

THE CANADIAN UPRISING.

That the Indians as Well as the Half-Breeds Are Now on the War Path Is an Undeniable Fact.

Causes of the Pending Trouble.
In order to understand fully the circumstances which have led up to the insurrection in the Saskatchewan country it is necessary to go back to the uprising in Manitoba in 1869, known as the Red river rebellion, and the causes which led to that outbreak. The Red river rebellion was incident to the transfer by the Hudson's Bay company of its territory to the dominion government. For nearly two hundred years this great fur-trading company had not only enjoyed the exclusive right to the entire trade and traffic of the immense possessions granted by King Charles II. to Prince Rupert and his seventeen associates, but had made laws for and governed the territory, having complete lordship thereof, with full legislative, judicial and executive powers. The last renewal of the charter expired in 1859, and after that it was never renewed again, the company having no special advantages beyond its tried and splendid organization. In 1867 the act of parliament creating the Dominion of Canada contemplated the acquisition by

with the French, and at times there seemed to be danger that the government would peter out altogether. It retained possession, however, all through the winter, spring and summer of 1870, until Sir Garnet Wolseley's arrival with British troops.

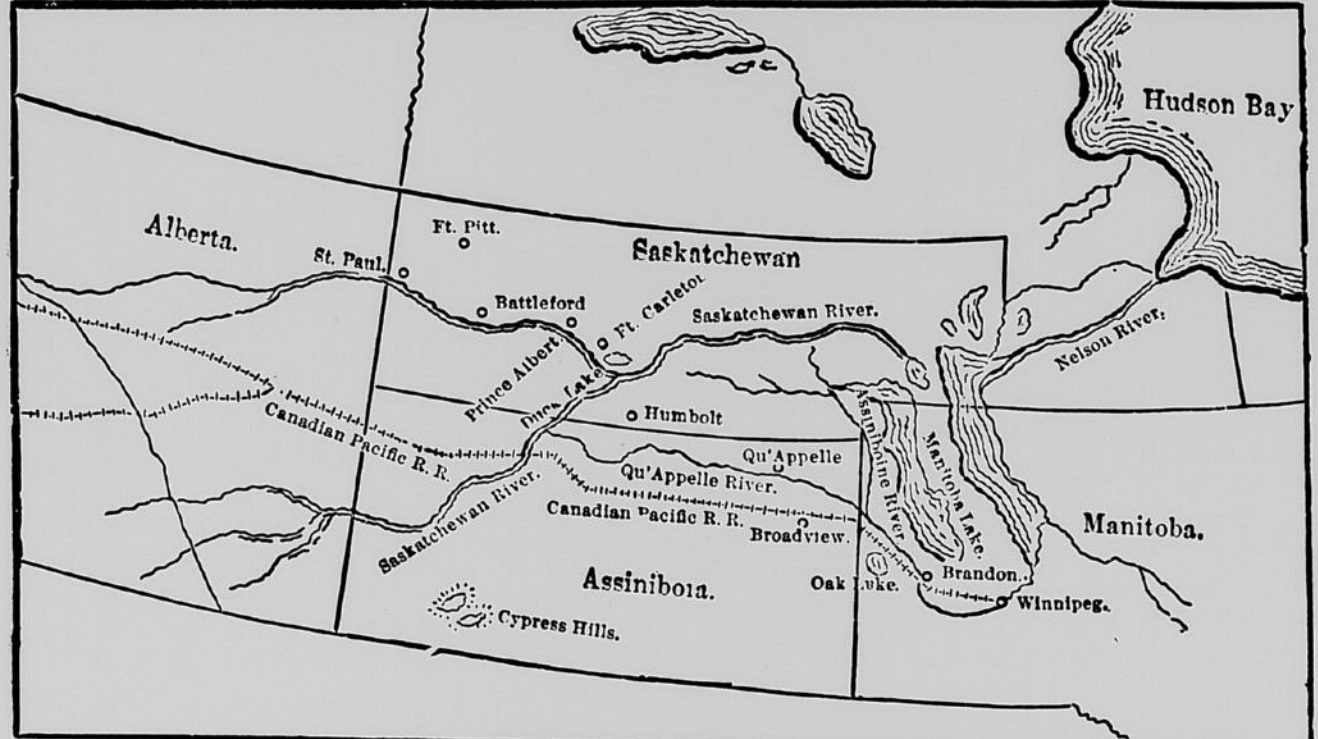
RIEL ABDICATES.
Instead of holding their ground, Riel and his compatriots fled from Fort Garry and crossed the United States' line, leaving their guns and ammunition behind them. Sir Garnet, on the 24th of August, took possession of the Fort and issued his famous orders. Riel was afterward banished for five years. Such was the Red river rebellion of 1869-70. It was practically a war without bloodshed, and contemporary history relates many acts of clemency and kindness on the part of the rebel leader, who did not seem disposed at any time to pursue a sanguinary policy. He has been severely criticised by friends of the movement for his course in vacating the country when he had practically everything in his own hands. General sentiment, however, is inclined to approve of his course as a very prudent one. In 1871 there was an attempt to renew the rebellion, but it speedily collapsed. In this campaign there was interested a company of about seventy-five Fenians under Gen. O'Neill. These camped in the woods near Pembina, and captured the British post opposite that place. An officer who was with this expedition claimed that the enterprise failed through the treachery of Riel.

The actual transfer of the Hudson Bay possessions had been delayed by the rebellion, and did not actually take place until July 15, 1870. Mr. Archibald, the lieutenant

ing to their French custom, had laid out their farms in parallelograms along the banks of the Saskatchewan and its branches, and the surveyors were of course compelled to destroy this arrangement. The people earnestly protested. They also renewed their claims for grants of 240 acres per capita, and from that time to this the agitation has been kept up. Various complications have arisen in the meantime, and complaints have been made of delays and arbitrary acts on the part of the government. Riel was again called upon for counsel and advice. He was visited in Montana, where he has been living, by a deputation of the half-breeds, and in response to their appeal went into the St. Laurent country. The half-breeds, in the meantime, had laid their grievances before the dominion parliament at Ottawa. Last September they held a meeting at St. Laurent, at which they adopted a bill of rights, of which the following is the substance:

First, the subdivision into provinces of the Northwest territories; second, the half-breeds to receive the same grants and other advantages as the Manitoba half-breeds; third, patents to be issued at once to the colonists in possession; fourth, the sale of half a million acres of dominion lands, the proceeds to be applied to the establishment in the half-breed settlements of schools, hospitals and such-like institutions, and to the equipment of the poorer half-breeds with seed grain and implements; fifth, the reservation of 100 townships of swamp land for distribution among the children of half-breeds during the next 120 years; sixth, a grant of at least \$1,000 for the maintenance of an institution to be conducted by the nuns in each half-breed settlement; and seventh, better provision for the support of the Indians.

The last item, it is said, was inserted by



This map shows very clearly the location of the seat of the war, which is between the two branches of the Saskatchewan river. Duck lake should be represented within the fork, instead of above them. Qu'Appelle is on the Canadian Pacific railroad, and is the point from which the stage route runs into the Saskatchewan country. It is more commonly known as Regina, but in former years was called Qu'Appelle, from the fort of that name, on the river. Regina is not represented on the map. It is further west than Fort Qu'Appelle.

the government of the Hudson Bay company's territory, and Dec 1, 1869, was subsequently fixed as the date of the transfer. As the expiry of the charter had only deprived the company of its special licenses and privileges, and not of its original territory, it was necessary for the government to purchase the territory. The price agreed upon was £300,000, which looks like a very small sum in view of the immensity of the possessions involved. These proceedings awakened alarm in the hearts of the French half-breed settlers whose rude houses lined the banks of the Red and Assiniboine rivers. These people were mainly the descendants of the early traders, trappers and employees of the Hudson's Bay company. They were in the main an untutored people, except for such instruction as they received from their priests. Each head of family had his little strip of land which he cultivated, and the dwellings of the people were principally log huts. The titles under which they held their lands had been obtained from the Hudson's Bay company, where they had titles, but in many cases it would probably have been difficult to establish any legal or valid claim to the land. However, for years they had remained in undisturbed possession of the property on which they had built their cabins, and felt perfectly secure in the possession thereof. Their state had been the Hudson's Bay company's rule of the company had been in the main mild and beneficent; and, although there had been occasional complaints against the company for arbitrariness in connection with trading—for it fixed its own prices, and hunters and traders were compelled to accept them or nothing—the people were generally well content with their lot. The proposed transfer of the company's possessions gave promise of an entirely new and untried condition of things.

governor of the new Canadian province, arrived Sept. 3. After this commission was appointed on behalf of the British government and the inhabitants of Manitoba to arrange the difficulties existing and to arrive at an equitable adjustment of affairs in the province. In this conference Bishop Tache participated, representing the people of the province. At the time he was attending the ecumenical council sitting in Rome, and came home to attend to his duties in this connection in response to a telegram from the British government. He always had great influence with the people. From the fact that he declines to act as a mediator in the present crisis, it is surmised that he did not consider himself well treated in connection with the previous negotiations. What was known as the Manitoba act was passed by parliament this same year. By this act many of the privileges asked by the rebels were granted to the inhabitants of the country, and they have since lived under a representative form of government. The population of all Manitoba at that time was about 14,000, the proportion of whites to half-breeds being about one to seven or eight. An agrarian feature of the Manitoba act is what has led to the present difficulty. As intimated above, the titles of half-breeds to their lands were not very distinct, and many of the people were doubtless squatters. By the Manitoba act there were 1,400,000 acres of land set apart for half-breed infants; subsequent grants were made of land and scrip to the half-breed heads of families. Afterwards came an order dividing up the 1,400,000 of land, so as to grant to each half-breed child born prior to July 1, 1870, a parcel of 240 acres free.

Riel in order to please Poundmaker, an Indian chief who has made common cause with the half-breeds. The bill of rights apparently asks for a good deal more than the rebels have any idea of obtaining, but it is said that Monsignor Grandin, the Roman Catholic bishop of that region, and most of the English-speaking settlers are in favor of it. Since Riel's presence in the Saskatchewan country he has been actively at the head of the movement for rights, and under his leadership the forces have organized and the present rebellion has been engineered. The events of the conflict are still fresh in the memory of all.

THE PRESENT REBELLION.
The rebellion was started in the early part of the month of August. At first the dominion government professed to consider the insurrection as of no importance, but the cutting of the telegraph lines and the threatening uprising of the Indians all through the Saskatchewan territory as well as the imminent danger in which the Canadian Pacific railroad is placed has thoroughly aroused them, and troops are being rapidly hurried to the front by special trains as fast as they can be prepared to take the field. The exact strength of Riel's forces is not known. It is said to be composed of 500 to 1,500 men, armed with Remington and Winchester rifles, and Gen. Middleton who is to command the government troops declines to advance to the front with less than 1,500 men. The first troops left Winnipeg for the scene of the rebellion on Thursday of last week. They comprised six companies of the Nineteenth battalion, in all 270 men; to these are to be added the regular mounted police already on the ground, and several military companies organized by the settlers residing in the section where the rebellion is in progress. The troops, however, are at Qu'Appelle, waiting for reinforcements. The first regular battle between the rebels and the police took place last Thursday afternoon. Ten civilians of Prince Albert and two policemen were killed and four civilians and seven constables wounded. The rebel loss was fifteen killed. A second fight at Duck Lake, on Friday, resulted in the killing and wounding of thirteen policemen and volunteers and the death of forty rebels. Fort Carlton was also destroyed on the 27th by Col. Irvine, of the police force, to prevent its falling into the hands of the rebels. Volunteers are being called for by the government, and are responding in large numbers. As fast as equipped they are being pushed to the front, and 500 men at least will be ready to leave Winnipeg for the scene of war in a few days.

DETAILS OF THE FIGHT.
A Battleford dispatch received to-day says: "A scout just arrived gives particulars of the engagement at Duck Lake, Thursday, between police and volunteers with the rebels. The half-breeds greatly outnumbered the soldiers, there being only seventy-five of the latter, who were on their way to Duck Lake, and were met by a band of truce, and while a parley was going on the rebels opened fire from positions on both sides of the trail. An exciting battle followed, in which at least forty rebels were killed, besides which as many more were wounded, and four taken prisoners. The cannon did good service in intimidating the enemy, and if it had not been for that circumstance the loss of life would have been much greater among the police and volunteers."

THE INDIANS RISING.
A rebel emissary, who has been traveling around amongst the Indian reserves on the Saskatchewan, inciting a rising, has been arrested, and is now in custody at Fort Pitt. News has been received of a concentration of Crees at Poundmaker's reserve, and it is feared that Indians are now about starting on the war path. A delegation is on its way to Battleford to make demands.

The police have decided to abandon Battleford, Duck Lake and Carlton as posts, and concentrate their forces at Prince Albert. Their forces have been greatly augmented. He has 1,500 half-breeds, and is being joined by Chief Beatty. Indians are rising in many places, and it is believed it will be general.

DAKOTA TERRITORIAL NOTES.

There are only 900 vacant claims on the records of the Aberdeen land office.

A \$1,300 Methodist church will be constructed at Port Emma.

There are forty school districts in Lawrence county and 4,000 school children.

Dr. Anderson of Athol, Spink county, claims to have officiated at the birth of five Dakotians in one day.

An investigation of the accounts of ex-county Treasurer Stevens of Beadle county is under way.

The residence of Justice Roberts, at Huron was burned. Loss, \$3,000, insurance, 1,900.

During the past year 3,000 Manitobians have settled in the Turtle mountain country.

Fire destroyed the two-story store building and part of the stock and household goods of Thomas Flaherty at Emery.

The cost of buildings to be erected in Mitchell this season is estimated at \$500,000.

A five-foot vein of coal has been discovered near Columbia, which will be developed.

Governor Peirce has issued a proclamation designating Wednesday, April 15, as Arbor day, and recommends tree-planting on that day.

Highmore will issue bonds for \$5,000 with which to bore an artesian well, water now being hauled several miles.

Peyton H. Acton, late editor of the Sioux Falls Leader, and a writer of considerable prominence for Eastern periodicals, died of inflammation of the bowels at Sioux Falls.

A colony, consisting of 500 families, the heads of which are mostly Grand Army men, is being formed in Cleveland, Ohio, to settle in Morton county.

Bishop Marty of Dakota will probably change his residence, and Pierre and White Lodge are each trying to secure the see lounge for their village.

A building association, with a capital stock of \$100,000, has been organized at Brookings.

Edmunds county has 1,500 vacant claims, and McPherson county has 2,600.

A daily train will be placed upon the Jamestown & Northern railroad when the new time-card takes effect, and run to New Rockford until the track is completed to Minnewaukan.

McNicol & McAdams have been awarded the contract for building the Walsh county jail at \$4,000.

In the Franks shooting case at Huron the Brown crowd, arrested for riot, was dismissed for want of evidence, and the case was dropped. Administrator Brown holds the property.

There were thirty-one deaths at Sioux Falls the past winter.

The Grand Army of the Republic for Dakota Territory have accepted the invitation of the Aberdeen post, and will hold their annual reunion at Aberdeen during the second week of the coming September. Redfield and Sioux Falls were competitors for the honor of entertaining the boys. Twenty-five hundred or more are expected.

A Miss Curtiss of Huron, has brought suit for \$10,000 damages against Mr. Dinnier, a hotelkeeper there, whom she charges with having accused her of being a prostitute and knocking her down.

Miss Emma Marvin of Sioux Falls attended the services at the Catholic church, Sunday, and during the service she got up and went out, since which she cannot be found. A search is in progress.

The dwelling of H. A. Boles at Miller was burned. Loss, \$1,500; insurance, \$1,000. Cause, defective flue.

The Indians from the Berthold reservation are encamped along the river banks in McLean county, waiting for the spring floods to drive the deer out of the bottom lands.

The Northern Pacific road is preparing and arranging to run one or more excursion trains from Chicago to New Salem, for the accommodation of settlers. The first excursion is expected to leave Chicago April 14.

J. W. Jesper was held to the grand jury at Fargo, on a charge of wheat stealing from the barn of A. Chandler. He is accused of stealing 600 bushels all told.

Capt. Sharpe, Company C, Seventeenth infantry, suicided at Fort Totten, killing himself with a pistol. He leaves a wife and several children, who are in the East. It is believed his mind was affected.

The board of trustees in the Yankton insane asylum elected Dr. D. T. Etter of Yankton superintendent. Robert Cox, who was appointed a member of the board, refused to qualify, and the vacancy left by his refusal will be filled by the governor.

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