

M'Donell to send ten or twelve half-breeds for the defence of Fort Douglas, and to send a few to Pambina to be on the look-out, and to give warning of the approach of any of Lord Selkirk's people.— The said Assiniboine returned to La Souris from Qu'Appelle River on the 13th, and told me, that Cuthbert Grant was coming with about twenty half-breeds to reinforce Fort Douglas.

Three days afterwards, one La Pointe and three other men arrived at La Souris, as they stated, from Sault Sainte Marie, by way of Fond du Lac, and brought news that the English from Lac la Pluie had passed Pambina, and it was believed had taken Fort Douglas. Cuthbert Grant and his party arrived at La Souris the 22nd of January, and having heard La Pointe's news, determined to proceed and see whether Fort Douglas had been really taken or not. Cuthbert Grant asked me to accompany him, saying, I would be a good ambassador to send to the fort if the Meurons were there. I accordingly left La Souris with Cuthbert Grant, Thomas M'Kay, and about sixteen other half-breeds and Canadians, in the service of the North-West Company.

The second day of the journey, Assiniboine (whose proper name is Joseph Peltier) and his brother Pierre Peltier, François Deschamps the son, and his brother Joseph Deschamps, one La Pointe, and one Henry Poitras, left the party, refusing to go any further, saying, that they were not engaged to go on war expeditions. Grant then told them they might go to the devil, and that they should never get any ammunition or other supplies from the North-West Com-