

our people, he says, would rally round him, but until the Proclamation was issued there would be nothing done. He had no faith in the working of Conventions—as long as McKinney, O'Loan, Riel, and the Priests Ritchot and O'Donohue were among them, and so long as Bannatyne gave them encouragement, as he now does. The latter has more influence amongst the French half-breeds than any one, or perhaps any dozen men in Fort Garry.

Dr. Schultz says he does not approve of speaking anything of troops coming in, until all the Canadians have notice, so that they can leave the Settlement. He thinks also that the Convention may result in sending delegates to see the Governor at Pembina; is clearly of opinion that had proper measures been taken by the Hudson's Bay Company on the first sign of the outbreak, of which they had due notice, no insurrectionary movement would have taken place. He says the Chippawa and Sioux Indians are with the Government, willing to assist in suppressing the revolt at any time—that if the people there knew they were to be protected by the Canadian Government, there would be no want of leaders amongst the English and Scotch half-breeds, that he thinks on the first sign of troops coming in, the Canadians will be murdered.

Mr. Snow coincides in every particular with Dr. Schultz—was very active and willing to assist me in carrying out the few little matters I had to attend to at Fort Garry, could not have got on well without him.

* * * says, if Governor would give him authority, he would organize the English and Scotch half-breeds at once—that they could take Fort any day, and keep it too—is not afraid of the report of troops being sent—would rather like to hear of it—is very much afraid of delay, as he is satisfied a number of Fenians are being raised to come into the settlement in the spring—could not give me any reliable authority, but insisted it was a fact.

Mr. * * * wanted to see troops in at once, and the whole thing would be crushed—The French were a noisy, brawling crowd, and would not stand fire—that 1,000 men would be a sufficient number to settle the dispute, and in aftertimes push back hostile Indians, if any should turn up—that too much delay would or might cause a deal of bloodshed, and probably the loss of the whole county.

Mr. Bannatyne is a gentleman with whom, with the exception of Mr. McKinney, I have had more conversation than any other in the settlement. He is clearly in favor of the measures taken by French half-breeds, although he told me one day “that he would rather have paid £50 than have had that rising take place!” On every occasion he had some excuse for the half breeds, and a word of sympathy at times for Governor McDougall and his family, but that the sooner he left Pembina the better it would be for himself and the settlement, and he hoped I would advise Colonel Dennis to leave, which I promised to do, I insisted on him going down with me to see the Governor, and take Riel, or McKinney, or O'Loan with him, but he would not consent. By-the-bye, McKinney told me that no delegates would be sent from the Convention to the Governor, for a particular reason that he was not at liberty to tell me at present. I could give many other conversations with other parties, but they were all of the same substance, and now, as you desire, I will give you my opinion of the whole as concisely as possible.

The movement from the first has been of a Republican-Fenian kind. I am fully convinced that no offer that could be made by the Canadian Government would be accepted by the French half-breeds and their friends the Americans, and that unless they are forced into it by this Convention and the threatenings of the English half-breeds and whites, or perhaps, troops, they will not accept a Governor from the Dominion on any terms.

Further, I believe the English and Scotch will take no steps to bring the Governor into the settlement, but that if once there they will protect him. This has been expressed to me by many of them. I endeavored on every occasion to impress on parties, where I could do so with safety, that the present Government or Council was only a provisional one—that as soon as a franchise was decided upon a responsible Government would be formed as understood in Canada, that I understood the Governor had it in his power to appoint 5 of