

I think the epidemic (if I may so term it) may be turned to our own western possessions.

The Government having lately acquired the Hudson Bay Territory and having held out inducements for settling that Country. I have lately taken every opportunity of mentioning those facts to all my friends and men who have served under me; firmly believing that the Territory in question is the best place for our young men to emigrate to, and that they would be the best adapted for settlers, on account of the similarity of the climates, and if a commencement is once made, those in future who leave these townships would naturally follow after.

Moved by these facts, as well as my own desire and settled intention to proceed to the Red River Territory under any circumstances, I am induced to make the following offer.

I will undertake to raise five hundred men or more who will be ready to leave as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made to send them, should this offer be accepted.

They are all Township bred and born, chiefly young men of over twenty years, well used to a back woods life, and many of whom are good artisans as well, in fact there is not one among them who cannot build a bridge, house, or make a canoe or any thing that is necessary for a new settler.

The greater number of them have been and still are, under my command as Lt. Col. commanding the 55th Battalion of volunteer militia, and to my knowledge are possessed of some means, necessary to commence as new settlers when once on the ground, at the same time it will require some assistance to undertake the expensive journey to Red River.

I therefore have the honor to ask you if the Government will be willing to give them a free grant of land (in one locality if possible no matter how far, from any other settlement, as we are perfectly prepared and well able to make a community of our own if necessary) and a free passage.

At the same time, if the Government would accept