

hensions of the half-breeds, that "it appears" from your review, you "must be completely exonerated from all blame!" But I, who came *after* your conciliatory official visit to the half-breeds—I, who found all your admirers in arms to resist my entrance into the country, am the chief criminal, and responsible for the rebellion! Yea, more. I am solely to be blamed for the wicked Orders in Council, deliberately adopted by the Government! I suppose this kind of logic is good enough for the political junto who still want to use you, and I readily admit that it will not shock the common sense of your followers, "if," to use your cautious phrase, any followers endowed with that faculty still adhere to you. But it will require several pamphlets, and a good many visits to the country, by that zealous colporteur, the returned Hero of the York Roads and the £10,000 Debenture case, to convert the unbelieving public.

You and your honest colleagues, with an utter disregard of all constitutional propriety, try to fasten upon me the responsibility of undertaking *surveys* in the North-West before the actual transfer of the country. You know the truth of this matter. The errant knight, the writer of your pamphlet, probably does not. It is my duty now to make it known to the public. In the latter part of June, 1869, when it was expected the transfer would take place about the 1st October, it was proposed by Sir J. A. Macdonald that at least "*twenty* surveyors" should be immediately sent to the North-West to lay out townships for settlement. I strongly objected to the proposition, and gave my reasons. It was urged that it was a good opportunity to gratify "our friends" who wanted employment. That the *Globe* and other leading western papers were denouncing the Government for its tardiness in the matter, (which was quite true), and that a season would be lost if we did not act at once. I pointed out the danger of such precipitation, the absence of any necessity for the survey of so many townships immediately, and the *fact* that we had no authority until after the transfer to make surveys at all. You and your then colleagues will remember the warmth of the debate, and that the result was a telegram to Earl Granville asking him to obtain from the H. B. Company permission to begin the survey of townships previous to the formal transfer. In two or three days an answer came from the Colonial Secretary that the Company had consented. The Premier was ill, and