

prisoners. After his Lordship had been engaged some time with Mr. Gillivray, he determined on arresting the other partners who were still in the Fort, and accordingly sent over the constable with warrants accompanied by about twenty-five men, with Capt. d'Orsonne, Mr. Allen, Mr. Berber, and myself. We were distributed in two boats, and arrived shortly at the Fort, where the constable landed, being accompanied by all the gentlemen. The men remained in the boats; but as some resistance was apprehended, they were ready to support the constables in the execution of their duty, if required. Between two and three hundred Indians and Canadians, in the North-West-Company's service were standing out side of the gate. The partners who were to be arrested stood in the gate of the Fort; and the constables being informed of their names, proceeded in executing the warrants — when one of the partners, John Mac Donald, declared that he would not submit to the warrant, or allow anybody to enter the fort, until Mr. Mc. Gillivray was liberated. At the same time the gate was partly shut, and the resistance which was made forced the constable to call for assistance. The men rushed out of the boats with their arms, and soon cleared their way through the gate. They were ordered to take Mr. Mc. Donald, who was exceedingly violent, and to conduct him to the boats. The others peacefully submitted to the warrants and appointed two clerks for the management of their concerns during their absence. The hughle which had sounded when the constables first called for assistance was signal that resistance was made in the Fort, and, for the remainder of our party, to join us. They accordingly came over, and everything being, at that time, quiet, they stood outside the Fort.

The prisoners were then sent to his Lordship, who, after having examined them, allowed them to return for the night to their respective apartments in the Fort, upon the condition that they would not attempt any hostilities, to which they pledged their word of honour, and went over to the Fort. We all returned to our encampment, with the exception of twenty men, and Lieutenant de Gräffenried, who remained during the night in the Fort; and his Lordship issued a warrant, ordering the papers of the North-West-Company to be sealed.

Though the partners of the North-West-Company had pledged their word of honour, that all should remain as his Lordship had ordered, we received the intelligence, that a canoe had been sent of during the night, loaded with ammunition and arms, and that many papers had been burnt in the kitchen of the messhouse, by the partners. We found eight barrels of gunpowder lying in a field near the Fort, which had also been taken away, during the night, out of the powder magazine. We also found, in a barn among some hay, about fifty stand of guns, which were apparently fresh loaded and primed.

From these discoveries, it was suspected that a surprise would be attempted by the Canadian servants and the Indians in the North West Company's employment; and most of them, therefore, were sent to the other side of the river. Their canoes, also, were secured within the Fort. The prisoners were more strictly guarded, and as no reliance could be put on their word of honour, they were taken to a separate building, and guarded as close prisoners. His Lordship ordered our tents to be removed, and pitched in front of the Fort, that we might be better able to repulse a sudden attack. After having taken all necessary measures for our own security, Lord Selkirk proceeded with the examination of the prisoners, the criminality of whom appeared to his Lordship to be such, as to justify him sending them under an escort to York, in Upper Canada. He requested that I would take charge of the prisoners, and escort them safely to their destination. We set out on the 18th of August in three canoes, provided