

the Dominion Government will confide to the Local Legislature the recognition and arrangement of local customs, usages, and privileges.

17th. My knowledge of the country and of the extent to which the concession here desired might affect public works, &c., is too limited to permit me to give any decided opinion on the subject, further than that full and substantial justice will be done in the matter.

18th. Without entering into the details of the article, I would say that the franchises will be so adjusted as to be satisfactory to the public, both native and immigrant, and in a manner conducive to the general welfare.

19th. My belief is, that the Canadian Government has no intention of imposing on the North-West Territory the payment of any portion of the £300,000, and I have much confidence that they will be so actuated, in every respect, by wise and just motives, that in arranging for the distribution of the public debt of Canada, the North-West Territory will not be held liable for anything it ought not to bear; in short, that here, as in every other particular, substantial justice will be done.

Having gone through the articles, I would beg to say that, although authorized as Commissioner to act generally, as might appear best in the state of affairs here, it was thought probable some points might arise with which I could not deal personally, and to meet this I was instructed by the Dominion Government to invite a delegation of two or more of the residents of Red River to meet and confer with them at Ottawa. This I now do, and on the part of the Government promise that the gentlemen sent to Canada will be cordially received."

The invitation to send delegates to Canada was unanimously accepted by the Convention, and the following resolution was handed to me on the 8th February.

"FORT GARRY, COURT HOUSE, February 8, 1870.

"Resolved unanimously,—that as the Canadian Commissioners have invited a delegation from this country to Canada, to confer with the Canadian Government as to the affairs of this country; and as a cordial reception has been promised to said delegates, be it therefore resolved that the invitation be accepted, and that the same be signified to the Commissioners.

(Signed)

"By order.

"W. COLDWELL.

"LAU. SCHMIDT.

"Secretaries to the Convention."