

of humanity, gave an intimation of them to an agent of the Hudson's Bay Company then at Montreal. In consequence, a person was sent forward from Montreal to the Settlement, to apprize the settlers of their apprehended danger : but from the advanced season of the year, and the necessity he was under of taking long and circuitous routes for the purpose of avoiding the posts and servants of the North West Company, he did not reach Red River until the following Spring. He had then the mortification to find that a part of the projected crimes of that Company had already been committed, and that he had arrived too late for his information to prevent their measure being filed, by the complete "downfall" of the colony.

Previously to the departure of Messrs. Cameron and MacDonnell, from Fort William for Red River they were provided with British military uniforms. A military coat with two epaulets, the cast-off uniform of a Major, which had previously decorated the person of A. N. M'Leod, now added dignity to that of Mr. Cameron ; and oaths were administered to the engagés who were to go under his orders. It is not usual for any association of Traders to require oaths of allegiance to be taken by their servants. Where their objects are not criminal, oaths would be superfluous, and where they are, would be adding sacrilege to crime. On this occasion

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