

21st. We found it necessary to dispatch an express to Mr. John Pritchard, at river La Souri, to acquaint him with the state of affairs, and order him to take such steps as might prevent the North-West company's property from being plundered. The Indians were kept in a continual state of intoxication by Mr. Miles M^cDonnell, conceiving that by that means he would prevent their interference.

22d. An abusive and threatening note was received from Mr. Miles M^cDonnell ; and his preparations and movements indicate bad intentions towards the North-West company.

23d. Mr. Miles M^cDonnell informed one of the North-West company, that he had sent a party of men to take the two Canadians (who had brought down the North-West company's batteaux) prisoners, for the purpose of using every means to make them divulge where they had put the property they had in charge.

24th. Late in the afternoon, Mr. Miles M^cDonnell's armed boat and party passed with the two Canadians they had made prisoners. All classes of people became alarmed and astonished at their proceedings ; few consider themselves safe.

25th. About two in the morning, a boat with some men passed up the Assiboini river. Mr. Spencer conducted this boat ; constant threats are thrown out towards the North-West company ; and the natives report, that Captain Miles M^cDonnell tells them, he intends driving all the North-West company's servants from this part of the country.

27th. Late in the afternoon, Mr. Miles M^cDonnell's boat passed with the North-West company's pinnian *, having got the two Canadians to point out where it had been deposited.

28th. The North-West company's servants suffer much from want of provisions ; several applications were made to us about the seizure of our property by the Indians, who had lately arrived, offering their assistance to recover it ; but being averse to such measures, we declined their offer.

29th. The seizure of our provisions occasions much want ; we are informed that Mr. Miles M^cDonnell will stick at nothing, and that he intends sending off an armed party, to take the remaining part of the North-West company's property.

30th. Early in the morning, Mr. Seraphim Lamar and a Canadian, were sent to the river La Souri, to make Mr. John Pritchard acquainted with the intention of Mr. Miles M^cDonnell, of breaking open the doors ; threats, as usual, are held out against the North-West company, and their servants debauched and tampered with, to entice them from their duty to their employers.

1st June. To-day information was received that Mr. Miles M^cDonnell intended seizing all the North-West company's horses ; from experience, people may judge that nothing is now too rash or violent for Mr. Miles M^cDonnell and people.

3d. James Tooney, formerly of Red River colony, made offer of engaging in the North-West company's service ; but as soon as this was known to Mr. Miles M^cDonnell, he immediately sent a note, forbidding any person to engage him ; which is contrary to all law and justice, the man being perfectly free, as appears by the contract now in his possession ; he complains of hard treatment, and ill usage ; also states, that he was put on half allowance for no just cause or reason : all this he says he can make oath to before a justice of peace.

4th. The North-West company's servants suffer much from the want of provisions, and their business in a great measure stopped.

5th. Hostile threats are used by Mr. Miles M^cDonnell towards the North-West company, and he uses all his endeavours to send off the Indians from the North-West establishment, so that they may be no check to his proceedings. James Tooney came to inform, that Mr. Miles M^cDonnell intended sending him by force to Hudson's Bay, there to be punished as they pleased ; to save the man from such an act of injustice, and relieve his distressed situation, means were given him to escape.

7th. Mr. Seraphim Lamar, and the Canadian who accompanied him to the river
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* Pinnian—a mixture of grease and pounded venison, preserved in leathern bags, which contain about ninety pounds each.