

THE HUDSON'S-BAY COMPANY,
CANADA WEST,
AND THE INDIAN TRIBES.

As is now well known the Aborigines' Protection Society, influenced by a sense of justice and humanity, have espoused the cause of the oppressed and degraded Indian tribes dwelling in that immense portion of our North-American possessions, which, under the Charter of 1670, has been for nearly two centuries under the rule of the Hudson's-Bay Company. The extensive publication of the Society's Memorial to Mr. Labouchere has been the means of attracting a large amount of public attention, both in this country and in Canada, to the condition of the Indians; and likewise to the question of the validity of the Hudson's-Bay Company's Charter, and the justice of the claim set up by Canada to extend her sway over a great portion, if not the whole, of British North America.

On the 26th of September last a deputation from the Society had the pleasure of an interview with Sir Allan M'Nab, formerly Prime Minister of Canada, and now, as then, a statesman who exercises commanding influence in the colony. Sir Allan suggested that the Society should memorialize both branches of the Canadian Parliament, with a view to the appointment of a Committee to consider, and report upon, the statements which the Society might make. In accordance with this advice, two Memorials have been forwarded to Sir Allan M'Nab; and he has promised to present, and to support, the one addressed to the Commons, and to secure the presentation of the other, addressed to the Legislative Council, by a gentleman well qualified to sustain its prayer. There can, therefore, be no doubt that during the ensuing session the question will be brought before the Canadian Parliament in a manner calculated to lead to practical and beneficial results.

On the 26th of November a deputation from the Society presented an address of welcome to the Bishop of Rupert's Land on his arrival in this country, and sought to obtain his powerful co-operation on behalf of the Society's measures for the amelioration of the condition of the Aborigines. His Lordship manifested much interest in the subject, and remarked that the feeling at the Red-River Settlement was in favour of a connection with Canada, rather

PUBLIC ARMY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

36442
Dec No