

regiment, acquainted him with the advantages held out by his Majesty's government to the officers and men who would wish to remain and settle in that country. The Earl of Selkirk was then at Montreal; and as his Lordship wished to obtain a number of efficient settlers for his colony at the Red River, he agreed with several of the officers and privates to accompany him, for the purpose of settling there. His Lordship was very particular in his choice of the men, as none but those of the best character, and who knew some of the requisite and useful trades for the settlement would be accepted. Engagements accordingly were entered into between them and the Earl of Selkirk, who agreed to give the officers and men a portion of land. In addition to this, the men were to receive agricultural implements, and to be paid at the rate of eight dollars per month for working the boats to their destination. His Lordship further agreed that if the men on their arrival at the settlement, should not wish to remain there, they should be sent back at his Lordship's expense to Montreal, or to Europe, by the ships from Hudson's Bay.

On the 4th of June, 1816, three officers, myself being the fourth, and about eighty men, left Montreal and proceeded to Kingston in Upper Canada. The Watteville Regiment had been stationed at the latter place, and was under orders to be disbanded. Twenty of that corps were engaged by Captain Mathey, in the name and on behalf of the Earl of Selkirk, upon the same conditions with those of the Regiment de Meuron.

After having made the necessary arrangements for our voyage at Kingston we proceeded along Lake Ontario to York, and from thence to Lake Simcoe and Lake Huron, where we were joined by the Earl of Selkirk, who had remained several days after us at Montreal. We proceeded with his Lordship towards the Sault St. Mary's — about thirty miles from which is situated Drummond's Island, to which place his Lordship went; we continuing our route to the Sault, where we remained a few miles above the Rapid. A guard of one sergeant and seven men had been granted for his Lordship's protection by the governor of Canada; and it was from Drummond's Island that they were to accompany him, it being the last garrison of the British dominions in that quarter. Lord Selkirk joined us at the Sault St. Mary's, and we had hardly left that place, when we perceived two canoes, in one of which was Mr Miles Macdonell, who brought the dismal intelligence of the complete destruction of the colony.

After this information Lord Selkirk did not proceed to the Fond du Lac, as was first intended, but went to Fort William for the purpose of obtaining intelligence as to the affair at the Red River. His Lordship applied to Mr. Askin and Mr. Ermatinger, two magistrates, to accompany him; but the private affairs of these two gentlemen prevented them.

We arrived at Fort William on the 12th of August and pitched our tents on the opposite side of the River about half a mile from the Fort. On the same day the Earl of Selkirk sent Captain d'Orsonnens with a letter to Mr. M. Gillivray (the principal Agent of the North West Company at Fort William) requesting him to release several people who had been present at the affair of the Red River, from their confinement; but Mr. Gillivray did not admit that they had been arrested, and they came to us immediately afterwards.

The Earl of Selkirk was engaged the rest of the day in taking evidence from these people, and he issued a warrant on the 13th against Mr. Gillivray, who immediately came over to his Lordship's tent with two other partners, one, Kenneth McKenzie, the other, Mr. Langhlin, whom he brought as bail; but, charges being also preferred against these two gentlemen, they were likewise made