



SOME OF THE APPLICANTS ARE SCHOLARS AND SIGN THEIR OWN APPLICATIONS

He did. Sandy and his family went to bed that night with the satisfied feeling natural to any halfbreed who has just seen three thousand dollars in bank bills paid over to the Hudson's Bay Company to be placed to the credit of his account, and locked up in the Company's safe in the office before his eyes.

The issuing of halfbreed scrip is a comparatively recent development. When, in 1870, the country now comprised in the three prairie provinces was taken over by the government of Canada from the Hudson's Bay Company, it became necessary to make some arrangements to purchase the rights of the Indians resident in the country. This was done by means of a series of treaties, with the various bands which occupied the territory covered by each session.

But at that time there was a considerable proportion of halfbreed population. Some of these lived like white men, engaged in business, or in farming. Others, on the conclusion of the treaty with their relatives, chose to do as they had always done, and live with the Indians as Indians, accepting treaty and residing on the

reserve. But there was a large section of halfbreeds, who, while not allying themselves completely with their darker brethren, still lived by hunting and trapping, and did not adopt the white man's life. These had just as much at stake in the country as the Indians themselves, and considered that they should have been dealt with just as generously by the government. But no provision for them was made by treaty or in any other way; and the dissatisfaction of the halfbreeds

at the neglect of the government to deal with their claims in this regard led directly to the halfbreed rebellion of 1885.

After the rebellion was quelled, the question of allaying in some manner the discontent rife among the halfbreeds was taken up by the government. It was impossible to deal with them as the Indians had been dealt with. Unlike the Indians,—whose cohesion in comparatively large bands made negotiations easy, and whose mode of living invited terms totally unsuited to the halfbreeds—the latter were scattered all over the country, each for himself, and owning no master but their own sweet wills.



NEW TREATIES ARE BEING MADE EVERY SUMMER