

element would be called in, and the men at the head of this movement just know how to get them, and that is the Fenians."

I conversed with Hugh Donaldson, of Fort Garry, who was very violent, and stated with an oath, that a Canadian Governor should never rule the Settlement, and threw out hints what they could do in spring. Mr. O'Loan, Mr. George Evelyn, hotel-keeper, and several others expressed views similar to Mr. McKinney. I talked with many others on that side (I mean the French half-breeds), and they nearly all spoke to the same purport. A great part of the foregoing was drawn out by questions carefully put by myself.

Mr. * * * says, that the English and Scotch half-breeds are with the Canadian Government, but does not think that they would take up arms, until they have an army to fall back upon, and some security from the Government that they would be paid for the destruction of their property by fire or otherwise,—that he has the promise of 300 Sioux Indians at any time they are required, but the people generally do not think well of letting the Indians loose until other means are exhausted.

Mr. Taylor, a wealthy merchant, 12 miles up Assiniboine River, presented me with the *Globe* newspaper, and said that paper condemns what you say. I must confess that paper has done infinite harm to Canadian interests in the Settlement.

Colonel Robinson is in favor of Government (Canadian) but more so, I think in favor of the United States. He is an American.

* * * whose brother * * * goes fully with Insurgents, is greatly attached to Canadian Government, and has very great influence amongst Indians—would be a most useful man in any treaty with them—He has put * * * from the house he lived in. He said he was a half-breed, and gloried in the name and race, and would never give up the rights he had in the lands. He wanted to see the Governor and hear what he had to say. He was sure the Canadian Government would never take their rights away.

Mr. William Tait was thought to be favorable to Canada, but from what he said in Hudson's Bay Company's Office to myself and Mr. Grant, we were of opinion that he was changing, as a great many are in danger of doing, who visit the Company's Office, and hear the sentiments of John McTavish and Mr. Hargrave. Mr. Tait said, "you may talk, but in that convention we sit opposite to those who have been born and brought up among us, ate with us, slept with us, hunted with us, traded with us, and are of our own flesh and blood—gentlemen, said he, I for one cannot fight them. I will not imbue my hands in their blood."

James Ross, another delegate, charged me with speaking against the Governor. He is believed by most people to be staunch in favor of Canadians. He thinks some arrangement may yet be come to by Convention, by which the Governor can safely be brought in. His views do not coincide with a great majority of Council.

Mr. Lorrman, another delegate, thinks the present Convention will appease the French half-breeds somewhat. We have met them, he says, treated them kindly, and by continuing to do so, may win them over, but it will take time.

Mr. *** thinks no good will come out of the Convention—that nothing but troops, and that immediately, will be of any use, and that if the Canadian Government will send troops by middle of January, the English and Scotch will no doubt organize. If troops are not sent, I, for one, he said, will at any time sign a memorial to the United States Government, asking their permission to annex ourselves to them. Mr. *** is of opinion that the Indians (Chippawa) will act with the Canadians, but that some steps should be taken at once to have a treaty with them. Trade, he says, is gone, and everything unsatisfactory under the present state of things.

Mr. *** a wealthy half-breed, and strongly oposed to the Priests, says, that soldiers should be sent in immediately to save the Country—that the English and Scotch half-breeds cannot stand this reign of terror much longer, but from want of a leader, they are very unwilling to take any steps against their opponents the French half-breeds, and that 500 or 1,000 men now would bring the Governor in, and when once into the Settlement,