RED RIVER RESISTANCE PT. 1



PRELIMINARY EVENTS: MIGRANTS

1. Influx of new migrants looking for land

- Mostly English-speaking Protestants
- Many belonging to the Orange Order
 - Anti-French and Anti-Catholic
- Most likely adhering to Victorian attitudes and values



SCHULTZ

2. John Christian Schultz

- Member of the Orange Order
- Took over the Nor'Wester
 - Writes inflammatory comments
- Wants political control; establishes
 Canadian party



ECONOMIC ISSUES

3. Economic Issues

- Crop failures
 - Grasshopper plague '67-'68
- Decreased Success in Bison hunts
- HBC sees Rupert's Land as too expensive



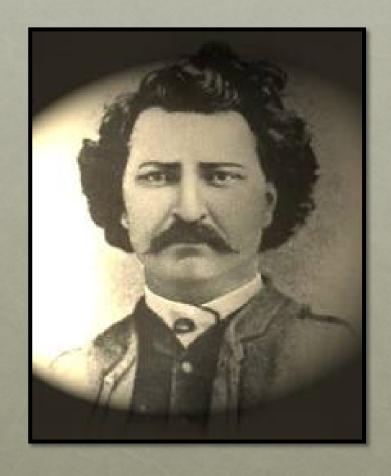


RUPERT'S LAND FOR SALE...

- Shortly after Confederation, the Canadian Govt. purchases Rupert's Land from the HBC.
 - Transfer official in 1869
 - Renamed North-West Territory in 1870
- People are worried, especially the Métis.
 - Land sold without consultation
 - Worried Cdn. Govt. will take their land
- Surveyors arrive, assume Métis lands are not legally owned

LOUIS RIEL

- Born in October of 1844
- Son of Louis Sr. (a respected member of the Red River Settlement and a supporter of Guillaume Sayer).
- A "serious and gifted student", but "moody"
- Sent to Montreal to study for the priesthood
- Studied law



LOUIS CONT.

- Returns to Red River in 1868.
- Fluent in French and English
- · Well-educated
- An excellent orator
- Family background and education makes him the obvious choice for leader of the Métis



RISING TENSIONS:

- Surveyors do not recognize Métis property rights
- Riel organizes a group of Métis to observe surveyors
- In Oct. 1869, surveyors are seen on a hay privilege.
 - Riel is sent for
 - Arrives with horsemen
 - Informs surveyors of trespassing
- Riel forms the National Métis Committee (NMC)

THE PROVISIONAL GOVT.

- Sir John A. appoints William McDougall as Lieutenant Governor of the new North-West Territories (to take effect when the transfer is made).
- The NMC informs McDougall he is NOT welcome
 - McDougall ignores
- The NMC occupies Ft. Garry
 - Seize weapons and ammo
 - Determined to fight for their rights if necessary



PROVISIONAL GOVT. CONT.

- No intentions of rebellion
- Not opposed to Confederation
 - Just want rights guaranteed and protected
- To ensure a voice, Riel establishes a provisional government.
 - Maintain order
 - Help negotiate an agreement into Confederation
 - Fears McDougall (anti-French) will give all power to Schultz's Canadian Party

MCDOUGALL'S PROCLAMATION

- Sir John A. postpones the transfer.
- · Writes to McDougall to "take no action"
 - Letter arrives too late
 - McDougall crosses into RL & proclaims himself governor
 - Then crosses back into USA
 - His proclamation is circulated in the Red River Settlement



THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency the Honorable William Macdougall, a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council of Canada, and Companion of the most honorable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories, etc., etc.,

To all to whom these shall come, greeting

Whereas her majesty the Queen, by letters patent under the great seal of the Dominion of Canada, bearing date the twenty-ninth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, in the thirty-third year of her maje ty's reign, has been graciously pleased to constitute and appoint me, on, from and after the day to be named by her majesty for the admission fract Land and the North-western Territory into the union or Domition of Canada, to be Licutenand Government. Land and the North-western Territory into the union or Dominion of Canada, to be Lacutenant-Covernor in and over the North-west Territories during her majest's pleasure, and did thereby authorize and empower, and require, and command me on, from and after the day aforesaid, to do and execute all things in due manner that shall belong to my said command and the trust reposed in me, according to the -everal powers and instructions granted or appointed me by that her majesty's commission and the act of the parliament passed in the hidry-secord years of the majesty's reign included as act for the temporary government of Rupert's land and the nortifiwestern Territory when the Canada, and the instructions given me with such commission, or by such further expert of the North-west 1 erritories and the government of the property is the property of the property of the control of the property of the part of the property of Canada, according to such laws as are now and shall hereafter be in force within the said north-west

And whereas her majesty has declared and named the first day of December instant as the day for the admission of Ruper's Land and the North-western Territory into the union and Dominion of Canada; and whereas by virtue and in pursuance of the Birth North American Act of 1867, the Rupert's land. Act of eighteen hundred and sixty-tight, the said act for the temporary government of Ru pert's land and the North-western Territory when united with Canada, and the said declaration and order of her macesty. Rupert's land and the north-western territory have been admitted into union with, and have now become part of the dominion of Canada, and are henceforth to be known as the

Now know ye that I have thought fit to issue this Proclamation to make known her majes 'y's said appointment to all officers, mgistrates, ministers and subjects of her majesty, and others within the said the north-west territories, and I do hereby require and command that all and singular the public said use not have set errorses, among in the prevalend and the north-western Territory at the time of their admission into the union as atoresial, excepting the public officer refunctionary at the best of the administration of affairs, do continue in the execution of their several and respective offices, duties, places and employments until otherwise ordered by me under the authority of the said last mentioned act; and I do hereby further require and commonal that all her majesty is loving subjects and all others whom it may concern do take notice hereof and govern themselves accordingly

Given under my hand and seal at arms at Red River in the said Territories, the second day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and in the thirty-third year of Her Majesty's reign.

William Macdougall

By command.

I. A. N. Provencher, secretary

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- IRONY: McDougall's proclamation meant the HBC was not in control, but neither was Canada as McDougall was in the USA.
 - Sir John's letter had warned against this....
- The Provisional Government is the legal government with sovereign rights.
 - Any action taken by the Canadian Party will now be against the law

RIEL TAKES ACTION:

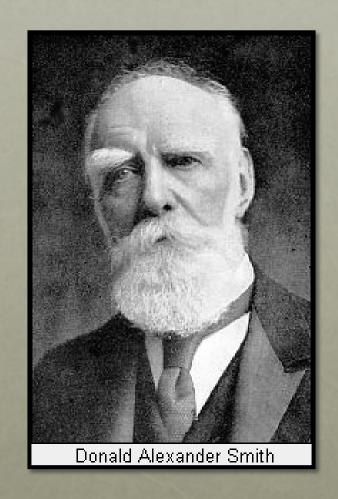
- Fears the Cdn. Party is armed and prepared to take control of the Settlement.
- Riel decides to act first
 - December 1, 1869 arrests Schultz and 48 of his supporters
 - Confines them in Upper Ft. Garry



SIR JOHN'S RESPONSE

• Sir John A. sends Donald Smith, a senior-level HBC official to negotiate with Riel.

• He is seeking a peaceful attempt, but is more than willing to use other means (military force) as necessary.



SMITH AND RIEL

- Smith arrives in January of 1870
- He and Riel agree that the provisional government should send negotiators to Ottawa.
- Meanwhile, Schultz and several supporters escape
 - Métis capture (one ends up being executed)
 - The end of the threat of war with the Canadian Party is over.

• MORE TO COME...