

La Sour, arrive. A letter from Mr. John Pritchard states, that Spencer had made show of a warrant, ordering to break open the North-West company's fort and doors, and seize all provisions belonging to them, (with the exception of two batteaux from Alexandria.) Mr. Lamar states, that this marauding party, on their arrival at the river La Sour, encamped at the door (or near to it) of the fort, and made use of repeated threats towards himself, and the other servants of the North-West company, at that establishment.

8th. Peaceable and quiet offers are made by some of the North-West gentlemen to Mr. Miles M'Donnell, in order, if possible, to avoid coming to extremities; which (by the bye) his conduct to the North-West company for a length of time fully merited; but all pacific offers are rejected.

9th. People suffer much from want of provisions, and the company's business entirely stopped.

10th. Some of the North-West company and their servants arrived here late in the afternoon, much fatigued and in want of provisions; they could not on this occasion, owing to the plunder of their provisions, afford a mouthful to their servants.

15. In the morning, a letter was received at the North-West company's fort, acquainting the proprietors of the North-West company of the plunder of their property, in their fort at river La Sour. One of the party concerned in that breach of the law (Mr. House) being then on his way to Mr. Miles M'Donnell, (who had given orders to that effect,) it was thought proper to seize the delinquent, in hopes of bringing him to condign punishment. On Mr. Miles M'Donnell understanding that Mr. House had been taken and confined, he, according to custom, called his people together and armed them, making every preparation indicative of an immediate attack upon our fort, and then, as with him customary, began an abusive and threatening correspondence with the partner of the North-West company present. It became highly necessary now, on the part of the North-West company, for self-preservation, to stand on the defensive; accordingly some preparations were made to repel violence. Mr. Miles M'Donnell stationed people in different directions to stop people in the common highway, and no person could pass or repass without being taken to Mr. Miles M'Donnell's house, and there undergo an examination; constant threats of imprisonment, and the like are held out against all who may defend their own property, or take any part in the present business; we suffer for the want of provisions.

16th. It is distressing to see how the people suffer for want of provisions; the increased number makes our case still more hard; we have nothing but rumours and threats that we are all to be brought prisoners to England, and driven from the country.

17th. In the evening, Mr. Miles M'Donnell came in a menacing attitude, at the head of an armed body of his men, within the distance of six hundred yards from the North-West establishment, and after a short stay, went off. One of the North-West company's servants, who had gone out to the plains, was pursued by Mr. Miles M'Donnell in person, and followed to some distance; the man escaped, merely through the swiftness of his horse.

18th. About twelve o'clock in the day, a party of Mr. Miles M'Donnell's men passed up the Assiniboin river, on one of their marauding expeditions; he himself followed in the course of the day, bringing with him some field pieces, and taking a station on the banks of the river, with the intention, as I have since heard himself declare, of seizing every thing that passed belonging to the North-West company, and at the same time to prevent the North-West company from taking into custody his people who had plundered them at the river La Sour. Mr. John M'Donald, a proprietor of the North-West company, arriving just as matters were coming to extremities, proposed to have an interview with Mr. Miles M'Donnell, hoping that some understanding might take place, which would prevent the shedding of blood, so likely now to take place. Accordingly these two gentlemen met by mutual consent, and after a short period of time, agreed that two hundred bags of the pinnian robbed, should be returned to the North-West company immediately, and arms were laid