

instructions have been given to the governor of Canada to give such protection to the settlers on Red River as can be afforded, without detriment to His Majesty's service in other quarters.

" I understand that copies of our applications have been sent to the governor, and that he is directed to inquire into the circumstances.

" One of the readiest and best modes in which he could give assistance, would be by sending a small party of artillerymen, say 10 or 12, under the command of one or two steady non-commissioned officers, and with them one or two very light brass pieces, which I recollect to have seen in the arsenal at Quebec. They could be sent in batteaux by York and Matchadashe, to Lake Superior, and so far they could take with them an ample and superabundant supply of provisions. Information being sent to Captain Mc'Donnell, he would send canoes to the Grand Portage to meet them, and to bring them through the difficult road to Winnipie; as there are at Red River some little articles of ordnance which our people do not well understand how to manage, it would be of material service if even one intelligent serjeant of artillery could be sent by the first opportunity.

" I presume that the governor-general will not think of allotting less than one company of infantry for the protection of Red River; and it occurs to me, that probably some of the troops now to be withdrawn from Mc'Kay or Prairie des Chiens, on the Mississippi, might be sent with less difficulty than from any other quarter, as they are already far on the way."

Inclosure
(3)
in Sir G. Drummond's of 16
August 1815.

(Confidential.)

Gentlemen,

Quebec, June 8th, 1815.

Sir Gordon Drummond has desired me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, addressed to the military secretary; and to inclose for your private information, copy of a communication which it is proposed to address to Mr. Mc'Gillivray on the subject. You will be pleased to acquaint me how far, in your opinion, a letter of this kind would produce the intended effect.

His excellency feeling fully disposed to enter into the subject, has directed me to request a communication from you of the documents alluded to, as being in your possession.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. Harvey, D. A. G.

Messrs. Maitland, Gordon, & Auldjo,
&c. Montreal.

Inclosure
(4.)

(Confidential.)

My dear Sir,

Quebec, 8th June 1815.

Sir Gordon Drummond has received a communication from high authority, directing him to make inquiry into the foundation for a strong degree of apprehension, which appears to be entertained by the Earl of Selkirk and the Hudson's Bay company, for the safety of their settlers on the Red River, in consequence of an idea which has been instilled into their minds, by persons resident in Canada, that the Indian tribes in the neighbourhood of that settlement have been *instigated* to commit the horrid and atrocious act of attempting the destruction of the whole population of that settlement. I must not conceal from you, that some of the servants of the North-West company are suspected of being concerned in this diabolical plot. Sir Gordon Drummond, however, feels that he cannot more strongly evince the high respect which he entertains for the heads of that most respectable body, and his perfect confidence in their candour and liberality of sentiment, than by the course he has not hesitated to adopt, in applying himself to *them* for the information which they assuredly possess the best means of affording, and which his Excellency is equally assured they are too honourable and conscientious to withhold. I am commanded, therefore, to ask you, if there exists, in your opinion, any reasonable grounds for believing that the atrocity alluded to is in the contemplation of the Indians in question, or that the safety of the persons or property of the settlers on the Red River, is endangered from the causes above referred to.

Whatever may be the answer to this query, I am commanded to remind you, that that powerful body of which you are at the head, far more than the government of these