

In evidence of the object intended by this armed party, reference is called to the Affidavit of Mr. \* \* \* a Copy of which is hereto annexed, which was made during the afternoon, the original having been sworn to before Dr. Cowan, and remaining in his possession.

This Affidavit was further corroborated by a statement made about 4 P.M. by Mr. Lyons, merchant of the village, who on his way from Pembina to-day found a body of armed men in possession of the roadway near the crossing of the River Sale across which they had thrown a barricade, through which barricade they were not allowed to pass without explanation, and giving satisfactory assurances that a stranger who formed one of the party was not connected with the Canadian Government.

The Meeting of Council Governor McTavish called for Monday, the 25th instant, it being stated that some of the members resided at such a distance that it could not be convened at an earlier date.

Red River Settlement,  
October 23rd, 1869.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) G. DENNIS.

( B. )

DEAR SIR,

Fort Garry, 15th October, 1869.

I very much regret to say that we have failed entirely in our endeavours to get over the opposition of the French Settlers to the Survey.

Governor McTavish has done all in his power in the present state of his health, and every effort has been made by Mr. Goulet and myself to persuade these men, but to no purpose.

I believe that they are now of opinion that we are influenced unduly in favour of the Canadian Government, so that it is in vain for us to have any further conferences with them at present.

Col. Dennis.

I remain &c.,  
(Signed) WILLIAM COWAN. ;

( C. )

MY DEAR COL. DENNIS,

Monday afternoon.

Your note has just been handed me, and of course, if you wish it, I will be very glad to see you after the meeting of Council, which will probably not be over before two o'clock, but I will send down and let you know. Matters, from information that has reached me, look serious, but it is very difficult judging of affairs of this kind here, and sometimes when the case looks bad the whole thing subsides. I have seen too many difficulties here got over quietly, to despair until the worst has taken place, but I must allow there are incidents in the present case that have not been in former troubles.

Yours truly,  
(Signed) W. McTAVISH.

RED RIVER SETTLEMENT, }  
To Wit.

( D. )

\* \* \* Maketh oath, and saith

During the afternoon of yesterday, some twenty men or thereabouts, fully armed, made their appearance at the crossing of River Salé, on the road between here and Pembina, near the Tannery of the Deponent; and other and smaller parties of men, also armed, kept coming in during the afternoon and evening, till as many as forty were in the party.

That the said party of forty men are now billeted (or were when the Deponent left home this A.M., at which time they had sent off some men for more provisions) round in the adjacent houses.

That the men composing the said party, deponent believes, all belong to the parish of St. Norbrot above mentioned, and St. Vital, and that the avowed object of their meeting in arms and waiting at the said point was to turn back the new Governor Mr. McDougall, and not allow him to enter further into the Colony. One of the men, in conversation with the Deponent, who was naturally anxious to find out the meaning of such an assemblage with arms in their hands, told the Deponent the above was their object, and further said that if the Governor persisted in attempting to come further than that point, i.e. the crossing of the River Salé, they would shoot him.

The Deponent saith further that he was informed by this party, and believes the same (inasmuch as he saw a number of horsemen passing previously), that another party mounted, supposed to consist of twenty men or more, are now in advance somewhere about Scratching River, accompanied by a man named Riel, whose intention it is to stop the Governor and submit to him several questions or rather demands, in the event of refusing which he is to be warned not to proceed.

There is a further and third party between the two points mentioned, which this Deponent, from information received, believes to number forty men.

Should the Governor persist in coming forward, notwithstanding repeated warnings, these parties will fall back on the reserve at the River Salé, and there final action will be taken as above mentioned, should he still further endeavour to force his way on to the Settlement.

The Deponent further saith, that among other houses in the vicinity where certain of the forty men at the River Salé are billeted, ten of the armed party find quarters at the house of the curé, Rev. Père Ritchot.

Finally, that this Deponent seriously believes that the said men are truly in earnest, and that, without prompt action be taken by the Authorities to avert the same, a serious calamity is about to