

for months uncertain as to how the long struggle on the battle-ground of Europe had eventuated, and unaware of the fact that Napoleon, the troubler of the world's peace, was immured on a lonely rock safely guarded by the restless sea. From that date onward for nearly fifty long years that little band of Highlanders remained shut out from the rest of the world, till through freer communication with "the States" to the south, and "Canada" to the east, the tide of a larger life rolled up against us, and prepared the way for our entry, "not without tumult," into Confederation. It shall be our effort in the few chapters that follow to give those interested an idea of what these hermit settlers were doing in the meantime.

They chose to settle along the banks of the Red River on narrow farms (the general width being ten chains frontage on the river), running back at right angles from it on the prairie. These farms extended back two miles, as a freehold, with an additional two miles as a "hay privilege." Ultimately, these "outer two miles" were given in fee simple to the owner of the