

delay. Assuring him if he could but get 400 or 500 men under arms he could make himself master of the situation, but all depended upon the celerity with which it could be done, for his force must be enrolled before the Metis took the field. This is Monday night, I said, and the raid was planned to be made by crossing the line on Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning. Mr. Archibald said "there are but 70 men in the fort (volunteers) under arms now, and I do not know how far the feeling obtains amongst them that is so vindictively shown towards me by the Canadians in the village and settlements, and I fear the proclamation may not receive a hearty response."

Dread nothing on this score, I said; I know no one here personally, but I do know well and thoroughly the genius and bent of mind of the Ontario people, in fact their human nature, and call upon them without distinction of party or prejudice, to rally round the nation's flag and to stand by their Queen. You will find not a laggard among them, not even the most hostile in feeling against yourself.

The proclamation was decided upon, was forthwith drawn up, and Mr. Cunningham, who was the government printer, and publisher of the Manitoba newspaper, was called from down stairs where he had been waiting to learn the upshot of the interview between the Lt. Governor and myself; and to him was handed the draft of the proclamation with instructions to have it printed before morning—it was now midnight and Capt. Villiers would see to its distribution and posting. This celebrated document was follows, printed in a wonderful display of type:—

(The Royal Arms.)

#### PROCLAMATION.

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

Victoria, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, etc.

Sgd. Adams George Archibald,  
To our loving subjects, the inhabitants of the Province of Manitoba,

Greeting:

Whereas, intelligence has just been received from trustworthy sources that a band of lawless men calling themselves

#### FENIANS

have assembled on the frontier of the United States at or near Pembina and that they intend to make a raid into this province, from a country with which we are at peace, and to commit acts of depredation, pillage and robbery, and other outrages upon the persons and property of our loving subjects the inhabitants of this province. While not unprepared to meet the emergency with our regular forces, we do hereby warn all our said loving subjects to put themselves in readiness at once to assist in repelling this outrage upon their hearths and homes. We enjoin them immediately to assemble in their respective parishes and

#### ENROL THEMSELVES.

For this purpose we call upon all our said lov-

ing subjects, irrespective of race or religion, or of past local differences, to

#### RALLY ROUND THE FLAG

of our common country. We enjoin them to select the best men of each locality to be officers, whom we shall duly authorize and commission, and we enjoin the officers so selected to put themselves in immediate communication with the Lieutenant-Governor of our said Province. We shall take care that persons possessing military skill and experience shall be detailed to teach the necessary drill and discipline. All officers and men when called into service shall receive the pay and allowances given to the regular militia. The country need feel no alarm. We are quite able to repel those cutlaws if they were numerous. The handful of them who threaten us can give no serious difficulty to brave men who have their homes and families to defend.

#### RALLY THEN AT ONCE!

We rely upon the prompt reply of all our people of every origin, to this our call.

In testimony whereof, we have caused these our letters, to be made patent, and the great seal of Manitoba to be hereunto affixed.

Witness our trusty and well-beloved the Honorable Adams George Archibald, Lieutenant-Governor of our Province of Manitoba, member of our Privy Council for Canada, etc., etc., at our Government House at Fort Garry, this 3rd day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, and in the thirty-fifth year of our reign.

By Command,

THOS. HOWARD,  
Provincial Secretary.

On the following evening a public meeting was held at the police station, then standing about where the St. Julien restaurant now is. It was addressed by the Revs. Black, McLean and Young in fervid expressions of loyalty and patriotism.

The enthusiasm of the audience was unbounded. The wonderfully large assemblage astonished me, for it was difficult to imagine where they all gathered from. But still more was I astonished when, ere 48 hours had elapsed from the issuing of the proclamation, over 1,000 men had enrolled themselves. Where were they domiciled? It was to me a mystery; but the enrollment was a great and gratifying fact.

The Hudson's Bay officials to a man enrolled themselves, and formed a goodly company in number and physique, under the command of Capt. D. A. Smith, now Sir D. A. The most virulent of those antagonistic to the Lieut. Governor were amongst the first to offer their services. A strong company of unswerving Loyalists were placed under command of Mr. Stewart Mulvey, late an ensign in the first expedition of volunteers from Ontario. I think they numbered nearly 100 strong.

Mr. Cunningham organized a company as a "Home Guard" with Mr.—now Mr. Justice—Bain as his lieutenant.

The difficulty now was to arm the number who had enrolled themselves, for besides the arms in the hands of the 70 regular volunteers the total number at the command of the Lt. Governor was only 650. Rather unwisely, Mr. Cunningham, the bold captain of the home

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