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The Ottawa Times

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1870.

☞ *For interesting Reading Matter see First Page; for Ottawa Markets see Fourth page.*

THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBAH.

The Bill, for the erection of a portion of the North West Territory into a Province to be confederated with the Dominion of Canada, received a first reading on Monday last. In extent the new Province will consist of 10,000 square miles, stretching from the 49th to the 50th parallel of latitude, or 60 miles north, including the Red River and the Assiniboine River where they meet together, or, to be more particular, the Province is to include that region commencing at a point on the frontier of the United States Territory 96 degrees west of Greenwich, and extends to a point 98 degrees 15 minutes west, being bounded on the north by the 49th parallel of latitude, and on the south by latitude 50 degrees 20 minutes. The name of the new province is to be Manitobah, or, "The God who speaks." Its extent is by no means great, and the present inhabitants not over 15,000. For governing and legislative purposes there is to be a Lieutenant Governor, under a commission from the Governor-General of Canada with power over that portion of the North West not at present embraced, but intended to be embraced, in the new Province of Manitobah, ruling by instructions received upon Order in Council from Canada; a Legislative Council consisting of 7 members; and a House of Assembly consisting of 24 members, from which bodies a ministry, responsible to the people, will be selected to assist the Lieutenant Governor in the conduct of the Government. The new Province will also form an integral part of Confederated Canada, and have two Senator representatives and four Commoners in the Dominion Parliament, the Senate representation to be increased, when the population shall reach 75,000 to four. In addition to this transcript of the British Constitution, or rather of the Canadian Constitution to be bestowed upon the little Province of Manitobah the English and French languages are to be considered legal languages, and all the possessions of the present resident populations secured to them in free and common soccage, while there shall be a reservation for the purpose of extinguishing the Indian title of 1,200,000 acres out of lands, which, not being the property of individuals, shall belong to the Dominion of Canada. This is the scheme as concisely and briefly as it can be put. That it will meet with favor there is scarcely any doubt. No one can question the disposition to do full justice to the present inhabitants and to provide for the requirements of future generations. There is nothing indeed wanting to make Manitobah a prosperous and happy land but order—that sense of security which a belief in the majesty of law over prejudice and passion produces. This desire for order is strong among the law abiding residents of Red River as it is determined upon here. There must be freedom to go to and freedom to return from that country to all honest men. There must be freedom to dwell there. All classes and sects, and degrees and conditions of men must be permitted to do as they please within the bounds of the laws made upon the spot for local government, and within those laws, which will affect the Province as a part of the Dominion Confederation. There will be freedom of opinion on all matters, and no supremacy in any. All men, in the eyes of the law, will be equal. The men within the gates and the stranger without will be on an equal footing, so far as law is concerned, and to secure this desirable aim 390 regular soldiers of the Queen, with a force of Canadian Militia, fully organized, equipped and disciplined, three-fourths greater, will proceed to Winnepeg, the nucleus of the capital of Manitobah on a mission of peace.

This miniature government may seem to Mr. Mackenzie to be like something which he has seen described by the Dean of St. Patrick's in Gulliver's Travels. A House of Lords, consisting only of seven persons and a Commons of two dozen smacks of littleness, but the honourable gentleman should remember that his own great Province of Ontario had even a smaller beginning under Governor Simcoe than the Province of Manitobah. In Roger's Canada we find the following account of the first Parliament of Upper Canada, on the 18th September, 1792:

"The capital of the Province was at Newark, now Niagara. The seat of Government, according to the Duke de la Rochefoucault Liancourt, who visited it in 1795, consisted of about a hundred houses, "mostly very flue structures." Governor Simcoe apparently did not occupy one of them, but a "miserable wooden house," formerly occupied by the Commissaries, who resided there on account of the navigation of the lake,—his guard consisting of four soldiers, who every morning came from the fort, to which they returned in the evening. It is difficult even to guess at the appearance of the Parliament building. Assuredly it did not require to be of great size. When the time arrived for opening the session, only two, instead of seven members of the Legislative Council, were present. No Chief Justice appeared to fill the office of Speaker of the Council. Instead of sixteen members of the Legislative Assembly, five only attended. What was still more embarrassing, no more could be collected. The House was, nevertheless, opened. A guard of honor, consisting of fifty soldiers from the fort, were in attendance. Dressed in silk, Governor Simcoe entered the hall, with his hat on his head, attended by his Adjutant and two Secretaries. The two members of the Council gave notice of his presence in the Upper House to the Legislative Assembly, and the five members of the latter having appeared at the Bar of the two Lords, His Excellency read his speech from the throne. He informed the honorable gentlemen of the Legislative Council and the gentlemen of the House of Assembly, that he had summoned them together under the authority of an Act of Parliament of Great Britain, which had established the British constitution, and all that secured and maintained it to Upper Canada; that the wisdom and beneficence of the sovereign had been eminently proved by many provisions in the memorable Act of Separation, which would extend to the remotest posterity the invaluable blessings of that constitution; that great and momentous trusts and duties had been committed to the representatives of the Province, infinitely beyond whatever had distinguished any other British Colony; that they were called upon to exercise, with due deliberation and foresight, various offices of civil administration, with a view of laying the foundation of that union of industry and wealth, of commerce and power, which may last through all succeeding ages; that the natural advantages of the new Province were inferior to none on this side of the Atlantic; that the British Government had paved the way for its speedy colonization; and that a numerous and agricultural people would speedily take possession of the soil and climate. To this speech the replies of the Council and Assembly were but an echo. The seven gentlemen legislators proceeded actively to business."

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald stated that the Bill for the Government of the North West was not yet printed, several clauses of the copy from which he had read last night not being completed.

Mr. Mackenzie attacked the Government for having received Father Richot and Mr. Alfred Scott in an official capacity as delegates from the people of the North West while, in reality, they were the mere nominees of Riel and his gang, and the Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, who was always insinuating that those opposed to him were rebels, and was in the habit of charging them with disloyalty, had left a stain upon his own loyalty.

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald stated that those gentlemen were received as delegates in accordance with instructions from Her Majesty's Imperial Government and that His Excellency the Governor General as an Imperial officer, had given him leave to state, as they knew all along that he intended to receive these delegates, and consider their representations as well as those of other parties coming from Red River; that the sole object the Government had in view was the peaceable acquisition of the country at as little expense as possible; and he had no doubt if their efforts were not defeated by the Opposition that they would frame a Bill, which would satisfy the House and the inhabitants of the North West.

Mr. Bellrose stated that Dr. Lynch, whom he had esteemed as an honourable man, had been guilty of falsehood in charging Father Richot with being present at the execution of Thomas Scott, it having been proved before the magistrate that he had nothing to do with it.

Hon. Mr. Macdougall stated that the whole evidence from that country went to show that Richot was the instigator of the rebellion, and had been encouraging it. He attacked Sir George E. Cartier for his conduct, as reported in walking in public with Father Richot, whose hands were red with the blood of his countrymen.

Hon. Sir Geo. E. Cartier, after alluding to his feeling of sympathy for the member for North Lanark in his disappointment, claimed the right to exercise his own judgment in these matters, and said that when delegates were considered worthy to be received by the Governor General, there was nothing derogatory to him in holding intercourse with them.

Hon. Joseph Howe referring to the attack of the member for North Lanark on the Government for having held communication with the Delegates, enquired who had sent a sneaking and infamous letter to Riel, asking him to meet him on the sly.

Hon. Mr. McDougall replied that he knew in doing so that there was a traitor in the Cabinet with whom he had to hold official communication, and that to guard against him he had resolved to ascertain what statements and representations had been made by Mr. Howe among the people of the North West. He knew that he had been sneering at the Government officials, and at the proclamation, and that he (Mr. Howe) had done all in his power to bring Canadians into contempt.

The resolutions respecting the Superannuation Fund and Bank of Upper Canada Bill were passed in Committee.

Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald stated that it was the intention of the Government to abandon the Election Law, and after a conversation relative to the business of the Session, the House adjourned until to-day at 3 o'clock.

At this distance, there seems to be a somewhat ludicrous antagonism existing municipally in the City of Quebec. It is to be hoped that the presence of the military will not be required.

The Hon. John Hilliard Cameron and Mr. R. A. Harrison, left this city yesterday, to attend the assizes at Cornwall, in connection with the celebrated case of Allen vs. Vankoughnet.

The 60th Rifles.—In the haste to condemn an act of desertion from the army, which is most particularly unworthy of a brave man, the personal courage of the man was awkwardly alluded to in our issue of yesterday. It is of course unnecessary for us to state that nothing could be further from the fact than the supposition that any man of the 60th Rifles is, in the ordinary sense of the word afraid of danger. This gallant and distinguished corps has ever proudly maintained its honor from the Colonel to the Drummer. It was the act which merited condemnation and that only.

To Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald K. C. B., Minister of Justice, Premier, &c., &c.

Sir.—Whereas it is proposed in the Bill now before the House of Commons relating to the North West Territory, and regarding the formation therein of the Province of Manitobah, "That the region which is to form the said new Province shall be bounded on the East by the 96th° of longitude, on the West by longitude 98° 15m., on the North by latitude 50° 30m., and on the South by the 49th parallel.

And whereas this Western limit excludes the important Settlements of Portage la Prairie and White Mud River—containing a population of 2,000 souls—whilst on the East it takes in a portion of country wholly unsettled and not so well fitted for agricultural purposes. Therefore in the name and on behalf of the people of these Settlements I most respectfully protest against such exclusion.

And I most humbly pray that should your Government have good reasons for desiring to confine the proposed Province to the extent of area specified, whilst retaining the proposed Northern and Southern limits, you will be pleased to locate the longitudinal boundaries three-quarters of a degree further West, thus making the Eastern and Western boundaries, respectively, 96° 45m., and 99°.

Allow me, moreover, to suggest, that in fairness to all the inhabitants of that territory, to the dwellers on the Red River and lower course of the Assiniboine, and not less to the residents of Portage la Prairie, themselves, these two thousand people are equally entitled to consideration with the rest, in the matter of the pecuniary advantages accruing to them, by connection with the Dominion, the subsidy granted &c., &c.,

I have the honor to be, hon. Sir,
Your most humble servant,
JAMES LYNCH.

Russell's, Ottawa, May 3, 1870.

Dominion Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(Continued.)

Ottawa, May 2, 1870.

Hon. Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER said it would have been more opportune to have taken the objections at the second reading, rather than now. He himself would not enter on the merits of the Bill, but make a few prefatory observations in answer to those of the member for Lambton. He had found fault with the Constitution of the Territory, and there being two Houses for so small a portion of the Territory. He referred to Prince Edward Island, with its population of only 85,000, and an area of only 1,300,000 acres, which, from the first, had a political organization and all the machinery of a Government, and to New Brunswick, which, at the time of its separation from Nova Scotia, had a population not larger than that of Nova Scotia. Manitobah was the key to the whole territory, and when they had defined its limits they had done a good work. This Bill had, as it were, disclosed the policy of the Government, for it was evident there was room between Ontario and the Rocky Mountains for several Provinces, and Manitobah was made the model or starting point for the Provinces to be erected to the Pacific Ocean. As to the objection that there was too large a subsidy, he said the new Province was entitled to be placed on the same footing as any other. If the people had waited till they were 50,000 or 75,000, instead of being entitled to $21,000 a year from the Government, they would have been entitled to double or perhaps treble that amount. There was room in the Territory for a million of inhabitants, and yet for some time all the expenditure for this would be only $21,000 for local wants, and a subsidy of $30,000 a year for the Local Government. The land, except 1,200,000 acres, was under the control of the Government, and these were held for the purpose of extinguishing the claims of the Half-breeds, which it was a desire to leave unsettled, as they had been the first settlers, and made the Territory. These lands were not to be dealt with as the Indian reserves, but were to be given to the heads of families to settle their children. The policy, after settling these claims, was to give away the land so as to fill up the country. As it did so emigration would go westward, fill up other portions of the Territory, and so the grand scheme of Confederation would be carried out. Instead of, as in Newfoundland, where they were to pay $150,000 a year for these lands, those in the North-West had been given up for nothing. It must be in the contemplation of the members of the House that these could be used for the construction of the British Pacific Railway from the East to the West, and yet the member for Lambton complained of the grant of $30,000 at the beginning of the existence of the Province. Then they were to get 80 cents a head till the population amounted to 400,000, and at the greatest estimate there never would be more than $425,000 a year ever going to that Province, and that not for many years hence, but the sooner the better, as the greater would be the contributions to the exchequer. The population was now only 15,000, but the consumption was not for them alone, but for 200,000 Indians, who consumed an immense quantity of dutiable articles. After a few other observations, in which he said he would not enter into the question of the appointment of an officer of constabulary, and stated that he believed, when the member for Lambton read the Bill carefully, he would recognise the wisdom of its provisions.

Mr. MACKENZIE said he had not entered into any explanation as to the mounted police, and the appointment of Captain Cameron.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said that it was intended to have a body of mounted rifles to protect the people from the chance of an Indian war. Under the beneficent rule of the Hudson's Bay Company there was peace in the Territory, while across the line there were frequent wars, and the Indians were shot down by emigrants going West—shot down ruthlessly. As the expectation was that there would be a large influx of emigrants from Europe or from Canada, and there was a fear that emigrants from the American States, accustomed to deal with the Indians as enemies, would be shooting them down and causing great disturbances. The necessity, therefore, arose to have a small but active force of cavalry to act as mounted police, so that they could move rapidly along the frontier to repress disturbances; and it was not proposed to make the force more than 200 men. They would be drilled as cavalry, or rather as mounted riflemen, and be disciplined as a military body, but act as constabulary. Such a force would be amply sufficient for the purpose, and be enough to secure order.

Mr. MACKENZIE said that the question as to whether Captain Cameron was employed had not been answered. If he was raising a force, how and where was he doing so?

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said Captain Cameron had not received a commission. The Government had employed Mr. McMicken and Mr. Coursol, as Police Commissioners, the latter of whom was engaging men in Lower Canada speaking French, and able to read and write, and to speak both French and English if possible. He intended to raise 50 men in Canada altogether, and 150 more in the Territory, commingling the different races, as had been done in India so successfully. It was the best force that could be raised, and by the commingling no predominance would be given to either.

Mr. MACKENZIE said he was glad to find that the Government had not employed Capt. Cameron.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he did not say that. He said that a Commission had not been issued. He might say, however, that he was a most efficient officer.

Mr. MACKENZIE said he might be in his own place, but not in the position proposed. He had a further question to ask. A number of persons had lost their all in these disturbances, and had all their goods seized and used. Were they to receive compensation.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he did not know what he meant. He did not see how this House could deal with such a question. That might be a matter to be settled in England.

Mr. MACKENZIE did not see how they could go to England for compensation. He presumed they would not deny some remedy should be provided.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said they had not yet reached that point, as this Bill was simply one for the Government of the country. The other was a separate matter, and will be so considered either here or in England, but it was premature to discuss it now.

Hon. Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER explained in French, in the course of which,

Mr. GODIN asked if the Constitution was to be submitted to the people before being passed.

Hon. Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER No.

Hon Mr. McDOUGALL said he spoke with some reluctance on account of the position he had unfortunately held with respect to the Territory. With respect to the Bill, he might say he was both pleased and displeased. Pleased at its having been brought down, and displeased at its unsatisfactory character. It must be displeasing to every one to know that the bargain settled with the three Governments, had been refused to be carried out on the pretence of the motive, which it was said actuated the Government. It was known that the reason given was that the Government desired to compel the Imperial Government to put them in peaceable possession of the country. They had been so far successful that the Imperial Government had promised to send 200 or 300 troops into the country and to pay one fourth of the expenses. He apprehended there would be some condition attached to that agreement which would probably lessen its value to this country. Were they to understand that the Imperial Government agreed to pay one fourth of all the expense, no matter what might be the extravagance of our Government? Were they to bear one fourth of the expense of constructing boats, many of which were constructed in Lower Canada upon the miserable rule that everything done must be distributed between French and English. The transportation of these boats to Collingwood would cost as much as the boats themselves. Were they to understand that the Imperial Government agreed to bear one-fourth of that extravagance? He believed not. With regard to the leading features of the Bill they did not commend themselves to his judgment. People were not prepared for, and did not want so cumbrous and intricate a system of Government, and it was absurd to impose it upon them. A cheap simple and direct system of Government such as that provided for in the Bill of last Session would answer every purpose, and would meet the almost universal approval of the people. He objected to the system of two Chambers, and was astonished to find the system proposed for Red River in view of its expense in Quebec and the success of one chamber system in Ontario. He hoped the Government would consent to change in this respect. In looking over the map of the new Province laid on the table, he noticed that an important Canadian settlement containing some four or five hundred families, namely; Portage la Prairie, had been left beyond the limits of the Provinces, though the boundary line diverged 15 minutes to take in a small settlement marked on the map "Roman Catholic Mission." It was just as well there should be a little plain speaking on this point at an early day. It was known by the Government and the country that the rebellion in the North West originated with the Roman Catholic priesthood (no, no, from French members). That fact was substantiated by the Commissioners of the Government who had been sent to that country. The priesthood desired to secure certain advantages for themselves, their Church or their people. And they advised their people to take the course they did. These facts could be proved beyond doubt if the House would grant a Committee of enquiry. He believed the respectable, wealthy, intelligent portion of the Roman Catholic population were opposed to that course and loyal to this Government, and would willingly accept the Government that was provided for in the Bill of last session. He warned the Government that amendments would be proposed to this Bill. With regard to the claims of loyalists from the Territory, he understood the Minister of Militia to say that they must look to England.

Hon. Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER said he had not stated that. He had mentioned when the Minister of Justice was speaking that these claims might fall on us or perhaps on England. He did not say decidedly that they would have to be settled by England.

Hon. Mr. McDOUGALL accepted the explanation, and went on to argue the justice of these claims, and the necessity of their being attended to by the Government. The Imperial Government were under no obligation to settle these claims. He concluded by denouncing the appointment of Captain Cameron to the head of the police for Red River as the most unfortunate selection that could be made.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said the hon. member for North Lanark seemed unable to comprehend the policy of the Government. With regard to the non-payment of the money, he would only ask the House to consider the position of the Government when the unfortunate interruption to the hon. gentleman's entrance into the territory took place. They should look at the season of the year and the surrounding circumstances. What would have been the consequences of the payment of the money on the 1st December last? The inevitable consequences would have been the immediate transfer of the country to Canada. (Hear.) They had been told by the press that they should have sent up a military officer, who would have gone to the country by railroad, as did the hon. gentleman, and entered the country alone.

Hon. Mr. MACDOUGALL—An absurd suggestion.

Hon. Sir F. HINCKS said the Government at once saw that at that season of the year, in the first place, it was impossible that Canada should take the government of that country. It was essentially important, and every day had made them more convinced of the view they took, that without reference to the paltry question of expenses, that we should have the prestige of the Imperial Government in getting up and sending an expedition there, to establish the Queen's authority, instead of leaving Canada to commence the war with that people on its own account and on its own responsibility, thereby inviting fillibusters and sympathisers from the neighboring States to come in and join in, and thus involve the country in an expenditure of which no one can have any conception.

Hon. Sir GEO. E. CARTIER—Hear, hear.

Hon. Sir F. HINCKS said, when the Government first heard of these circumstances, before the lamentable events which subsequently occurred had taken place, they at once took the very best means to allay the discontent which existed more particularly among a certain portion of the population. We were unsuccessful because—he was sorry to say it and regretted to have to go into that question—of the unfortunate mistake committed by the hon. gentleman.

Hon. Mr. MACDOUGALL—No, no.

Hon. Sir F. HINCKS could readily understand, and feel that it was his bounden duty to stand up and defend himself. But if things he had been allowed to remain until the Government of this country had been able to prescribe a policy which, under the circumstances, if they had been allowed to employ the agencies which they at once took steps to employ if Father Thibault had gone up, and the proclamation never been issued, and the force not been invited to go on, he was perfectly certain that in a very few days Father Thibault would have settled matters. (Hear.) If the hon. gentleman had remained quiet until he had known the views of the Government, there would have been no difficulty whatever. It was not a question of expediency. The time of paying the money was the question. They thought that the right time for paying the money was when the Queen's authority had been restored. Then it was quite right that quiet should be restored by a force acting under the Imperial officers, and having the prestige of our Sovereign, thus presenting the appearance of its being a war between one section of the Dominion and the people. It was a view taken by the Government, it was not a mere question of expenditure. If the territory, of course, had been transferred to Canada, they could not expect England to contribute any share of the expenses. We have got to maintain peace in our own territories, but under the peculiar circumstances of the case, it was important that the force should be essentially an Imperial force and not a Canadian force. (Hear.)

It being six o'clock the House rose for recess.

AFTER RECESS.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS resumed the debate. He said he was bound to place on record his opinion of the Act which had produced the most disastrous consequences in the Territory, that was the issue of the proclamation by the member for North Lanark, when sent as Governor of the Territory. The intentions of the Government were most liberal. The Legislature was only provisional in its nature, and they had sent one who had been a warm advocate of the policy of acquiring this Territory to be settled in great part from the four older Provinces. The Government had given instructions which in his (Sir Francis') judgment, no exception could be taken. His object was to get there, to place himself in communication with all parties, to obtain all the information possible and inform the Government what kind of constitution was most suitable. Notwithstanding what he conceived to be the wise course taken by the Government, the strongest opposition was offered by the leading organs of the Opposition in Ontario. Every means was taken to excite distrust in the Canadian Government. It was said they intended to ill-treat the inhabitants of that country, that they had no intention to regard their wishes, and he believed that a great deal of the discontent was due to these efforts. He was disposed to make every allowance for errors of judgment in the performance of the duties imposed on the member for North Lanark. But when the Government as a Government expressed their disapproval of his course which they firmly believed led to the consequences which they had all seen, he could not but deplore the action which led to such a disastrous result. It was the duty of hon. members, and they could not but sympathise with those who were acting in that Territory in sympathy with the Canadian Government, but there could be no doubt they took a course which led to evil results. Honourable members talk of claims, but he could not see how the Government could deal with claims which had not been presented. No such claims had been made but even if they had that was a question entirely apart from that of the Bill brought in by the Minister of Justice. It had nothing to do with it, and it was unfortunate that the question should be raised. He would deal with representations made by those persons peculiarly distinguished as Canadians as opposed to what some honourable gentlemen were pleased to call the rebel party, but which he would distinguish as the mixed French and Indian race, chiefly Catholic in religion. Could it be made clear to him that those against whom the hon. gentleman protested had asked exclusive privileges he could understand it. But he had read a letter in one of the papers to-day, addressed to the Governor General, and signed James Lynch, a gentleman assuming, and no doubt correctly assuming to represent the wishes of a large portion of the population, and one for whom he had the highest respect. He had carefully read the letter, and had endeavoured to see if there was any real grievance against these persons, or if the Government had committed any error from the point of view of those whom Dr. Lynch represented. It had already come out in the course of the discussion that in all questions coming before the Government, they had not considered the question whether the delegates were representatives of the majority or minority. Admit that they represented the minority; admit even that as alleged in the letter, had been the appointed by gentleman Mr. Riel (cries of gentleman and confusion). It were admitted that one delegate did not represent him. That was Judge Black who was brought to accept the mission with great reluctance, his name having been given as the letter states, as a sort of sop to those not under Mr. Riel's influence. Assume that all the statements made by Dr. Lynch were correct and he would ask if the Bill was open to the objection of pressing on those whom Dr. Lynch represented. What were the points in contention? First, these delegates would have desired—as stated in the Bill of Rights—that they should have the whole lands of Manatoba into their possession, that is into the possession of the Local Government. What he wanted to establish was simply this: that all those identifying themselves with the Province of Manitoba were all equally interested in getting all they could out of Canada whether by way of subsidy or otherwise. He did not understand that any of them were afraid of elective institutions. On the contrary they were quite ready to assent to them. Put aside for the moment the second chamber and elective institutions with an elective chamber as in other Provinces, he was satisfied they would not object to. His experience in the Dominion Government satisfied him that the Governments of all the Provinces and the people desired to get all they could out of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. CHAUVEAU—Except Quebec.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKR said he excepted neither Quebec nor Ontario. On the other hand the Dominion Government were there to protect the Dominion Treasury. Well, as far as he was aware, all points had been fully discussed between the Dominion Government and the gentlemen who had been sent as delegates. He believed the Dominion Government could have made better terms with those representing Canadian interests, than with those representing the Convention. Whether they had been freely elected or elected under terror he would not discuss, and, so far as he could find, they did not come to ask any special legislation for any class, Canadians as well as others being equally protected.

Mr. MACKENZIE—At whose instance was the English settlement excluded?

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS—He would come to that by-and-by, that was a small question. But on all points no particular party claimed any special interest; the best terms were to be obtained for all parties. The member for Lambton had argued that the Dominion Government had given too much. That was a fair subject for criticism, but not as between one section of the population there and another, for the arrangement was made for the good of all. It was perfectly clear that when the difficulties were settled and the Queen's authority established that a vast emigration would be pouring into the country, from the four Provinces but principally, there was no doubt, from Ontario, and the original inhabitants would thus be placed in a hopeless minority, and of this, they themselves had no doubt. If this were correct it was perfectly obvious that those who had been occupying the Territory, all their lives would naturally take this view? That they were to be entirely swamped and their influence destroyed, that all their lands were to be taken, not as in the other Provinces, and that they would have to take simply a moderate portion of land for the settlers and their children, not for one class but for all. There was not one point he could discover in which the delegates—representing a minority if you will—took a sectarian view. There had been a good deal of sneering at large institutions for a small number of people in the Territory. Although he could cite constitutions granted by the Imperial Government to places with populations smaller, and without the least prospect of increasing, as there was likely to be an increase here with a representative chamber, yes, and with a second chamber. Yet he would readily admit the perfect absurdity (hear, hear), of the whole scheme if they were providing for the total of 15,000, instead of the population which would go there. Before the month they were now entering was well advanced, they would be flocking in, and in so short a time that he was afraid to say how short an immense population would be enjoying the institutions of a free British people. His hon. friend, the Minister of Militia, had correctly pointed to the fact that in 1791 when Upper Canada was made a Province its population was less than the population in the North West now. He had great faith in the future of that country. Unfortunately the gentleman to whom the Government looked to for responsible advice had from circumstances been unable to afford this, and the Government were compelled to deal with it on their own responsibility. Therefore, it was not dictated, nor had the result been brought about by any delegates, although they were consulting with them and were happy to believe they were prepared to acquiesce in the decision at which the Government were arrived.

Mr. MACKENZIE—Then they saw the Bill before we did.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS—They have not seen it yet.

Mr. MACKENZIE—How could they acquiesce?

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS—They knew its general principles. Did he mean to say it was wrong to communicate with these persons?

Mr. MACKENZIE—He did mean to say so. Drs. Schultz and Lynch and Mr. Fletcher were as much entitled to be consulted as the rebel delegates and they never had been so.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said he must know that the whole object was to make such condition as would be for the interests of the friends of Drs. Schultz, Lynch, and Mr. Fletcher. They were quite satisfied with the policy of the Government, and acquiesced in it for the Canadians.

Mr. MACKENZIE said they were not satisfied.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said he held in his hands proof of it in the letter of Dr. Lynch, in which he said he had confidence that the Government would deal fairly with the people. They were not the dissatisfied party. Did the hon. gentleman mean that it would be a statesman-like policy to force the people into war. The Government policy was to get the country peacefully, and when it became thoroughly Canadian the people now there must necessarily be in the minority. But, not satisfied with getting the country, they must also have war,

Mr. MACKENZIE.—Who says that?

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said, it was not only the opinion of the Canadian Government that no policy could be more adverse than that to the interests of Canada, and, if they had adopted a policy against conciliation, they would not have had the confidence of the Imperial Government. They had taken the course, from first to last, which was wise and prudent, and in consonance with a majority of this House. The Imperial Government had, at first, found fault with the Government for not paying over the money, but when they saw the reasons that were given, that they were wise and statesmanlike, they approved of them, and were now acting in close co-operation.

Mr. MACKENZIE said they had never said so.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said they had acted in a manner to show that they were satisfied. It would have been an act of madness if they had paid over the money in December, in the depth of winter, to be left on the hands of Canada, who would be compelled to enter on the war in the spring, and exposed to meet all kind of fillibustering, and an expensive and disastrous war. He was not going to enter into any details of the Bill. That would be better done on the second reading, but he had called attention to the remarks on the unsound policy of the Government to show that it had been a unsound policy throughout.

Mr. FERGUSON asked how 190 families had been left out at Portage la Prairie, as laid down in the map.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the object of the residents had been to obtain possession of the whole country. They wished Rupert's Land made into one Province and to have all the land within the boundary as in other Provinces. The Government thought, as he believed did the majority of Parliament, that that great country should be divided into Provinces with as restricted a boundary as possible, and the only reason that led to the exclusion was the belief that the settlement would form the nucleus of the new Province altogether British (hear hear and oh). It was pointed out that it was impossible to hand over the country, to be legislated for by the present inhabitants. He pointed out that the Territory had been purchased for a large sum from the H. B. Co., that settlement had to be made with the Indians, the guardianship of whom involved, that the land could not be handed over to them, it was of the greatest importance to the Dominion to have possession of it, for the Pacific Railway must be built by means of the land through which it had to pass. He could assure them that in discussing with the delegates from the Convention they did not suggest this division. They wanted the whole country, but they insisted at last on so arranging that they should touch and obtain access to Manitobah Lake on the one side and Lake Winnepeg on the other.

Mr. MACKENZIE And exclude the English.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said if they were excluded from that Province they still belonged to the Dominion, and if asked man by man they would prefer Government by the Dominion to be governed from Fort Garry. But the Bill provided that the Province should be extended if Parliament should insist on a different policy and instead of a series of Provinces extend the boundaries.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said there were other gentlemen in the Province not included.

Mr. MACKENZIE—No—Several members. Name them.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the posts of the H. B. C. were settlements.

Mr. FERGUSON was exceedingly sorry to have given the hon. and gallant knight, the Minister of Justice, the trouble of making so lengthy an explanation, which was, nevertheless, he regretted to say, not quite satisfactory to him. He should have desired that the whole people of the North West should have been included in the new province. This he perceived, was not the intention of the Government. He, however, could not help believing that the three thousand English-speaking settlers at Portage la Prairie should have formed part of the Province of Manitobah, coming thereby within the new Government and taking a share in it. Nay, he would go further, and say that he had hoped that even those posts of the Hudson's Bay Company, within reasonable bounds, where there were two hundred settlers, should not have been left out of the pale of the proposed Government and Legislature of Manitobah. The determination at which the Government, apparently, had arrived of leaving out the settlement of the Portage La Prairie, and the settlers at the posts, had no doubt been come to after mature consideration, and was the result of the best information which they had obtained. That information, nevertheless, may have been, to some slight extent, one-sided, and he might be excused for entertaining the idea that on this point the opinions of gentlemen representing the loyal people of the country were entitled to as much weight as were those of the men whom Riel had delegated to express his views and wishes. With some of those loyal gentleman he had come in contact and he could not refrain from stating that he had never heard them express any wish to the effect that the people of Laprairie, or any other of of the English settlers in the North West, should be left out of the proposed Government. He, indeed, thought that they could not do otherwise than desire to be included in it. Fort Garry, which was the capital, the chief, and he might say the only city in the proposed Province of Manitobah, was not more than sixty miles distant from La Prairie. There was every reason why they should form a part of the new Province, and no good reason, whatever that they should be excluded. The idea of excluding them was preposterous. The exclusion of an English speaking settlement so near the chief city—the capital, in fact, of the new Government—could not be carried into effect without causing remark and suggesting the inference that there were other reasons besides those alleged for so short-sighted a proceeding. The cutting off of these people was not a mere temporary expedient, but an arrangement which might last for years.

Hon Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said there were other settlements in the Province not included.

Cries of "Name."

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said the posts of the Hudson's Bay Company were settlements.

Mr. FERGUSON repeated that, in his opinion, all the settlements should be included in the new Province. At Portage La Prairie there were 3,000 settlers, and at the posts there were 200 settlers at the lowest computation. These should all come within, and be included in the Province of Manitobah. Setting that matter aside for the moment, he might further be permitted to remark that there seemed to him to be no necessity for a Legislature with two Chambers—an Upper and a Lower House—for 11,000 people—the balance of the whole population of 15,000, when La Prairie and the posts were left out of the question. Indeed, he very much doubted whether this House had authority under the Act of Confederation, to constitute an Upper Chamber. There did not seem to him, to be the slightest necessity for two Houses, and he could not conceive it to be possible that two Senators should be permitted to so very few people as their representatives in the Upper House of the Dominion Parliament. The new Province, in his opinion ought to embrace far wider limits than was intended and, without the power of attaining his wishes in this respect, he could not resist the temptation of giving expression to his views upon what seemed to him to be a very important matter. There was one other matter to which he would allude before sitting down. Heretofore, in all his transactions, he had always found the Hon. Minister of Militia liberal towards the whole English speaking race, and he (Mr. Ferguson) had never failed to defend him—and that too, at a time when his name did not stand so high in Ontario as it now does, when he was attacked. He admired the honourable gentleman for his undoubted pluck, public spirit and liberality, and only regretted that he could not now go so fully along with him in this measure as he could have desired. He had no hesitation in remarking further that he had, on excellent authority, ascertained that the origin of the outbreak was not attributable, as had been alleged, altogether to priestly influence. There were possibly some priests, who had from mistaken motives, taken part in the resistance to Canadian authority, but there were other parties besides Roman Catholic priests, who had no mean share in instigating the outbreak. He certainly trusted that the Bill was open to amendment, as unless it were so open, he could not afford to give it his support.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONADD said the Bill, of course, was open to amendment.

Mr. FERGUSON hoped that it might be so amended as to include the Portage La Prairie in the new Province.

Mr. MASSON (Terrebonne) had found it impossible to agree up to the present moment, with the Government on the North West embroglio. Had always thought that the Government had made a great mistake in not consulting the inhabitants of the territories, in not taking the advice of persons of standing, who would have been most happy to tender advice if required. He had not one word to discover in all he had said on this question, and had remarked with pleasure some time ago, that the Hon. Minister of Militia had manfully admitted himself, that the Government had been mistaken as to the nature of the Government existing in the Red River settlement, thereby admitting what he (Mr. Masson) had contended for, that the rule of common prudence had been discarded. He had always thought one of the greatest faults of the Government had been the nomination of the Hon. Mr. Macdougall as Lieutenant Governor. He was sure that many an Englishman, both in the House, and in the country, who by their liberal turn of mind, would have been most acceptable to the population. The hon. member for North Lanark had this evening by his attack on the Catholic clergy fully justified the opinion that no worse nomination could be made to govern a people composed of men of different religion and races. He (the member for North Lanark) had found fault with the Government for having granted a liberal representative Government to the new Province. The accusition came bodily from a member of the great liberal party of Ontario and would be resented by all men in the country, who believed in liberal institutions. The accusation came badly from a gentleman belonging to the then small Province of which had obtained representative institution when only inhabited by a few thousand people. He (Mr. Masson) was grieved to hear the member from North Lanark attacking the Roman Catholic clergy in this very moment, when it is perfectly known that the pacification of the Red River was due to the untiring efforts of the Right Rev. Bishop Tache, a most patriotic, able, and liberal minded gentleman, who had by his loyal influence, induced Riel and his followers to hoist the English flag on the bastions of Fort Garry, and had it saluted by the guns of the Fort. He (Bishop Tache) had brought to submission men who had taken from their fathers those principles of freedom, of which the two great races inhabiting this country are so proud, and their interests of liberty of the wild men of the desert. The member for North Lanark had charged the Government with being the cause of the disasters which occured in the North West, and were responsible for all danger done. He (Mr. Masson) was of opinion that the Government were not blameless in this matter; he held them responsible for a great part of the mischief done, but it did not come well from the member to charge them with it, when it was known that his unfortunate and unauthorized proclamation had more to do with the continuance of the disturbance, than the mistakes of the Government. Had his proclamation been acted upon, he would have been responsible for the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects, and the weight of damages done by the Government, would have been still greater, and told more heavily on those, and wherever they may be, who will be obliged to pay the indemnity. As to the measure he [Mr. Masson] thought it was a liberal minded measure so far, and would be considered by the people of Red River as an atonement for their disregarded rights. He would not now examine the question of the expedition further than to state that he thought every member of the House felt that the Imperial Government had not dealt fairly with us, and our Government in the proportion they assumed of the expenditure required for that expedition, when it was considered that the country had never been ours. He would support the Bill as a whole with all reserves as to the expediency of the expedition, and our share of the contribution.

Hon. Mr. HOWE said the discussion might be carried out on some of the questions that had arisen during the debate. He could not expect to be entirely silent on the subject of the North West, and strange criticisms and remarks had been passed on him. With regard to the charge made against the Government that they acted dishonourably in not paying the £300,000 for the possession of the country. If they had paid that money, under the circumstances, was it likely that they should have got possession of the Territory? He wondered what would have been said if the money had been paid and lost the Territory too. He would have liked to here the member for Lambton speak on that if it had occurred at the following Session. They had some reason to apprehend that not being then well satified with the transfer of the Territory that there was some uneasiness among the employees of the Hudson's Bay Company. While they have to pay over that money to strengthen the hands of those men? No, they paused in their action. They raised the money, put it in depot, and [illegible] days they had a strong [illegible] the wisdom of their proceedings [illegible] telegrams from Hon. Mr. Macdougall [illegible] lating that disturbances had taken [illegible] and showing the want of action [illegible] Hudson's Bay Company, [illegible] weakness and imbecility of the [illegible] This was evident of the weakness [illegible] Company furnished to them on the [illegible] November, and he put it to the [illegible] tleman, that matter not being [illegible] during the whole winter, [illegible] would not have incurred grave [illegible] ties? (hear, hear). The [illegible] have said we have got the [illegible] there is nothing for us to [illegible] matter of preserving peace [illegible] leave it entirely to the Government [illegible] Canada. They, therefore, [illegible] and were there to answer for it [illegible] tion if they had paid the money [illegible] resulted in circumstances [illegible] have merited the application [illegible] being worse than abusive. [illegible] have been in a position of [illegible] authority and possession of [illegible] the whole winter, in which they [illegible] place their foot. They threw the [illegible] sibility on the Hudson Bay Company [illegible] the Imperial Government. [illegible] held on to the money, that [illegible] point, (laughter). He did [illegible] the honour of the country had [illegible] ished by that action. If the [illegible] ernment did not come to [illegible] power in this territory it was [illegible] cult course to that which he [illegible] associated with the name of Great Britain [illegible] If that ancient empire was to be held [illegible] gether, if the loyalty of the country [illegible] habitants were to be maintained, this was [illegible] not the course to be adopted. The [illegible] with which the British people [illegible] Abyssinian outlay gave strength and [illegible] tige to the present expedition. [illegible] something to have the Queen's [illegible] for passing out of our own limits [illegible] country where we expect to have [illegible] power maintained and informed [illegible] ture. If from any cause the [illegible] ernment were to refuse to [illegible] this expedition of peace, he would [illegible] to advise the people of Canada [illegible] in it. The Hon. Mr. McDougall [illegible] throw on the Government the [illegible] blame. He (Hon. Mr. Howe) had [illegible] the territory for several days [illegible] knowing that there was a danger [illegible] rection; but the blame rested on [illegible] Mr. McDougall as Minister of Public [illegible] who had constant communication [illegible] employees in that country, and [illegible] not inform him (Hon. Mr. Howe) [illegible] fall that there was a danger of [illegible] tion in the Province. Mr. Snow was [illegible] fifteen months, but did not say any [illegible] about it, and Colonel Dennis [illegible] started in August, and was selected [illegible] Hon. Mr. McDougall, and was [illegible] to Mr. McDougall, but neither of [illegible] had given the slightest intimation [illegible] there was to be any conflict or any [illegible] interruption to the progress of the [illegible] dian Government. And yet he was [illegible] pected to find it out in a single day. [illegible] inhabitants were not savages.

Hon. Mr. McDOUGALL—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HOWE said the intelligence of the people was remarkable. [illegible] Bishop of Rupert's Land [illegible] to come to his house, and he found [illegible] a prelate of the highest character [illegible] telligence, and his second [illegible] headed Scotchman (laughter). [illegible] Sabbath and day schools. He crossed [illegible] river and found in the Catholic [illegible] St. Maurice the same intelligence [illegible] beautiful structures. He did not like [illegible] term half-breed, but they were [illegible] because of that they were to be [illegible] down.

Hon. Mr. McDOUGALL—Who [illegible] that?

Hon. Mr. HOWE—I don't know, [illegible] will assume that the idea is in [illegible] head, and is deserving of being [illegible] out. He thought at the time [illegible] Norman Conquest that the English [illegible] half-breeds, but out of these [illegible] came the noblest breeds. With [illegible] the system of two Chambers, [illegible] dual member of the Government [illegible] prefer a single Chamber if the [illegible] sired it; but in giving them two [illegible] they were only giving them [illegible] given to every British Colony, [illegible] give the people of Manitobah no [illegible] complaint. *Of course the Local [illegible] ture would have power to do away* [illegible] Chamber if they did not want [illegible] would not undertake to say that [illegible] two or three priests had not aided [illegible] insurrection; but supposing that [illegible] the plain duty of the Government [illegible] what was right irrespective of [illegible] of two or three priests. Let [illegible] glorious work of founding a [illegible] which would one day be an [illegible] Empire, by any reference to [illegible] religion (hear, hear). The [illegible] man went on to defend the [illegible] of Captain Cameron, and [illegible] had he owned or controlled [illegible] his conduct would have been [illegible] a different light. With regard [illegible] claims of the loyalists, he would [illegible] this Government and Parliament [illegible] trusted to do justice in a [illegible] kind. All claims would have [illegible] tigated before they were considered.

Hon. Mr. McDOUGALL said [illegible] Secretary of State endeavoured [illegible] himself from the just indignation [illegible] country, by throwing the blame [illegible] Dennis and himself. He would [illegible] that the Government had no [illegible] when he was appointed, of a [illegible] uprising against the authority of the [illegible] dian Government. On the [illegible] Government had an interview with [illegible] ernor McTavish not long before [illegible] pointment, and he gave [illegible] prospect of trouble. But when the [illegible] tary of State went to Red River the [illegible] trouble exhibited, but yet he did [illegible] allay it, but on the contrary [illegible] that they were right in resisting [illegible] to the coming Government, and [illegible] that hon. gentleman with being the [illegible] instrument in the whole matter [illegible] so seriously. He had informed [illegible] in effect, that they had only to do [illegible] Scotia did and they would [illegible] rebellion would have been [illegible] affair had it not been [illegible] vice and recommendation of the [illegible] of State. These facts he could [illegible] fore a Committee of the House [illegible] appointed. With regard to his [illegible] duct, he held that he was [illegible] ming that the day agreed upon [illegible] fer, the transfer would [illegible] his commission would [illegible] he discovered, a few days after [illegible] December, from a paragraph [illegible] per, which was the first intimation [illegible] that the Government had failed [illegible] their promise, and that the money [illegible] not be paid over. Why was not a [illegible] ger sent to him to inform him of [illegible] tion of the Government to break [illegible] arrangement with the Imperial [illegible] ment? With regard to the [illegible] the Secretary of State to him, [illegible] so much had been said, he [illegible] opportunity of replying [illegible] done, it being understood [illegible] would not be laid [illegible] along with the other [illegible] He explained that at the time [illegible] mation was to be issued, [illegible] were ready to admit him, [illegible] fact for him to come, and under [illegible] stances he felt he had a right [illegible] that the royal proclamation [illegible] sued. Acting on that [illegible] Col. Dennis ahead, but as Riel [illegible] mised that he only wanted the [illegible] the people. Col. Dennis acting on [illegible] advice of leading men, had decided [illegible] keep the people in arms. He (Mr. McDougall) admitted he had no [illegible] but how was he to know [illegible] to say that the Hudson Bay [illegible] should have maintained [illegible] in a moribund state [illegible] regard to the remarks [illegible] Finance, he contended [illegible] Col. Dennis had not [illegible] ing the rebellion.