

(Telegraph.)

OTTAWA, November 20th, 1869.

JOSEPH WHEELOCK, St. Paul, Minnesota.—Letter for you mailed to-day. Should Governor McDougall return to St. Paul, request him to remain there till he hears from me. Telegraph any authentic news from frontier; they will charge tolls to this office.

JOSEPH HOWE.

DACOTAH, TERRITORY, U.S., Pembina, Nov. 5th, 1869.

Received by  
Secretary of  
State for the  
Province, 26th  
November.

SIR,—I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the events that have occurred in this vicinity since my communication of the 31st October. I expected to have been able to send this report by the mail which left Pembina this morning, but in consequence of the unexpected closing of the mail last evening at six o'clock, which the Postmaster said was "contract time," I was able to write only a short note, which, for prudential reasons, I addressed unofficially to Mr. Meredith. I now proceed to give you the details of the important events which prevented me from remaining in the North-West Territory.

On the 1st day of November, about eleven o'clock, a.m., while I was talking with a Chippawa Chief, and some of his band who had met me by appointment, Colonel Dennis and an English half-breed, Mr. Hallett, arrived from Fort Garry, having left the Fort early in the morning of the previous day. They rode over the prairie some miles to the West of Red River, and were not observed by the rebel scouts. Colonel Dennis brought a despatch from Governor McTavish, of which the paper marked A. is a copy. He also handed me the papers marked B. and C., bringing down his own narrative to the day previous to his departure. As the Governor and his Council concurred with Colonel Dennis in the opinion that it would be imprudent for me to proceed to Fort Garry under present circumstances; and as no steps had been taken towards organizing a force to support the authorities, I had no alternative but to remain at the Hudson Bay Company's Post. The furniture, &c., for the Government House having arrived at Pembina from St. Cloud, the person who had undertaken to deliver it at Fort Garry called upon me to know if he was to proceed with his freight, suggesting that it might be stopped on the way, and perhaps destroyed. I told him that as he had bargained to deliver it at Fort Garry he must complete his contract. I had reason to believe that he was aware of the designs and movements of the insurgents, and was in their confidence, if not in their plot. I took pains to impress him with the belief that it was no child's play his friends had begun, and that all the consequences of rebellion against Imperial authority must follow in this case as in others. I told him I had been sent as a civil governor, and was prepared to treat all classes and parties in the most friendly and impartial manner; but if they preferred a military regime and martial law they were taking the proper course to secure it. I knew that he would report my remarks as he passed through the rebel camp, and I thought it would be politic, since they had gone so far, that they should understand the view I took of their proceedings. I knew that Mr. Provencher's mission must end either favourably or otherwise before my interlocutor could see his friends. He told me that a party of twenty mounted men would pay me a visit in a day or two. As evidence of the earnestness and patriotic spirit of the insurgents he showed me a song in French, copied partly from the Marseillaise, and which was being circulated among the half-breeds of the neighborhood. He proposed to buy some of the property in his charge, the stoves especially, in order to save it from destruction. I declined his proposal with the remark, that the rebels might as well destroy the stoves as anything else, but I would hold him responsible, in the first place for their safe delivery at Fort Garry, and I thought the farms and cattle of the half-breed settlers would ultimately be found sufficient to pay any damage they might