

Fort and the troops were entering it, Mr. John H. McTavish, Chief Accountant of the Hudson's Bay Company gathered up all the most important books, maps and records and hid them away, and the Canadian Government afterwards received such records only, as would not hurt the bargain that had been made with the Hudson's Bay Company.

Governor Archibald in due time called the First Manitoba Legislature together for the dispatch of business.

In his first speech from the throne, Governor Archibald said: "I regret to have to inform you that the original plans of Survey have been lost within the last year. Happily a copy has been found, which appears to have been made with great accuracy. It will be desirable to prevent the mischief which would arise from the loss of the original plan by giving to the copy, till the original is discovered, the same validity as if it were the original. Your attention will be invited to a measure for this purpose."

On the 28th September, 1870, a petition was presented to Governor Archibald and his Council, by the old residents of St. Andrews, St. Peters, St. James, Kildonan and Headingly, asking the new Government of the country to enquire into the causes which led to all the troubles of 1869-1870, and indicating their wishes in reference to certain matters arising out of these troubles.

To this petition a reply was given in the form of a rebuke, on the 30th of September, 1870, and signed by A. Boyd, Provincial Secretary.

On the evening of the 25th August, 1886, Sir John A. Macdonald addressed the citizens of Winnipeg in Holy Trinity Hall. Sir John Mac-

donald told the people why the Federal Government was disallowing Charters for branch lines of railways running from the Main line of the C. P. R., into American territory. He also spoke of the splendid bargain that had been made when Canada bought this country from the Hudson's Bay Company, and told his audience that the value of one block of land in the City of Winnipeg was all that had been paid to the Hudson's Bay Company for the whole country.

At the close of the meeting the Hon. John Norquay asked me to reply to Sir John A. Macdonald by letter, to that part of his speech dealing with the purchase of this country, which I did, and I received the following letter:—

Earncliffe, Ottawa,
Sept. 21st, 1886.

Dear Sir:—

"Absence from home prevented my answering your interesting letter of August 30th before. Whatever may have been the original position or ownership of the Hudson's Bay Company, it is certain that their title was recognized by the Imperial Statute which enabled Canada to acquire their rights, and the Canadian Government must deal with the company from this point of view.

In haste, believe me,

Yours faithfully,

John A. Macdonald."

James Taylor, Esq.
Winnipeg.

To which I replied as follows:—

Winnipeg, Sept. 28th, 1886.

Dear Sir:—

"Referring again to your letter of the 21st instant, I have to say in regard to our lands, that coming in between the charter of the Hud-