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Catholic Record.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1885.

THE NORTH-WEST TROUBLE.

The news received from the North-West indicates that the profound feeling of dissatisfaction among all classes of the population in that country, whites, half-breeds and Indians, and which has driven a large portion of the two latter into open revolt can only be suppressed by the expenditure of much blood and treasure. The dissatisfaction which at first seemed restricted to one locality has apparently spread through all the territories wherein groups of Metis or Indians are to be found. Nor can any one doubt that the open and avowed aversion to the Hudson's Bay Company, which has been the cause of the present trouble and to point out the course which in the interest of Canada the government should adopt if the North-West is to remain a portion of the Canadian union, and if that union is itself to be saved from total disintegration and ruin.

Long before the confederation of the Provinces in 1867, there was in old Canada a very deep-seated feeling that the North-West, or Indian Territories, as they were sometimes called, really and of right formed part of Canada, and that their exclusive possession by the Hudson's Bay Company was an usurpation and a monopoly of the most odious character.

In the year 1855 the late Hon. Mr. Cauchon, then Commissioner of Crown Lands of Canada, in a memorandum submitted to council, gave a very decided expression of opinion against the validity of the Hudson's Bay charter, granted by King Charles II. in 1670, when but a small, if indeed any portion of the country in which the company afterwards set up the claim of exclusive trading, could be said to belong to that sovereign.

Mr. Cauchon dealing with the legal value of the charter said: "The high legal authorities that may be quoted in favor of the claims of the company cannot be held as of weight against the conclusions inevitably resulting from a fuller investigation of the subject, inasmuch as they are merely opinions upon the cases submitted. The latest opinion given upon the subject is that of Sir John Jervis and Sir John Romilly in their letters to Earl Grey, of January, 1850, in which they give it as their opinion, 'that the rights claimed by the company do properly belong to them.' Before arriving at this conclusion, however, these learned gentlemen are careful to specify precisely what papers they had then under consideration, and to which alone they refer as the basis of their opinion. These papers were simply the 'Statement of Rights and Map' submitted by the chairman of the Company, Sir J. H. Pelly. This opinion therefore can only be taken as affirmative of the power of the King to grant such rights and privileges as the charter specifies, and that the charter would cover all the territory claimed, but the question of whether that territory belonged to the king to grant was not before them. With respect to the territory which the wording of the charter would cover, it would be difficult to say what it would not cover; and with respect to the validity of the grant of such powers, it is to be remarked that very high authorities have given a directly opposite opinion, and that it may be asked why, if the charter was valid, did the company procure an Act of Parliament to confirm it in 1690, and why, when that Act expired, which was limited to seven years, did they again ask for an Act to continue it? It is worthy of notice, too, that the Seven Years' Act was passed during war with France, when it appears that Parliament did not scruple to grant or confirm a charter for countries to which Great Britain had at best but a disputed title, based only upon a very partial, and, even during peace, a very precarious possession, nor is it less worthy of remark, that when Parliament refused to re-grant or continue the charter the Treaty of Ryswick had intervened, by which the rights of France were recog-

nized, and those of Great Britain left, at most, in doubt, and when, therefore, any such Act would have been a direct violation of an International Treaty."

This memorandum, submitted by Mr. Cauchon, had been prepared by Mr. William Macdonell Dawson, then head of the Woods and Forests branch of the Crown Lands Department of Canada, and shortly afterwards member of the Canadian Parliament for Three Rivers.

In his evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the boundaries between the Province of Ontario and the unorganized territories of the Dominion, during the session of 1880, Mr. Dawson, in answer to the question of the Hon. Mr. Monseu, as to the true purport of the memorandum: "Did you then take the ground that the North-West country, embracing the Red River, the Saskatchewan, etc., were within the boundaries of Upper Canada?" stated: "Not exactly. I claimed these countries, and was sustained in that claim by the highest authorities, as the birthright of the people of United Canada, the just inheritance of the early French settlers who had traded, settled, and originally owned, indisputably these territories, as well as the British who had succeeded unitedly with them in possessing, and unitedly with them, as for instance, under Sir Alexander McKenzie, extended those territories to the Pacific and to the North Sea, without any intervention or interference either in the way of prevention or aid from the Hudson's Bay Company, who had then made no such pretension as they did at a later period. It might, indeed, seem that the claim put forward by me (and which became the groundwork of all that Canada claimed and has accomplished since) would have incurred, if properly and efficiently maintained, to the benefit of Upper Canada, but that was not a point of special importance at the time. We were one Province under one government and legislature, under the same laws (except in some particulars of French and English law which did not seem to me of much importance) and every acre of those vast regions was as much the property of the one as of the other portion of the United Provinces."

The popular Canadian view of the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company was set forth in the resolutions proposed in Parliament in 1858, by Mr. Dawson, amongst which we find the following:

"That the Hudson's Bay Company under their charter (in itself held by eminent jurists to be invalid and unconstitutional, and also, as this House believes it to be, on the ground that the countries it professes to grant belonged, at that period, to France) cannot, by virtue thereof, in any event, claim the interior countries on Lake Winnipeg and the Saskatchewan; and under their lease of the Indian Territories can claim the exclusive trade of such countries only as they may prove to be no part of Canada. That this House maintains the right of the people of this Province to enter upon and freely to trade in that part of Canada, or *Nouvelle France* as originally known, on Hudson's Bay, ceded by France to Great Britain in 1763; and independently of the ownership thereof having been in France previous to 1670, denies the existence of any constitutional restriction to preclude them from enjoying the rights of British subjects in that or any other British territory." To us at this day it seems preposterous that any such claims as those advanced by the Hudson's Bay Company should ever have been for a moment entertained either by the Imperial or Canadian governments. It seems to us indisputable that the Red River and Saskatchewan countries formed part of that *Nouvelle France* ceded by the French government to Great Britain by the treaty of Versailles, 1763, and that the inhabitants of French descent in these countries were entitled to all the rights and privileges accruing to the other French inhabitants of Canada by the provisions of that treaty. But how have these people been ever since treated? Were they of the Red River not, at least till the erection of the Province of Manitoba in 1870, treated as if they had neither capacity for nor right to self-government? And have not those outside the limits of that Province been, ever since the cession of Canada to Great Britain till this very moment, similarly treated? All Imperial legislation since the conquest has been directed towards the maintenance of the rights of monopoly claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company, or towards its perpetuation as a gigantic trading concern with strong monopolistic tendencies and privileges, very little regard being had to the rights of the half-breed population, or even of Canadians of any race or origin seeking homes in the North-West.

Soon after the treaty of Versailles, the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, fully appreciating the extent and value of the trade in peltries pursued in the Red River and Saskatchewan countries by Canadian merchants through the half-breeds and Indians, began to push their claims to exclusive trading rights under the charter of 1670. In 1774, in furtherance of this policy—the execution of which became the purpose of the company and its servants—Mr. Herne, the discoverer of the Coppermine river, was sent inland to establish trade relations with

the Indians. He settled on Pine Island Lake, and built Cumberland House, which became the centre of supplies for the North for the next hundred years. It was not till 1793 that the company's servants reached Red River, which they followed to the mouth of Assiniboine. This stream they entered, to build their first fort at its junction with the Souris. The number of those who entered into the fur trade after the treaty of Versailles was so great and the greed of gain so lively that jealousies, heart-burnings and even deeds of violence soon became the order of the day. The leading merchants engaged in the trade, animated by a desire for mutual protection, formed during the winter of 1793-4, an association known as the North-West Company. This association flourished and prospered for many years, absorbing in 1805 a rival organization known as the X. Y. Company. The capital of the North-West company then consisted of 100 shares, in part held by capitalists in Montreal and London, and in part by the traders themselves, under the name of "wintering partners." Fort William on Lake Superior was the most important post in this company's possession and there the partners every year met for despatch of the company's business. From the date of the formation of the North-West Company, dissensions and difficulties between that organization and the Hudson's Bay Company prevailed. These difficulties were at times accompanied by violence, robbery and bloodshed. Meantime the Hudson's Bay Company's stock having fallen from 250 to 60, Lord Selkirk, who during a visit to Canada had learned of the richness and fertility of the North-West country, succeeded in acquiring forty per cent. of that stock. His next step was, of course, to place a number of his friends on the Board of Directors. In May, 1811, a "General Court" having after due notice been called, the decision was arrived at that it was in the interests of the proprietors to grant to Lord Selkirk in fee simple about 116,000 square miles of what was supposed to be their territories, on condition that he would therein establish a colony.

The North-West Company though startled at this action of its rival, promptly denied the right of either the Hudson's Bay or Lord Selkirk to any part of the territory ceded to him—urging that they and their predecessors had been in occupancy for at least a century. The strength of this claim will be apparent if we consider that it was then, as it is now, a well-known fact that the French colonists had formed the Beaver Company in 1680 and carried on trade in that country even before the grant of the Hudson's Bay charter by Charles II. in 1670; that the terms of that sovereign's grant explicitly stated that the grant only applied to countries not occupied or discovered by the subjects of any other Christian prince or state; that the Canadian people were of one voice in opposition to the grant, on the ground of its nullity in point of law, the granters being incapable of giving what they did not possess, and that, finally, the grant as made by the company extended from the southern end of Lake Winnipeg as far south as lat. 46°, fully 200 miles into the United States. The North-West Company furthermore declared its purpose not to recognize in any way the exclusive right to trade or jurisdiction claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company and to resist all attempts to seize either their persons or property, or dispossess them of their trade.

Lord Selkirk, however, undeterred by this determination, dispatched in the spring of 1811 his first instalment of 25 families to the Hudson's Bay Company's ship. This did not reach Red River till 1812. In 1813 a large body of immigrants arrived, to be followed in the summer of 1814 by many others. In this latter year Mr. Miles Macdonell, Lord Selkirk's deputy, having by this time trained his men to the use of arms, issued the following proclamation:

District of Assiniboia.
To Mr. Duncan Cameron, acting for the North-West Company, at the Forks of Red River.

"Take notice, that by the authority and on behalf of your landlord, the Right Honorable Thomas, Earl of Selkirk, I do hereby warn you, and all your associates of the North-West Company, to quit the post and premises you now occupy at the Forks of Red River, within six calendar months from date hereof. Given under my hand, at Red River settlement, this twenty-first day of October, 1814.
(Signed) MILES MACDONELL.

Mr. Cameron, however, proved too able an opponent for Selkirk's deputy. Discontent and dissatisfaction prevailed to such an extent amongst the settlers in the winter of 1815 that they applied to the North-West company for assistance to leave the country.

On the approach of Spring, in that year, these settlers, with whose demands Mr. Cameron had no doubt promised compliance, took refuge in the North-West Company's Fort, taking, at the same time, the cannon and ammunition of the Hudson's Bay Company. The "Free Canadians" and the half-breeds taking sides with the North-West Company, Mr. Macdonell was forced to give himself up. With Mr. Cameron's assistance fifty families were conveyed to Toronto, and the remainder of the settlers proceeded north-

ward to Lake Winnipeg to leave the country by Hudson's Bay. Meantime, Lord Selkirk, still bent on founding his colony on a firm basis, had in the winter of 1814-5 despatched two expeditions to Red River, one by way of Montreal, and the other by the Hudson's Bay route. Mr. Robertson, who had charge of the Montreal party, arrived first at Red River, and remained with the settlers whom he found near Lake Winnipeg. Governor Semple with another body of settlers, arrived at Red River in September, 1815, and re-established the colony. The Hudson's Bay people then at once assumed the aggressive. On the night of March 17, 1816, the North-West Company's fort, Gibraltar, was assailed and captured. Mr. Cameron and his followers being made prisoners. Three days after, the fort at the mouth of the Pembina likewise fell, and its occupants, of course, taken into custody. All the goods, furs, papers and ammunition in both forts were seized upon for the use of Lord Selkirk and the Hudson's Bay Company, and the forts themselves subsequently razed to the ground. Governor Semple was not, however, permitted to have all things his own way. The North-West Company had many adherents in the country. The French Canadians and the French half-breeds were almost to a man on the side of that organization. They had not without deepest dissatisfaction heard of and witnessed the efforts made to dispossess them of the country which was theirs by a title higher than any royal charter could confer, and well knew that Lord Selkirk's plantation was undertaken for the purpose of holding them in check. They felt that since the conquest of Canada in 1759, they had been not only neglected, but actually deprived of the rights which their brethren in the more thickly settled portions of *Nouvelle France* had been endowed with. Their indignation and disappointment are to us not only intelligible but justifiable. The North-West company was not at heart more friendly to the interests of the Canadian population of the North-West than its Hudson's Bay competitor and rival. For the moment, however, it represented opposition to monopoly and disinheritance and was therefore supported by them.

"The 19th of June, 1816, is," says a Canadian writer, "a date sadly celebrated in the annals of Red River. That day recalls a most deplorable event leading to the destruction of the little colony founded by Lord Selkirk in 1812, on the very spot where now rises the city of Winnipeg, capital of Manitoba."

After his first triumph over the North-West Company Governor Semple learned that some of the officers of that association had gathered a considerable body of Canadians, Metis and Indians at Qu'Appelle for the purpose of making an attack on the Hudson's Bay colony at Red River and, consequently, prepared to give the assailants a warm reception. On the 19th of June the guard on watch at Fort Douglas reported to the Governor that he saw a body of fifty or sixty horsemen, divided into two parties, seemingly approaching the settlement. These horsemen were followed by three carts bearing thirty sacks of provisions. Governor Semple at the head of twenty-eight men at once proceeded to meet them. At the approach of the Governor one Firmin, Francois Boucher, who formed part of the troop of Metis and Indians, advancing towards him said: "What do you want?" "What do you want yourself?" was the reply. "We want our Fort," retorted Boucher, meaning Fort Gibraltar, which had been destroyed by the Hudson's Bay Company's followers. "Go to it then," said Semple. "Wretch, why did you destroy it?" cried out Boucher. This sally exasperated Semple, who, seizing the bridle of Boucher's horse, angrily exclaimed: "Wretch do you call me? How dare you speak to me in this way?" He then called out to his men to arrest Boucher. This was the signal for battle. The Metis and Indians forming a semi-circle around Semple's force, discharged a murderous volley and in a few moments twenty-one bodies of his followers strewn the bloody plain, amongst the dead being the Governor himself.

It is well here to state that the North-West Company and its supporters then sought for nothing more or less than the constitutional rights of the Canadians and half-breeds of the North-West, already grossly infringed upon and menaced with total extinction by the Hudson's Bay Company. In an appeal to the Secretary of State, on the 1st of February, 1816, they declare: "We do not presume to point out the particular proceedings which, in this case, would be satisfactory to ourselves. Our sole object is to put an end to violence and bloodshed, and we are perfectly satisfied that, in the discussion to which such proceedings must give rise, the interests of His Majesty's Canadian subjects will, at least, meet with as favorable consideration as those of their opponents." Again, on the 1st of March in the same year, they lodge another appeal with the same official: "We do not," they say, "venture to suggest the remedy it may be in their power, or may appear eligible to His Majesty's government to provide in this case, but we are certain if some measure be not adopted to define, without delay, the limits, power and authority of the Hudson's Bay Company, a contest will ensue in the interior, the results of which will be dreadful with respect to loss of life and property." Though this prediction was verified, though the disturbed state of the North-West was not unknown in Britain, the government of that country turned a deaf ear to those warnings and appeals. The Hudson's Bay Company had a friend at court in the person of the Right Hon. Mr. Ellice. The French and Franco-Indians of the North-West had none. Lord Selkirk continued the contest on behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, and on the 12th of August, 1816, he seized on Fort William and made prisoners of several employees of the rival association. Some of those, amongst them Firmin Francois Boucher and Paul Brown, were sent to Canada to be tried at Toronto for the part they bore in the battle of Seven Oaks on the 16th of June. They were tried in October, 1818, and all acquitted.

In his evidence before the Select Committee of the Canadian Commons of 1880, Hon. Donald A. Smith, speaking of the trouble between the two companies, is reported to have replied to questions put him by members in these terms: "By Mr. Ross: 'In what way was the dispute settled?' It was settled amicably. They went on opposing each other till there was nothing left to oppose; they were completely run down, and besides, there were some very influential men in England who took an interest in the Hudson's Bay Company. One of them was the Right Honorable Mr. Ellice, who had perhaps more influence with the British government than any man at that time." "By Mr. Royal: 'What was the origin of the North-West Company; was it organized under license from the Crown in England? No. Or under an act of the Canadian Parliament? No, it was organized as a joint stock company. Under what law? Under Canadian law, and it was principally composed of Canadians.' "By Mr. Oumet: 'In what year were they incorporated?' In 1782-3." "By Mr. Ross: 'You said the Hudson's Bay Company took advice of counsel as to what their claim was to the territory on which the North-West Company was encroaching. Is that in point? It is among these papers, which are opinions of English counsel on the case. There can be no doubt that, as a whole, the North-West Company were much more able traders than the Hudson's Bay Company, and ultimately compelled the latter to combine with them and form one company. The North-West Company went in and availed themselves of the privilege of the Hudson's Bay Company's charter.' "By Mr. Royal: 'I understand that the North-West Company, when organized, was chiefly composed of French, that is, Canadian traders, who had some years previously discovered that part of the country, established forts there, and carried on a very good trade with the Indians? Yes. The French or Canadian traders organized themselves into a company and transferred the ownership of these forts to the new company, as well as the different staffs of officers? Yes, French and Scotch. After the amalgamation of the two companies, was an imperial act passed to regulate the fur trade? Yes.

By Mr. Trow: 'The Hudson's Bay Company, I suppose, took unlimited control of all unsettled portions, under the license they had in 1821 for the united company from the Imperial Parliament? They occupied all what was known as the Indian territory outside of Rupert's land: it was for these territories, as I mentioned before, that magistrates were appointed by the Crown or by the Governor-General, that is, for outside territories.' "How little the Imperial Parliament was concerned for the protection of the rights of the French and Canadians settled in the North-West is made apparent from the fact of 1803 itself which, *inter alia*, provides that 'it shall be lawful for His Majesty, his heirs or successors, to make grants or give his Royal License, under the hand and seal of one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, to any body corporate, or company, or person or persons, or for the exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America as shall be specified in any such grants or licenses respectively, not being part of the lands or territories heretofore granted to the said Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading to Hudson's Bay, and not being part of any of His Majesty's Provinces in North America, or of any lands or territories belonging to the United States of America; and all such grants and licenses shall be good, valid and effectual for the purpose of securing to all such bodies corporate, or companies, or persons, the sole and exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians in all such parts of North America (except as hereinafter excepted) as shall be specified in such grants or licenses, anything contained in any act or acts of Parliament or any law to the contrary notwithstanding. ***** And be it further

enacted, that nothing in this Act contained shall be taken or construed to affect any right, privilege, authority or jurisdiction which the Governor and Company of Adventurers trading to Hudson's Bay are by law entitled to claim and exercise under their charter, but that all such rights and privileges, authorities and jurisdictions shall remain in as full force, virtue and effect, as if this Act had never been made; anything in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding." "By this Act and the License issued under it, the Canadians and Metis of the North-West were bound hand and foot to the chariot wheels of monopoly. Nor did the company seek in its administration to conciliate this much-wronged people. The Metis keenly felt the injustice inflicted on them. In 1835 the Hudson's Bay Company purchased from the young Earl of Selkirk all his right, title and interest in the grant made to his father in 1811. The sum paid was \$24,000, but the purchase gave the company undivided control of the land and government of the country. That same year the French half-breeds, exasperated on account of an injustice committed on one of their friends, made an armed demonstration against the Hudson's Bay Company and so terrified its officials that most of their demands were complied with. In the following Spring another armed demonstration took place. The people demanded (1) that the prices of provisions be raised, and (2) that an export duty be placed on tallow, robes and other articles procured by the chase. They protested in very forcible terms against the levy of any import duty on goods brought in from the United States, many French Canadians and half-breeds, both French and English, having already made several trips to the Mississippi, exporting horned cattle, horses, furs and some few articles of colonial industry, and on their return bringing home cotton goods, groceries, ammunition, tobacco, etc. They claimed exemption from import duty on two grounds, 1st, because they had established trade relations with the United States and, 2nd, because of the great danger incurred going to and fro across the boundary line. Their demands, however, fell on deaf ears; the Governor and his Council being pronounced exclusivists and deeply interested in the defeat of all schemes and every attempt to export the produce of the country, or introduce foreign manufactured goods, except via Hudson's Bay.

Sir George Simpson established in 1860 the council of Assiniboia, consisting of twelve members, of whom nine were Protestant and three Catholics. This council put a duty of 7½ per cent. on all goods of foreign manufacture imported into the colony, whether for sale or for use, and still more, placed a tax of 7½ per cent. on all goods, provisions, or live stock, being the growth, produce or manufacture of the Red River country and exported therefrom. The company evidently understood how to promote and protect self-interest. By the imposition of these duties, the Red River settlers thought they saw destroyed the trade they had built up with St. Paul and along the Mississippi. The French half-breeds had never kindly taken to the Hudson's Bay Company or its claims, and bent their necks very unwillingly to the odious yoke of taxation. They took every means to evade the law and felt deeply embittered by this and other acts of injustice inflicted on them. Not only in matters of trade but in the administration of justice, were they unfairly dealt with. Among these officials of the company who left a most odious reputation behind him, was Recorder Thom, who displayed a special arrogance towards the French Metis. He knew nothing of the French language, and refused even to appoint a French interpreter for his courts. We can well understand how satisfactory the administration of justice must have been in the hands of such a man.

About this time Mr. LaSalette, of London, interested himself on behalf of the Red River colonists and succeeded in having the attention of not a few members of the House of Commons drawn to their grievances. Petition after petition had been addressed to the Home government begging the right to trade with the Indians, but all to no avail. At length, galling under the tyranny of the company, they determined to assert their rights by force, at the very first favorable opportunity. That opportunity soon presented itself. In the Spring of 1849, one William Sayre, a French half-breed, was arrested and imprisoned for accepting furs from the Indians in exchange for goods. This was held to be a serious violation of the terms of the company's charter, wherein it was claimed that that body should have the sole trade and commerce of all the territories within Rupert's Land.

The 17th of May, the day fixed for the trial of Sayre, is ever memorable in the history of the North-West country. From the very break of day the Metis might be seen moving from White Horse Plain, Bay St. Paul, Lake Manitoba, and the Red River, towards St. Boniface. Their leader was Louis Riel, father of the Louis Riel, now chief of the insurgent Metis on the Saskatchewan. All were well armed. Having placed their

muskets at the church door, assisted at a low mass, divine service, the half-breeds took their arms and listened to a harangue from their leader explained in terms of indignant outrage done them by fixing for a day consecrated to the dwell at length on their cause, complaint against the Hudson's Bay Company, from whose despotism and perversity they had so long and cruelly suffered. He implored be united and determined, in them as a result of unity and devotion that freedom of trade which they had so long and vainly claimed on such strong grounds. The Red River, they surrounded Court House, conducting therein a very orderly manner. Sayre, charged with three other men, arrested on a charge similar to which he had been incarcerated, result of the trial was received liveliest acclamations by the Metis welkin resounding with cries of *liberte! Le commerce est libre! Justice* was removed and the company modify its course in regard of its breeds. The rising of the in 1849 had the effect of drawing large share of public attention Britain to the Red River country. Mr. Johnson, Governor of boia, made a demand for troops British government. A company men belonging to the Canadian sent out and quartered there years. In the years following the of 1849, public opinion in Canada steadily and surely forming in the acquisition of the North-West territories. The expedition of Captain Hind drew the attention of the Canadian public to the value and use of that magnificent region. The season of 1858 the legislature ada adopted an address to Her on the subject of Canada's claim country, in which we find it laid

"That the approaching termination of the License of Trade granted by His Majesty's Imperial Government to the Hudson's Bay Company over the Territories, a portion of which, in humble opinion, Canada has a claim as forming part of her territory renders imperative the adoption measures as may be necessary effect to the rights of the Province presents a favorable opportunity for obtaining a final decision on the of the Charter of the Company boundary of Canada on the N.W. West.

That Canada, whose rights stand by that Charter, to which she was party, and the validity of which is questioned for more than a century half, has, in our humble opinion, to request from Your Majesty's Government a decision of this question with a view of putting an end to serious and questions of conflicting jurisdiction as well as to Your Majesty's Government as to Canada, which, while unsettled, must preclude the settlement of the boundary line is immediately required, and therefore we humbly pray Your that the subject thereof may be with submitted to the opinion of the Judicial Committee of Your Majesty's Privy Council, but without restriction to any question Canada may deem proper to present on the validity said Charter, or for the maintenance her rights.

That any renewal of the license over the Indian Territories should, in humble opinion, be granted on the conditions that such portions or of the other Territories claimed Company (even if their Charter valid), as may be required from time to time, be set apart by Canada to Your Majesty's Government, in return for Colonization, should be required, be withdrawn from such license and the jurisdiction control of the said Company; and the Majesty's Government, or the General in Council, should be empowered to grant licenses to trade in any of the said Territories while held occupation of the said Company, such conditions for the observance and the preservation of the peace, prohibition or restriction of the Indian Tribes from injury or impairment with such other provisions as the said Majesty's Government, or to His Majesty's Council, may seem advisable. That in our humble opinion should not be called upon to cede the said Company for any portion Territory from which they may draw, or be compelled to withdraw, that the said Company should be to retain and dispose of any portions thereof on which they have improved."

Singular to relate there is no mention in this address of the people who had right to the country, the French and Metis populations, who first discovered and explored the nor of the settlers of British origin along the Red River.

GODERICH BAZAAR.

We have very great pleasure in publishing an extract from the circular by the Rev. Father Watters, O.F.M., to the friends of religion throughout the country. The rev. gentleman says: "It is true you may feel a 'charity begins at home,' but I maintain when you learn that my parish small one, that there is a considerable debt on the church, and on the and that, unfortunately, there is no increase to the congregation, but,