

American or annexation party, followed by Judge Black, of the Hudson Bay Company, who was leaving the country for his own, if not the country's good, appeared at Ottawa, calling themselves *Delegates* from Red River. They were named at a Convention of the Insurgents in Fort Garry, attended by a few English who were present rather from fear of personal violence than of free will, and could only protest against the acts of the majority. The "freely elected council" deliberated with Riel's armed guards at the door,—Governor McTavish, Dr. Cowan, and even Mr. Donald Smith, being at the time close prisoners!

(5.) With these so-called *Delegates* (two of them reeking with the blood of a murdered prisoner) whose acts in their pretended character of *Delegates*, the Provisional Government refused to acknowledge, the terms of the Manitoba Bill were arranged. The loyal portion of the settlement sent delegates in a less formal way, but they were only consulted *after* the Bill was agreed to by the other parties, and little if any attention was paid to their suggestions.

(6.) Notwithstanding the recent asseveration to the contrary, of Sir Francis Hincks, it was well known at Ottawa that while the Bill was on the Ministerial anvil, there were many and some hot controversies in the council room. Sir John, who was believed to be contending against the schemes of the Jesuits, fell ill and well nigh lost his life. The chevalier of St. Gregory took charge of the measure on behalf of the priesthood; Sir George conducted it through the House, and but for the determined efforts of a few members of the opposition, it would have passed in its original form. A French Catholic Province would have been established in Manitoba; a French Governor would have followed; and French customs, and French civil law, would have taken the place of English institutions, and English law, which prevailed before the transfer, and still have legal existence in that country. Even under the Bill as it passed, an attempt is being made with the aid of Lower Canada Lawyers, and a subservient Governor, to supercede the English Judicial system, by one more agreeable to Bishop Tache and his foreign priests.

(7.) The Bill as submitted to Parliament by the dominant faction in the Cabinet, was *on the face of it*, a Bill to establish French half-breed and foreign ecclesiastical ascendancy in Manitoba. The English and Protestant settlement of the *Portage*, the most promising in the Territory, was, by a cunningly drawn boundary line, excluded from the Province.