

aside by both parties in consequence. Thus ended for the present the most disagreeable, and I may add the most disgraceful business I ever witnessed.

(Signed) *Alex^r M^cDonnell.*

Sworn before us, William M^cGillivray and Archibald Norman M^cLeod, two of His Majesty's justices of the peace for the Indian territory and dependencies, this fourteenth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.

A true copy from the original.

(Signed) W^m M^cGillivray.

(Signed) *W^m M^cGillivray, J. P.*

(Signed) *A. N. M^cLeod, J. P.*

Inclosure
(11)
in Sir G. Drummond's, of 16
August 1815.

Speech of the grandes Oreilles, a great chief of the Chippaways, made in the Indian Hall at the forks of the Red River, on the 19th June 1814, and addressed to the Partners of the North-West company. The Chief holding in his hands a string of wampum tied at both ends, proceeded as follows:—

Traders! My children! When I first heard of the troubles you were in at this place, my heart became sore, and the tears ran down my cheeks. I found, however, there was no time to indulge in grief, no time to be lost; our traders, our friends, the protectors of our children were surrounded with dangers. I gave the call of war; and you see before you proofs that my voice was not exerted in vain; my young men have hastened to it.

I find that you, as well as the Indians, are environed with difficulties and dangers; we are placed, as if all were encircled within the ring of beads which I hold in my hands.

We have the Sioux to oppose from above, and now it appears we have to contend with land workers from below. Who are they, these land workers? what brought them here? who gave them our lands? and how dare they to prevent our traders from purchasing whatever we have to give them upon our own lands? But it would appear that these strangers, these makers of gardens, look upon themselves as the real possessors of these lands, and presuming upon this extraordinary right, would wish to prevent you from returning here, by depriving you of your stock of provisions, *tarded on this river*, in hopes thereby to drive you from the country, and make slaves of the Indians when deprived of their friends and protectors. As for them, we can never look on them as such.

Last summer I was called upon by you to go with my young men to Fort William*, in order to give assistance against the Americans. I listened to the call, and proceeded towards your great lodge; but when we reached it, I found our assistance was not required. I however left my war club in the hall, in case I might again be called upon. I could not then have thought that I should ever have occasion for my club to serve against the whites on these lands; and white people too, coming from the same lands as yourselves, and all of you, as well as the Indians, obeying the same great father.

But we see that these land workers are unreasonable, that they are determined to impose upon us, and upon you; we are therefore equally determined to break down whatever *barriers they may set up against you*, or against us. Methinks I regret my war club is at a distance, but I can easily find a substitute for it. I am now an old man, I do not value life; I am therefore come resolved to die between the two hostile parties. My young men are equally determined with myself. It is our wish, it is our interest to preserve you at the risk of our lives; for if you leave us, who amongst us will have pity on our women and children.

You say, however, that you have come to an understanding with these people; I am glad of it. I thank the master of life, that my string of beads will not be stained with the blood of whites residing on these lands. I should always wish to see you at peace; I would love you all were it possible; but my heart and my life are at the service of those who have charge of the bones of my father †, and of my brother; and

* Fort William is the head-quarters or place of rendezvous of the North-West company. It is situated on Lake Superior, lat. 48° 30' N. and long. 89° 30' W.

† The bones of Netam, the great chief, and father of the speaker, are preserved on a scaffold at Fort William, and his brother's bones in the same manner at Lac la Pluie. There is always a flag placed over them by the company, as a mark of distinction and respect for the memory of the dead chiefs.