

been appointed by Government to enquire specially into the disturbances in the Interior. One of them reached Red River—all the prisoners we took are sent to Canada for trial. Open hostilities have apparently ceased for the present, & it is to be hoped that the laws will have their due course. The settlers that were driven away last year returned this summer to Red River. The Natives have given a regular conveyance of the soil to his Lordship, & the settlement is now going on for the third time. I left Red River 23rd July for Montreal, & was arrested in passing Fort William by our adversaries, although I had a passport from Commissioner Coltman, had to appear at Sandwich to answer to the accusation. From thence I came down Lake Erie, and from Buffalo by land here in preference of going down by Niagara and Kingston to Montreal. The main object of my arrest was to prevent my getting there so soon. Our conquest of last winter gave us full command of the communication. No N<sup>o</sup> Wester could have gone in or out of the country, but the activity of our enemy got over that difficulty. They took care to have the first story told in their own favour, in London, and made interest to obtain a Royal Proclamation commanding a surrender of all places taken during the disturbances, to the original owners or builders of them, by which we will only retain of our conquest Fort Douglas, the seat of settlement; but the Proclm. leaves the right to be hereafter decided. This has given them a momentary cause of triumph, but must be ultimately in our favour, when it shall be made apparent they have carried their imposition to the foot of the Throne.

I fear you'll not be able to read this hasty scribble. I have just appeared here must be off at 4 to-morrow morning for Montreal which I am promised to be carried into in 3 days hence. I have great expectations of being able to go to see you this winter, but cannot speak positively till I reach Montreal. My son Donald being a young Lieutenant in his Regt. has been reduced on half-pay, and is waiting my answer in Canada. My compls. to my friend William, to your wife and little family. In great haste I remain,

Your ever affec. brother,  
Miles Macdonell.

Mr, William J. Macdonell,  
Boston.

Montreal, July 15th, 1818.

My dear Brother,

You will perhaps have expected to have heard from me ere now as you certainly had some right to do, but I am not more fond of writing than some others of my friends & can never prevail on myself to begin a letter until there is an absolute necessity for it, or that it can no longer be put off. And now that I am about setting out for U. Canada & may be away for a couple of months it is highly proper that you should in the meantime receive a short line from me.

I shall not at present attempt to give you an account of legal proceedings between the N. W. C. & us—suffice it to say that they have not been able to substantiate the slightest charge against any of us when we have an infinite number of Indictments for capital offences against the agents, partners, clerks &c., &c., of that iniquitous association which I think are chiefly comprehended in a piece inserted in the Courant of—called the Grand Comet, which if you have not seen I shall send you. The rascals abscond and cannot be found to be brought to trial. One conviction has taken place at Quebec. Charles de Reinhard, a N. W. Clerk, for the murder of Owen Keveny, but Archd. McLellan, a partner, equally guilty, has been acquitted. This took place in June. My affair is at an end without coming to a trial, by a Noli prosequi being returned by order of the Governor, so that you need no longer be uneasy for my fate. Lord Selkirk has gone for U. Canada, ten days ago with a posse of evidences to attend the Courts there. It is not expected that much will be done further than procuring some more bills of Indictment against them & getting rid of accusations against us. Warrants are to be sent immediately into the interior for the arrest of the felons but it is very unsatis-

factory that those already brought down have almost all been admitted to bail, & consequently disappeared. The Colony on Red R. is however going on in a progressive state. Two Catholic priests are going up this spring to remain permanently there, & many families from Lower Canada.

Donald is anxiously expecting me every day at Cornwall. I remain my dear William.

Your ever afft. Brother,  
Miles Macdonell.

Wm. J. McDonell, Boston, U.S.

In course of the autumn should a private opportunity occur I shall send you some pamphlets, &c. respecting our affairs of Red River for the information of our friends in your quarter.

Yours,  
M. McD.

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## SACRED LEGENDS.

NINTH PAPER.

### THE HOLY PEOPLE.—I.

WHEN one is studying the life of our Lord in the Gospel narrative it is a great advantage to know something of the Jewish people. Looking back now through the great lapse of time, we are accustomed to regard them as a people set apart from all the nations, compact and united within themselves—a people intensely national and intensely devoted to the worship of the true God; a holy people among pagans—the chosen, the elect of the Lord. How came it that these, and not the heathen, put the Son of God to death?

So long as things fared well with the Jews, they cared little for the coming of the Lord. They had no need of a Deliverer when they ruled from the Euphrates to the Great Sea; and so they concerned themselves but little about Him. But when the Assyrians took them into captivity at Babylon, then they looked eagerly for the Expected of Nations; then their prophets foretold His coming, then the poets sang of it. Ezekiel and Isaiah arose to inspire the captives; Daniel and Zechariah comforted them in their exile. When the seventy years of bondage were passed by the waters of Babylon, the Jews came back to Judea a different people. The King that was to free them was a King near at hand; the days of the coming were shortened. Thereafter the Jews lived only to behold their Deliverer. He was to be a great Captain, a great King, a God; and so they returned and built anew their temple, they conformed more strictly to the law of Moses; they made a great wall between themselves and those who were not of the elect. They looked down on all others spiritually, and especially did they detest those whom they regarded as perverts from the faith of Israel. These were the Samaritans, the Galileans—all these not of the favoured tribes of Judah and Benjamin.

As seen in a former paper, there were originally twelve tribes of Israel, but after the death of Solomon ten of these revolted. The capital of the rebel tribes was in Samaria, a country that was allotted to the hated tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim, the sons of Joseph. The Jews had long memories, and they did not forget that Joseph, though the youngest, was the favourite son of Jacob; and that although he advanced his brethren in Egypt, he humiliated them not a little for their perfidy. When the descendants of Abraham attained their greatest splendor and magnificence in the reign of Solomon, they immediately began to decline. The tribes to the north of Jerusalem set up a kingdom for themselves, but they were speedily subdued by a powerful neighbour and taken into captivity, never again to be organized as a people. The fall of the Kingdom of Judah followed some time after, but Ezra and Nehemiah gathered the people together in Babylon, and returned to enjoy a period of considerable splendor in their own land. Then arose schools and sects among the Jews—those who retained the Mosaic law in its strictness: those who built up new doctrines on the