

ations moving the authorities to give these grants at the time. No doubt the half-breeds were under a feeling of grievance in 1870, as they were again in 1885, and anything that the Dominion did to quiet that feeling, was, I think, in the interests of Manitoba as well as in the interests of the Dominion.

Now I will pass on to the Hudson Bay grants. I am not going to dispute or discuss whether it was in reality what I believe it was, a purchase of this land from the Hudson Bay<sup>Co.</sup> by the Dominion, or whether it was a mere surrender to the Queen, by the Hudson Bay<sup>Co.</sup>, of their property and other sovereign rights in this territory and then the transfer from the Queen to the Dominion for Dominion purposes. I say it was impressed with the obligations-- we would say in Quebec it was " grevé d'une hypothèque"-- it was charged with the obligation of carrying out the terms of the surrender as far as these terms were of benefit to the Hudson's Bay Company. A part of the consideration for the transfer of their lands, property and sovereign rights in that district was the retention of certain specified areas around the forts, to start with, and the right when land was opened up to settlement to choose five per cent of the land. That was one of the essential conditions of the bargain. I should imagine that the land which they retained and the land which they subsequently chose far outweighed in value the 300,000 pounds which they got at the time, and I say this, that had Manitoba had those lands transferred to it in 1870, it would have had them transferred impressed with the same obligation-- burdened with the same obligation, to make good the contract of the Dominion either with the Company, or, if you will, with the Queen. I do not think

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