

negotiations with the Hudson's Bay Company, have consulted the natives of the country, and that if this had been done, they would have listened to what the commissioners of the government had to say; but having been transferred in the way they were, nothing was left to them as brave men but to resent the insult.

The following is a copy of the letter handed to Governor McDougall on his arrival upon the Red River territory:

BRITISH TERRITORY, NEAR PEMBINA, D. T.,
September 2, 1869.

SIR: The undersigned represent the Chippewa Indians, who own and occupy a large portion of the country known as the Hudson's Bay Company's Territory, or Rupert's Land.

We take the liberty to inform your excellency on your arrival on the international boundary line, and in the name of our people, to request your excellency to remain for a few days at or near the Fort of the Hudson's Bay Company, (near Pembina,) in order to afford our chiefs and old men the opportunity to meet your excellency in general council, that we may learn from you the intention of the government you represent, respecting our people and our land.

We have heard that the said government has purchased certain interests of the Hudson's Bay Company, but we have not been informed *what* those interests are. Said interests could not have been lands, for the simple reason that said company (according to the statement of our old men) obtained from our people only the right to occupy for a time a certain district of country on and near the Red River.

White men have been sent by the government which your excellency represents, and have been dividing our Territory into small lots, for the purpose, as we are told, of selling them to white men. And all this is being done without consulting us, without treaty stipulations, and as though these lands already belonged to your government.

Hence we insist upon a general council, and a full and satisfactory understanding *before* your excellency, in the name of your government, assumes possession of this Territory.

Our people greatly prefer to maintain friendly relations to your excellency, and the government you represent; and we well know that this can only be done by a thorough and amicable adjustment of our respective rights by a written treaty.

Our people know that we have the rights, and we are miled as one man in the determination to defend them at all hazards; and for the sake of our people, as well as for the best interests of your excellency and the government you represent, we trust that our rights will be fully respected, and that we may be able to extend to you the right hand of fellowship.

On our own behalf, as well as the people we represent, we beg your excellency will accept our kindest regards.

PIE-WASCH.
CHIA-WA-WE-ASCH.

His Excellency Governor McDougall.

The demands then made by the insurgents were briefly as follows:

1. The right to elect their own legislature.
2. That the legislature shall have power to pass an act of local nature, by a two-thirds vote over the veto of the executive.
3. No law of local nature to be binding until sanctioned by the legislature.
4. A free homestead and pre-emption law.
5. An Indian policy calculated to insure good will and quiet in the Territory.
6. All the executive, legislative, civil, and military expenses, for a given number of years, to be paid out of the Dominion treasury.
7. An appropriation to be expended in the internal improvements in the Territory.

After placing these guarantees beyond peradventure, than the proposition of annexation to the Dominion to be submitted to a vote of the people.

William McTavish, governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, or, as he signs himself, "of Assiniboia," is quite ill, and reported to be in a dying condition. He issued a proclamation on the 16th of November, in which,