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Cunningham,
the home

guard, obtained arms for his com-
mand. This soon became known
and the Kildonan men represented by Mr.
Harrower and John Sutherland, then, and
still known as "Scotchman" protested
most strongly against the distinction, and
insisted upon having arms served out to
them, the scarcity of supply could not be
made known to them and they were un-
reasonable. Mr. Sutherland, whose cour-
age and loyalty appeared far above boiling
point, said they must have arms or know
the reason why. "Bombardian had re-
ceived a blow and Cornontrothologus
must die." Harrower said "Mr. McMicken,
I admit you have the best of the argument,
but 'the Kildonan men must have arms
for all that.'"

That morning I sent Ritchie off by the
stage to Pembina to watch matters there
and report. I endeavored to obtain two
saddle horses for myself and son to go to
the Hudson's Bay Co's. post near Pembina,
but failed, and was obliged to remain at
the fort. Many perplexing difficulties
cropped up, to annoy the Governor.
Fathers Ritchot and Dugas had daily in-
terviews with him but they invariably
ended by their refusing to urge Riel to
enroll with his people unless the amnesty
was assured to them. During the night
of Tuesday or Wednesday one of the can-
non was spiked. The circumstance at
the time was suspicious and rather alarm-
ing, but it had no ill effect.

On Monday morning Major Irvine who
was in command of the volunteers assem-
bled a force of 200 men and in the evening
dull, dark and drizzling, started out with
all the panoply and pomp of glorious war,
crossed the Assiniboine with some confu-
sion and delay, baptizing the chief of the
commisariat, Major Peebles, in the river.
This valorous force with the temerity be-
gotten of the occasion marched without
halting to St. Norbert. Here Pere Ritch-
ot was indebted to the good feeling and
watchfulness of Capt. Mulvey for his es-
cape from a danger he little suspected.
Three or four scouts, factors in the Hud-
son's Bay Co. started out for the
Company's fort at Pembina. Except an in-
imate acquaintance made with the prai-
rie by Mr. Factor Christie having been
catapulted over his horse's head nothing
special occurred on the way.

Capt. Villiers, of the police, was direct-
ed to establish videttes between Fort
Garry and Pembina for the purpose of
maintaining communication and obtain-
ing information. The least said of this
service the better; it was not only nil—it
was worse.

In the meantime, however, the banditti
under O'Neil and O'Donnahoe to the num-
ber of 15 or 20 had crossed the boundary
and stormed the Hudson's Bay fort, op-
posed as vigorously as he could by the of-
ficer in charge, Mr. Watt, who had but
one arm. They commenced rifling the
stores, and when about preparing to es-
tablish themselves there Col. Wheaton, of

the United States regular troops, dispers-
ed and captured a number of them. This,
thanks to the prompt and high-minded
Wheaton, ended the raid—how O'Neil and
O'Donnahoe and those with them were
dealt with by the United States civil au-
thorities is a matter of historical record
and does not come within the object of
this paper.

Meanwhile great excitement prevailed
in the then hamlet, the germ of Winnipeg
and Fort Garry. Apprehensions were en-
tertained that Col. Irvine and his small
force would be gobbled up by Riel and his
followers. Rumors obtained that the vil-
lagers were to be attacked by a large force
of Metis from St. Boniface. The home
guard were active; several were incarcera-
ted on suspicion. In Mr. Cunningham's
eyes an Irish name, especially if the per-
son who bore it was a Roman Catholic,
was a strong ground for suspicion and a
justifiable cause of arrest.

On Sunday forenoon, the Raid being a
thing of the past, Mr. Archibald felt very
anxious on the score of the arrests
made by Cunningham's home guards,
and requested me to give it my atten-
tion. I proceeded to the police station in the
cells of which the prisoners were held, and
on the way introduced myself to Mr. Ban-
natyne, who was a J. P. for the province.
He accompanied me and informed me that
one of those held in custody was a nephew
of his. Mr. Ashdown, also a J. P., joined
us as we entered the office of the police
clerk, Mr. Barton, who was then the of-
ficer in charge of the station. I asked him
to show me a list of his prisoners, this he
readily complied with.

There were six in number. Taking
them in order consecutively, I inquired
who ordered this man's imprisonment?
He answered, Mr. Cunningham. By what
authority did you receive him or retain
him in custody? By Mr. Cunningham's
order. A written order? No. Have you
no written order or warrant of commit-
ment? No. And so on through the list.
Turning to Messrs Bannatyne and Ash-
down, I asked them if the laws of Mani-
toba authorized such despotic authority,
and the holding of these men as prisoners
under such circumstance. No, no, they
both said "certainly not."

I immediately directed Mr. Barton, un-
der my authority as an officer of the Do-
minion specially charged with matters
within the criminal jurisdiction of the
General Government, and the sanction of
His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of
the Province, to set the prisoners at lib-
erty. This he instantly did, greatly to the
relief and satisfaction of them and their
friends.

One more episode, and I shall draw to a
conclusion:

On that Sunday Riel, at the church door
at St. Norbert, harangued the
people. He told them their friend
O'Donnahoe had failed, and it be-
came them to offer their ser-