

McLeod, with which he occasionally rode through the country accompanied by Alexander McDonnell, also in uniform, and a numerous suite of the Clerks and half-breeds, and other servants of the North West Company on horseback. The first steps taken in furtherance of their hostile intentions, were to create discontents amongst the worst disposed of the settlers, to excite in them a contempt of the authority of their superiors, the officers of the colony, and to alarm them with accounts of danger to be apprehended from the native Indians. To these representations succeeded promises of reward to several, if they would act against the settlement; and to all other inducements were added romantic descriptions of advantage to be obtained from settling in Canada, to which province they were promised a conveyance in the N. W. Canoes, and a grant or gift of lands on their arrival, together with cattle to stock their farms. Mr. Spencer, the Sheriff, a most valuable officer to the settlement, was taken prisoner, under a warrant from a North West partner, pretexting as a criminal offence, the detention of the Pemican before mentioned, and was after being long detained, sent some thousand miles to Montreal.

During the interval between the autumn of 1814 and the spring of 1815, several of the settlers were seduced, tutored, and prepared for the commission of crimes. A number of