

to rescue us from the misery they occasioned, and to take a passage to Canada, against our inclinations, against our engagements, and against our true interests. The joy with which they saw us depart, and the shouts which they raised, on beholding the flames and smoke rising from our dwellings, to which they had set fire, are a sufficient proof, that their pretended compassion for our situation, was not the true cause of their anxiety, to induce us to take a passage, in their canoes, to Upper Canada. The zeal of your friends, the dealers in furs to provide for our happiness, was so nearly allied to that of the odious bigots, who used to condemn a man to the flames in this world, on purpose to secure his salvation in the next, that it may well be doubted whether they would have permitted us to retire so peaceably, and to save so much of our property as we fortunately did, had they not been afraid of our friends, the native Indians, who aided us in embarking our cattle, and other effects, and escorted us down the river, and who implored us, in the most affecting language, to return in more strength and protect them from the insults which they were perpetually subjected to, by the partizans of the North West Company. This is no ideal picture; it is nothing but the truth, a truth to which every one of the settlers who then accompanied me, is ready to make oath.

This cruelty and violence to the poor and industrious Settlers, must appear infamous to all who enjoy the effectual and benign protection of the laws of England, and who are accustomed to see them regularly and impartially administered to the rich and the poor, the strong, and the weak. It is impossible to believe, as it is far from my wish to assert, that all the gentlemen who have shares in the capital of the North West Company, can be so depraved, as to approve of such detestable proceedings, but it is well known, that the constitution of that company confers an influence in its management, proportioned to the shares of the individual, and that those Agents who have most shares in the capital, possess likewise almost the undivided direction of the affairs of the Company. By sending Mr. Cameron back to the station signalized as the scene of his atrocities, his associates have given a proof that they approved of his unprincipled conduct, and that they placed