

not in uniform, and when I said I did not like to wear my uniform, Missani, replied that it was Mr. M'Leod's desire, and that I ought to put them on, which I accordingly did. At Bas de la Rivière there were two pieces of brass artillery, three-pounders, which are now in Fort Douglas, the property of the Earl of Selkirk, and twelve military musquets and bayonets, with pouches and accoutrements complete, which, as well as two cases of trading guns brought with the brigade from Fort William, Reinhard and I were ordered by Alexander M'Kenzie, to distribute to such of the men as had no arms, which we accordingly did. We were also ordered to instruct them in the manual and platoon exercise, which, however, the men refused to submit to. With the assistance of Reinhard, I also helped to mount the field pieces on field carriages. A Canadian, named Forcier, positively refused to take a gun, and most of the men took them with great reluctance, observing to me, that they were not engaged to take up arms and to make war like soldiers,—that they were only engaged as voyageurs, and wished to do their duty as such,—to navigate the canoes, and carry the goods over the carrying-places.

The brigade left Bas de la Rivière, and set out for Red River on the 19th of June, being joined by John Haldane, and James Hughes, partners, and by John Crebassa, and one Roan, clerks, and by William Shaw a half-breed, and also a clerk of the North-West Company, with three more canoes and a batteau, in which were conveyed the two pieces of artillery and their carriages. Some of the Indians from