and the whole cost of construction was repaid in one year. The distance from British Columbia to Lake Superior was not so great as in the instance he had given and if telegraphic communication were established it would be of the greatest advantage to this country, and would also prove a source of considerable profit. At the present time the Russian Government had organized telegraphic communication from the River Amoor to St. Petersburg, and were preparing to cross Behring's Straits, having asked permission to run the line through British Columbia to San Francisco, The line which he had suggested will be a much more practicable one, and would have the advantage of being under the controul of the British Government. It was most desirable to avoid all chance of collision with the American Government. At present it appeared that there was a large number of refugees from the Northern States who had crossed the frontier, some being desirous of avoiding taxation, others seeking to avail ^{wade} conscription, and another class of persons who were attracted

attracted by the discoveries of gold upon the Eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

The question which he had brought before the House was one of great importance, involving, as it did, not only the well-being of this country, in case of any collision, but also the retention to the British Crown of one of the greatest inheritances of which Her Majesty was in possession. To carry out such a plan as he suggested there might be some expense to maintain a separate jurisdiction, but if we sent out a governor and gave him a sufficient number of officials conversant with the country who would keep him informed of all that was going on in the country, and sufficient number of properly educated military men, non-commissioned officers, for the purpose of training the half-breeds who inhabit that country, and who are warmly attached to the British Crown, no other defence could be required there. He hoped their lordships would excuse him for trespassing upon their notice at such a length, (hear, hear,) but the subject was of great importance and he desired to ask of Her Majesty's Government what was the position of the question of the establishment of a Crown colony in the Northwest Territory of British North America, and when some reports thereon would be made to the House.

Earl GRANVILLE - I can assure the noble lord that he need not apologize for having introduced this subject, or the statement which he has made. The noble lord, from his travels in the country to which he refers, and the interest he has taken in it, has made himself completely master of the subject. I am afraid, however, that my answer will not be in all respects satisfactory to the noble lord. There is no doubt whatever as to the truth of the noble lord's statement as to the importance of some arrangements being made with respect to these territories. After the Committee of the House of Commons which sat in 1857, there was a correspondence with Canada on that subject. In 1863 the Hudson's Bay Company themselves submitted to the Government the importance of establishing a settled boundary, and they made a proposal for that end. The proposal involved an enormous charge upon the

Treasury

Treasury at Home, and therefore it was not a proposal which Her Majesty's government thought themselves justified in submitting to Parliament. Her Majesty's Government afterwards made a counter proposal, by which there should be an indemnity to the Government from the sale of lands, and not imposing any positive charge upon the Treasury. That plan, however, was declined by the Hudson's Bay Company, and while the negotiations were pending application was made to the Canadian Government to join in the arrangement, but they did not choose to do so. More recently, the Hudson's Bay Company has made another proposal to the Colonial Office, and that proposal has been sent to Canada, urging upon the Government there, to take part in settling the boundary between their own territories and those of the Hudson's Bay Company, and suggesting to the Canadian Government to make some proposal of their own. No answer has yet been received to this communication, but I think, notwithstanding what the noble lord has said, that in the present state of the negotiations for the confederation of the different colonies of North America, it would be impossible for Her Majesty's Government to advise the establishment of a purely separate jurisdiction in the territories referred to by the noble lord.

The Earl of Shaftsbury tendered his thanks to the noble lord for bringing forward this most interesting and important question, and hoped that Her Majesty's Government would give due attention to his statements. He sincerely hoped that the younger members of their lordships' House would more frequently take part in their discussions. (hear, hear) If they did so, and followed the example of the noble lord, they would greatly add to the credit and efficiency of that House of Parliament. (hear, hear.)

The Earl of Airlie said that much of the territory referred to by the noble lord was very fertile and capable of supporting a large population, but it was not at all surprising that the development of the country should not make any very great progress, while it was in the hands of a company. He would gladly welcome any proposal which would
have the

have the effect of drawing a line between Canada and the North-Western territory and the territory of the United States. Before acceding to the proposed formation of the Crown colony the government ought seriously to consider the obligation which they would be undertaking. Such a course would entail not only expense upon this country, but would pledge us to the defence of the colony in case of war, but that defence would be found exceeding difficult from its isolated position. Before we incur the responsibility of erecting a colony in that part of the world we ought to take great care not to subject the honour of the country to engagements which might be found difficult, if not impossible to fulfil.

Gray's Creek, Cornwall.

21st March, 1865.

Hon'ble Sir

In the Gazette of the 20th inst. I see some remarks regarding the North West Territory. Without any preface, I wish to convey to you my ideas on the several points in argument. You may in the situation you hold and from your natural talents have a word to say on the subject.

Was the Boundary between the Canadas and the Hudsons Bay territory left to my decision - and I may say I have seen every bit of it - I would begin at the Straits of Belisle and follow the height of land from that beginning to Gasper House in the Rocky Mountains where I have been when I last crossed the Mountains, i.e. I would divide the waters flowing south and west, on the whole route from those falling Northwards into Hudson's Bay - I would add the whole tract watered by those rivers and lakes - southward to the Canadas - I would leave those regions watered Northwards to the Hudson's Bay Co. for hunting grounds.

There is a ridge dividing those waters from the place of beginning to Lac Winipeg - I would follow the east coast of that Lake to the North end, then ascend what we call the Saskatchewan to Lac Bourbois (sometimes called Cedar Lake) crossing that Lake and enter the real Saskatchewan - following it till I left it for Cumberland Lake. To the north end of that Lake - to the height of land dividing the waters falling

South into the Saskatchewan from those falling into the English River to the Beaver River at its entrance into Isle a la Crosse Lake, then ascending that river to Lac La Biche, then ascend Rivière La Biche to Athabasca River and ascend that River to Gasper House as I have said. This route I would make the division line between Canada and the Hudson's Bay hunting grounds. Within this Boundary line I say safely that the soil is fit for cultivation to the American lines, including Red River, etc.

Having thus roughly defined the Boundary between Canada and the H. B. Co. I must add that I think Lord Waincliff's argument very good.

I do not think that the Canadians could ever manage such an extensive and complicated undertaking. It would form of itself a Kingdom - and ought to be undertaken by the British Gov't as a separate Government supported by British capital in all its requirements and necessities. Its Agricultural purposes, its Smelting of Ores, etc. - The route, as I have already said, to form by an improved Highway by Hudson's Bay - for all purposes - to and from. In the course of time it would become one of the first countrys in the world - to the Pacific Ocean - and I may add one of the richest. The distance from Hudson's Bay to Lac Winipeg being so short a distance, and then the difficulties to the Red River, Fort Dauphin River, and Saskatchewan being but little in the whole scale.

My first position is that the adding it to the Canadas would only make it a peddling affair. My second is that if undertaken by Great Britain it will soon become a vast Kingdom, and if the H. B. Co. should give it up totally, that there is space for the whole of the Population of Europe, and capital. There are Water Privileges, the soil is good - forest and timber, abundance of fish - Pasture ready by nature for any extent in cattle, sheep, horses, etc. True, the season is short for navigation by Hudson's Bay - but where one steamer can go one thousand may.

By this scrawl, if I could give an idea of facts I should be happy in giving it to you as a legacy - to enable you to have a voice in any circumstances which may take place.

I have the Honor to be

Hon'ble Sir, Your Ob't Serv't

John McDonald.

P.S. I consider that there would be little required in the defensive way - as the Natives and Half Breeds would do that part - no enemy could invade their lands - a few hundreds of Half Breeds might, however, be trained as Home Guards - as the natives themselves have in their camps.

Now, Hon'ble Sir, If you reflect upon all this, or make it a subject of your actions, I beg to you to take a clear and correct copy of it - and by no means expose my Dotage to others at 92.

Let Fort William be a Port of entry to this new colony - and the route from Fort William to Red River and Lac Winipeg partially improved.

Emigration sent from Europe the half of them would go to the States - but by Hudson's Bay none.

The object would be by forming a new colony - to make it self-existing - everything within itself.

The country between Lac Superior and Lac Winipeg is a poor rugged country. Lands might be given gratis to any one who would settle there, as there are good spots, however.

J. McD.

See

SUPERIOR
WINNIPEG

COBI

Office of Minister of Militia,

No. 539.

Quebec. 25th March, 1865.

Sir:

I am directed by Sir Etienne Jaché to acknowledge his receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, and to inform you that he has transferred it to the Hon. the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to whom the question involved in it, viz. the opening of communication to the far West and North West, more properly belongs: and who will not fail to notice your remarks in your son's favor.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

J. G. Vansittart.

John Macdonald, Esq.,
Cornwall.

Office of Minister of Militia,

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Sir

Your Obedient Servant
J.G. Vansittart

John Macdonald Esq
Cornwall
—

1865

Gart 18th July, 1865.

Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald.

Dear Sir:

In my opinion the delegates have done a good work. They forced the British Government to acknowledge at last the ownership of the H. B. Territory to the H. B. Co., with the right to purchase it as soon as the Canadas had the means to do so, and no doubt but they soon can do so. Speculators in the Fur Trade will grasp at it.

They have laid the foundations of a mighty empire when the confederation is fully accomplished.

They have laid the foundations of an intercolonial railroad - the salvation of the country.

They have urged the advantages of the reciprocity treaty.

They have shown the necessity of public works of defence as points d'appuis to our regulars in the event of war.

It is said that we will have a long frontier to defend. So have we a long backbone to fall back upon with our effects where no enemy can penetrate, and leave only bare walls and smoking ruins behind us. Seasons are too short and winters too long for any enemy to effect conquest. Would an enemy expect to winter in the country - could they expect warm and comfortable quarters or burning ruins. I

guess they would not try a second time.

Such and such have been accomplished and hang yourself, Sandfield, you were not there.

(Hang yourself, Crillon, we fought.....and you were not there. Sully.)

The Ottawa will be opened and we will be safe. This will be our main policy and we then can command the Lakes.

[John McDonald]