

APPENDIX

A.

TORONTO, September 3rd, 1870.*

SIR,—I had the honour, during your recent absence from the seat of Government, to receive from Mr. Under-Secretary Meredith, a letter (dated 2nd August), informing me that "His Excellency the Governor General in Council," had been pleased to direct that the Commission issued to me on the 29th September last, appointing me Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Territories, "be revoked."

Mr. Meredith does not mention the date of the writ of *supersedeas* which it appears His Excellency was advised to issue, but as the official *Gazette* had already apprised the public of the appointment of another person on the 20th of May to the same office, I am left to infer that the revocation and supersedure took place at some date antecedent to that appointment.

I regret that the Government found it necessary, after my letter to the Premier, Sir John A. Macdonald, in January last, (in which I voluntarily placed my Commission at his disposal), to resort to the adverse process of *supersedeas* without previous notice to, or communication with me. And I also regret, though with much less poignancy, that you should have availed yourself of your last official opportunity to add insult to the injury you had already inflicted on one of your recent colleagues, and now a chief victim of your policy.

I am persuaded you would not have withheld from me until the 2nd of August, the official notice to which, in all courtesy, I was entitled on the 20th May, unless you had determined that the first cycle of your ill-starred administration should be completed by an act that would not relieve by contrast your proceedings at Fort Garry, your reticence on the plains, or your speeches in Parliament.

* This letter is added to illustrate official courtesy at Ottawa. It closed my correspondence with Mr. Howe under the Royal Commission.—W. McD.