

to the usual policy of the British Government. Action, however, was fully taken only on the estates of the Jesuits; the other orders were allowed to retain their property. No legal titles were, however, given to these properties; the occupants were merely left in possession.

Matters remained in this state till 1841, when the Seminary was so far successful, in consequence of peculiar services rendered, or supposed to be rendered, by it to the Crown, during the rebellion of 1837-8, as to obtain the confirmation of its titles to the immense properties which it held,—without, however, any modification of those titles, whether with reference to the Indians, or to the support of education and of the poor. Within a few years, however, the Seminary endeavoured to get rid of a part of these obligations, and to become absolute owner of the Seigniorship of Two Mountains, by inducing the government of the day to set apart 1,600 acres of land, in the Township of Doncaster, to the north of Montreal, to which the Indians were to be removed; the Seminary thus purposing to remain as absolute owner of the lands which were originally obtained rather for the Indians than for its own use. That this arrangement was improvident and unjust, there can be no doubt, unless it can be maintained that it was in the interest of the Indians, which does not seem to have been the case. But the Indians having refused to remove from the place of their birth and of the burial of their fathers, conflicts at once commenced between them and the Seminary,—the latter desiring to expel the Indians, and the Indians showing a determination not to be expelled.

As these conflicts continued, they naturally destroyed the confidence of the poor people of Oka in the rectitude and sincerity of their spiritual guides; and, accordingly, the Indians, in 1868, resolved, at once and finally, to abandon the Church of Rome, and to use such means as they believed they could legally employ, to cause the priests to leave the place and Seigniorship altogether. At this period, a Methodist Mission was commenced among them, the success of which still more exasperated the