

breeds have contemplated this as the result of their movement, but it is well to know all the influences and motives at work.

I trust that you will take measures to keep me advised of what is going on beyond the barricade, and whether, in your opinion, any useful purpose will be served by my remaining here for any length of time.

I have many details for verbal communication, which you will, no doubt, receive from reliable quarters, not being sure that that this will reach you unread by others.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully yours, &c.,

WM. McDougall.

[H.]

To the Honorable William McDougall, C.B., Pembina.

We, as friends, would advise you by the bearer, who is a reliable man, as to the position of affairs here. The insurgents have taken possession of Fort Garry, and established sentries at its gates. No opposition offered by the officers of the Company, although informed that such events would take place twelve hours before. The town is also occupied by the rebels; so far no disturbance has occurred. Considerable wavering among the half-breeds of Riel's party, on account of Mr. Provencher not being allowed to address them in public, and many would be glad to go quietly to their homes. The rebels call a general meeting about Monday next, and will then demand an expression of the whole settlement, which we will take care to have present, and have no doubt that a large majority will be in your favor, and advise you strongly to await the result at Pembina.

The Hudson's Bay Company are evidently with the rebels, and their present rôle is to prevent your having any official intercourse with them. It is said that the rebels will support the Government of the Hudson's Bay Company as it now exists. All the subordinates in the party say that, if you have a Commission from Her Majesty to enter here as Governor, they will lay down their arms. Riel and the other leaders allow them to know nothing. If the Proclamation can be issued here, and the Hudson's Bay Company Government officially called on to act, they (the Hudson's Bay Company) would be forced to suppress the insurrection, and they can easily do it.

The actual number of the disaffected do not exceed 250 men, all told, and the slightest opposition would reduce that number to the original 40, including the priests and their head.

The supporters of the rebels in town begin to manifest considerable anxiety. Our opinion is that the Proclamation should be forwarded by the bearer, and we will see it placarded here. Send duplicate copies to Portage la Prairie by a trusty man to \*\*\*

On no account leave Pembina till you have established official communication with the Hudson's Bay Company. Any such sent by the bearer will be duly handed to them.

We are friends of the Canadian Government.

5th November, Winnipeg.

[I.]

PEMBINA, November 7th, 1869.

Governor McTavish, &c.

MY DEAR SIR,—I avail myself of this opportunity to inform you that I have been compelled, by an armed party of 20 men, to leave the Hudson's Bay Company's Post here, and recross the line. I am now in American territory, and shall remain here for the present. I wrote you two letters, both in one envelope, detailing the proceedings and