

"The undersigned would suggest the appointment of a Commission of three, for the settlement of all titles of land arising under the Manitoba Act, or any other of the Acts of the Parliament of Canada, within the Province, two to be appointed by the Government of Canada, and one by the Government of Manitoba.

"The Province will also bind itself to carry out any agreement entered into between Canada and any colonization, railway company, or other association, for the settlement of the lands of the Province, a commencement of which has been made by such company or association.

"SUBSIDY.

"III.—That the Province shall receive credit at the rate at which the other Provinces were relieved of debt on entering the Union, and that the same shall be allowed on the present population of Manitoba, and be adjusted decennially, according to its population.

"The undersigned took occasion to discuss elaborately with the Committee the above propositions, urging a settlement on the basis proposed, as one that would be very acceptable and satisfactory to the people of the Province. The Hon. Mr. Sutherland also submitted his views on the different questions, supporting the statements made by the undersigned, and urging a concurrence therein. After hearing the arguments advanced, the Committee said that they would submit the matter to their colleagues and communicate to the undersigned the decision arrived at by them.

"J. NORQUAY."

These appear to be the demands made by the Province of Manitoba upon the Dominion Government. Now, Sir, no attention appears to be given to these demands. Mr. Norquay was here representing the Government of the Province of Manitoba; he remained here pressing his claims on this Government, seeking interviews with them and endeavouring, as he says, to get the views of the Government, but all of his endeavours failed. His demands were not entertained, and according to a statement made by Mr. Norquay, they were not even considered. It is known to almost everybody that Mr. Norquay left the Capital discontented, dissatisfied and disgusted with the treatment he was alleged to have received from the Government. He did not conceal his dissatisfaction and disgust. On his way home from Ottawa to Manitoba, he was interviewed at St. Paul by one of the reporters of the St. Paul's *Pioneer Press*, and as that interview throws light on the way Mr. Norquay's demands were received here by the Government, I will read it. The action of the Privy Council is first referred to :

"THE PRIVY COUNCIL'S ACTION.

"There was some discussion as to the financial question, and note was taken by them, of the other matters referred to, and the Committee promised to submit the same to their colleagues and communicate to me their decision."

"Did you arrive at any definite understanding in these matters before leaving Ottawa?"

"No, I did not, although I asked the Chairman, Mr. Macpherson, both by official communication and personally, to furnish me with an answer, that I might report it to the Legislature of Manitoba soon after my return."

"Had you any intimation before leaving Ottawa, as to the probability of a favourable consideration of those suggestions, or otherwise?"

"I had no intimation, although I received a message when in Toronto, on my way home, asking me to return to Ottawa. Before consenting to do so, I requested an assurance that Manitoba matters should be taken up immediately; and, not receiving a reply to assure me that such would be the case, and having already spent over a month in Ottawa as a representative and leader of the Manitoba Government, ready and anxious at any time to discuss these matters, I did not feel that either the interests of the Province or the dignity of its Government would be served by my returning to renew negotiations without the slightest assurance of any early solution."

"This, then, is all the report you will have to make to the Legislature on your return?"

"That is all, unless a reply is received from the Dominion Government before the meeting of the Local House."

"About what time will the Local Legislature be convened?"

"About the middle of March."

"In case no conclusion is arrived at before your Legislature meets, what course will your Government pursue in order to press these claims of the Province upon the Dominion?"

"THE PREMIER'S INTENTIONS.

"Of course I am speaking without consultation with my colleagues, but the probability is that the Government will not withdraw its demand for what it believes to be justice to the people of Manitoba, and should no satisfactory arrangement be arrived at, the Legislature will probably be asked to support the Government by resolutions appealing to the Imperial Parliament, for aid in securing the rights of Manitoba at the hands of the Dominion Government."

"What are the prospects of the Hudson Bay Railway scheme?"

(Mr. CAMERON (Huron).

"There is a Parliamentary Committee taking evidence now at Ottawa, and the evidence so far elicited, goes far to justify the belief which the people of Winnipeg hold, as to the practicability of Hudson's Bay navigation, for commercial purposes."

"Will the proposed railway receive any aid from the Dominion Government?"

"No; if we get a satisfactory settlement with the Dominion Government, as the basis I have stated to you, we will aid the railway by a grant of land and by a guarantee for construction."

"What is the state of feeling in Manitoba upon the subject of the claims you have been pressing upon the Dominion Government?"

"The people are a unit in support of the representations made to the Dominion by my Government, and are very determined upon having them carried out. While there is no danger of this very strong feeling making a violent outbreak, the people are prepared and determined to use every constitutional means to secure justice to the Province."

Here we find that Mr. Norquay, the Premier of the Province, made a statement of his claims, in which he set forth the demands of the Province and the grievances they complain of. In this interview he states to a reporter of this St. Paul newspaper, that he could get no solution of any kind to the demands he made against the Dominion Government. Sir, the Local Parliament met shortly after he went home. It met on the 13th of March, and in the Address from the Throne the following paragraph occurs:—

"The claims which this Province has always preferred as a right, have again been urged upon the Privy Council. My Government have taken the view that the time has arrived when such provisions should be made for the Government of this Province as will obviate the necessity of future delegations to the Capital. With this object in view, the Privy Council have been urged to concede to the Province the control of the public and school lands for local revenue and the support of education respectively, and also a re-adjustment of the credit allowed Manitoba on her entering Confederation, the same to be based on the population as ascertained decennially.

"In pursuance of the policy already sanctioned by the House, representations have been made by my Government urging upon the Privy Council the expediency of extending the boundaries of this Province as far north as the sixtieth parallel, and westward to the one hundred and second meridian. The importance of this extension, in view of the contemplated construction of the Hudson Bay Railway, cannot be over-estimated.

"I regret to inform you that as yet no answer to the memorial submitted by my Government has been received. You will be asked to give your careful consideration to such means as will be suggested by them to secure the objects asked for in the said memorial."

Here is what the people of Manitoba complain of, and the complaint is so strong that the Premier of that Province finds it necessary to make reference to it in the Speech from the Throne. He draws attention to the fact that although these claims were presented to the Dominion Government months and months ago, up to the time the Speech from Throne was delivered no reply was received by the Government or the Premier to the claims he had made. But that was not all; a few days after the Local House met the Premier of Manitoba tabled certain resolutions, and proposed moving in the direction indicated in the Speech from the Throne. The resolutions, after reciting the demands made by the Province of Manitoba on the Dominion Government, and the refusal of the Dominion Government so far to concede, or even to consider them, goes on :

"And whereas no answer satisfactory to the Legislature of the Province has been received in reply to the demands as above mentioned, and in the opinion of this House the rights of the people of the Province to obtain redress in all matters of a local nature which are extended to the people of the other Provinces of Canada, are denied to the people of Manitoba, and the resources derivable from the sale of land in Manitoba are appropriated by the Dominion, which, in other Provinces of the Union are administered by their several Legislatures, and the revenues arising therefrom inure to the several Provinces respectively;

And whereas this Legislature views with alarm the alienation from the Crown of the public domain without provision being made for the future necessities of Government in this Province, which will, in the near future, be obliged to resort to direct taxation to support its institutions, and prosecute improvements necessary to the building up thereof, which state of affairs in the other Provinces was obviated largely by the revenues arising from the Crown lands, and by liberal provisions made for them on entering the union :

Be it therefore resolved, that an humble address be passed by this House praying His Excellency the Governor General to cause such enquiry to be made into the relations of this Province with the Dominion, and such action to be taken in reference thereto, as will place this Province in as favourable a position, as regards her future necessities, as