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A. MONSIEUR W. McDUGALL.

MONSIEUR,—Le Comité National des Métis de la Rivière Rouge intime à Monsieur W. McDougall l'ordre de ne pas entrer sur le Territoire du Nord-Ouest sans une permission spéciale de ce Comité.

Par ordre du Président,

JOHN BRUCE,

LOUIS RIEL, Secrétaire.

Daté à St. Norbert, Rivière Rouge.
Ce 21e jour d'Octobre, 1869.

[F.]

WEDNESDAY, 27th October. 1869.

NOON.

Have just returned from a visit to the lower part of the settlement on the west side of Red River, having left yesterday afternoon.

Called upon Mr. * * * and Mr. * * * , and others.

From the conversations had with these different gentlemen, I am satisfied that the general disposition is in favor of receiving the incoming Government with respect, but there is no enthusiasm.

The attitude of the English-speaking portion of the colony, may, I think, be fairly stated as follows :—

They say : We feel a disposition to extend a sincere welcome to the Honorable Mr. McDougall, as the gentleman who has been selected for our future Governor.

We regret sincerely that the good name of the colony should be prejudiced by any such action as that we are told is contemplated by a portion of the French half-breeds.

We consider it a most outrageous proceeding on their part, and one that we would be glad to see, if possible, put a stop to. At the same time, should an appeal to arms be necessary, we could hardly justify ourselves in engaging in a conflict, which would be, in our opinion, certain to resolve itself into one of nationalities and religions, and of which we could hardly, at present, see the termination.

We feel this way : We feel confidence in the future administration of the Government of this country under Canadian rule ; at the same time, we have not been consulted in any way as a people, in entering into the Dominion.

The character of the new Government has been settled in Canada, without our being consulted. We are prepared to accept it respectfully, to obey the laws, and to become good subjects : but when you present to us the issue of a conflict with the French party, with whom we have hitherto lived in friendship, backed up, as they would be, by the Roman Catholic Church, which appears probable by the course at present being taken by the priests, in which conflict it is almost certain the aid of the Indians would be invoked, and perhaps obtained by that party, we feel disinclined to enter upon it, and think that the Dominion should assume the responsibility of establishing amongst us what it, and it alone, has decided upon.

At the same time, we are ready—should the Council make an appeal to the settlement, to prevent the gross outrage contemplated—by a large mounted deputation, unarmed, to meet and escort the Honorable William McDougall to Winnipeg ; and thus show to the French party, now in arms, that the English-speaking portion of the colony is entirely opposed to the present threatening movement by a portion of the French half-breeds,—we will cheerfully and promptly respond to the call.