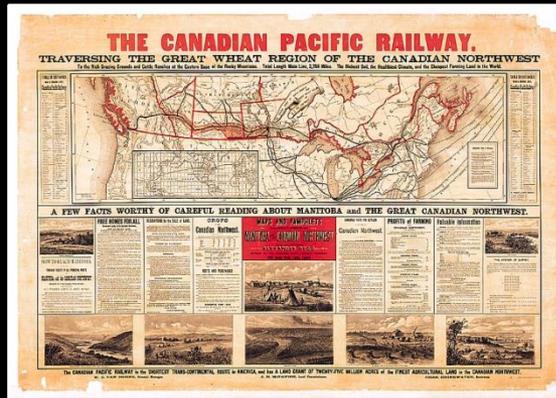
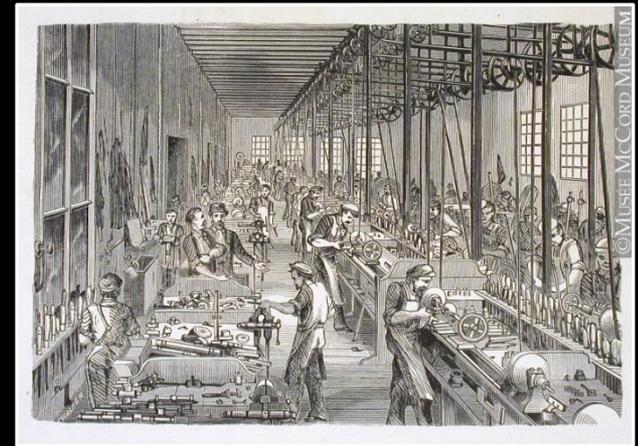
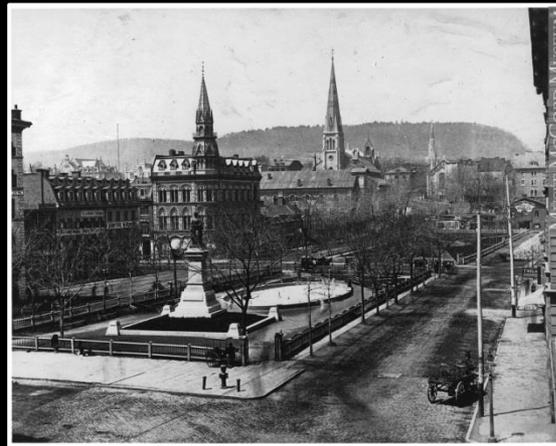
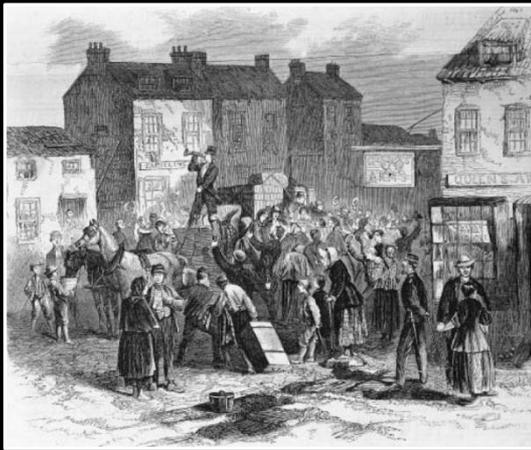


Chapter 1

1840-1896:

The Formation of the Canadian Federal System

Section 12: The Métis Rebellions



Pages that correspond to this presentation

The Métis Rebellions:

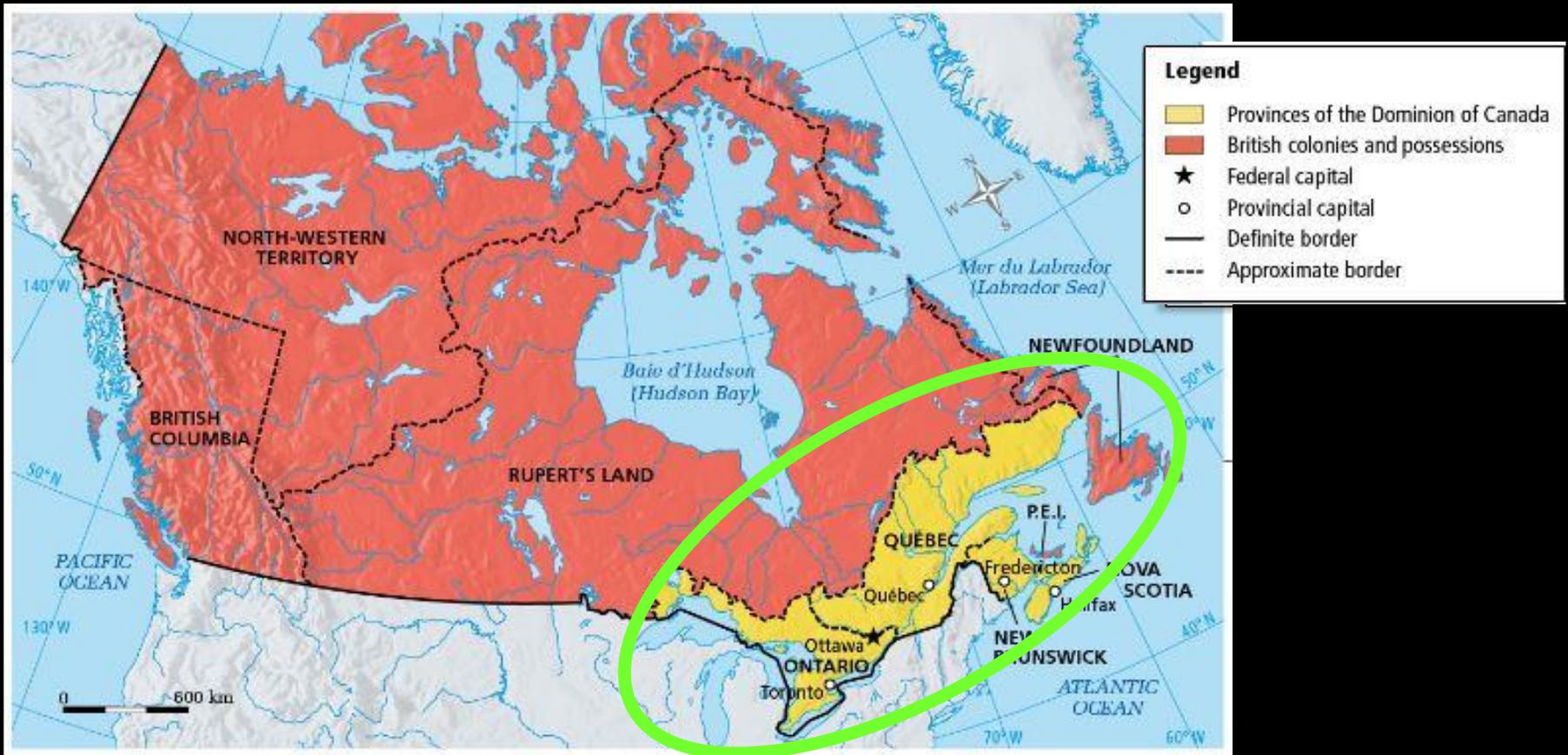
84-88

Expanding Canada's Territory after 1867

- After July 1st, 1867:
 - 4 provinces: Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia
 - Quebec & Ontario's territory only a fraction of what they are today
 - A large portion of Canada as we know it now was called either 'Rupert's Land' OR 'The Northwest Territories'
 - These territories belonged to the Hudson Bay Company but were forced to merge the territories together → keeping the name 'The Northwest Territories'
 - By 1870 → 'The Northwest Territories' were sold to Canada for £ 300,000
- £ = British Pound (it is like our \$)

Expanding Canada's Territory after 1867

Map of the Dominion of Canada after July 1st, 1867



Expanding Canada's Territory after 1867

Map of the Dominion of Canada between 1867 and 1873



From 1870 to 1873, Canada expanded:

- In **1870**, the Northwest Territories entered the Canadian federation. The province of Manitoba was created.
- In **1871**, British Columbia joined the Dominion. The federal government promised to build a railway line to link it to the other provinces and take over its debts.
- In **1873**, Prince Edward Island, also indebted, agreed to join the federation.

Expanding Canada's Territory after 1867

- Purchasing this territory was part of John A. MacDonald's (JAM) 'policy of expansion'
- Why did Canada want to buy Rupert's Land & The North Western Territories?
 1. To **stop the Americans** from surrounding Canada (Remember the expression 'Manifest Destiny'?) → the USA already bought Alaska from the Russians in 1867
 2. To have **more land for potential immigrants** from Europe who may want to settle in Canada
 3. More immigrants = larger population = more people to buy Canadian made goods = **stronger internal economy**

The Métis People

- Who were/are the Métis people?
- Late 1860s → a group of people living in the Red River Region → what is now Southern Manitoba/Winnipeg
- The Métis were/are of **mixed ascendancy** → ‘White’ **Europeans** (predominantly French but also Scottish) & **Indigenous** ancestry (Cree, Ojibwe, Dakota, Lakota and others)
- In the late 1860s → 10,000 Métis in the Red river region → **Mostly Francophone and Catholic**
- Subsistence activities included: **Bison hunting**, agriculture, trade (mainly furs)

The Métis People

A Metis Family in North Dakota -1883

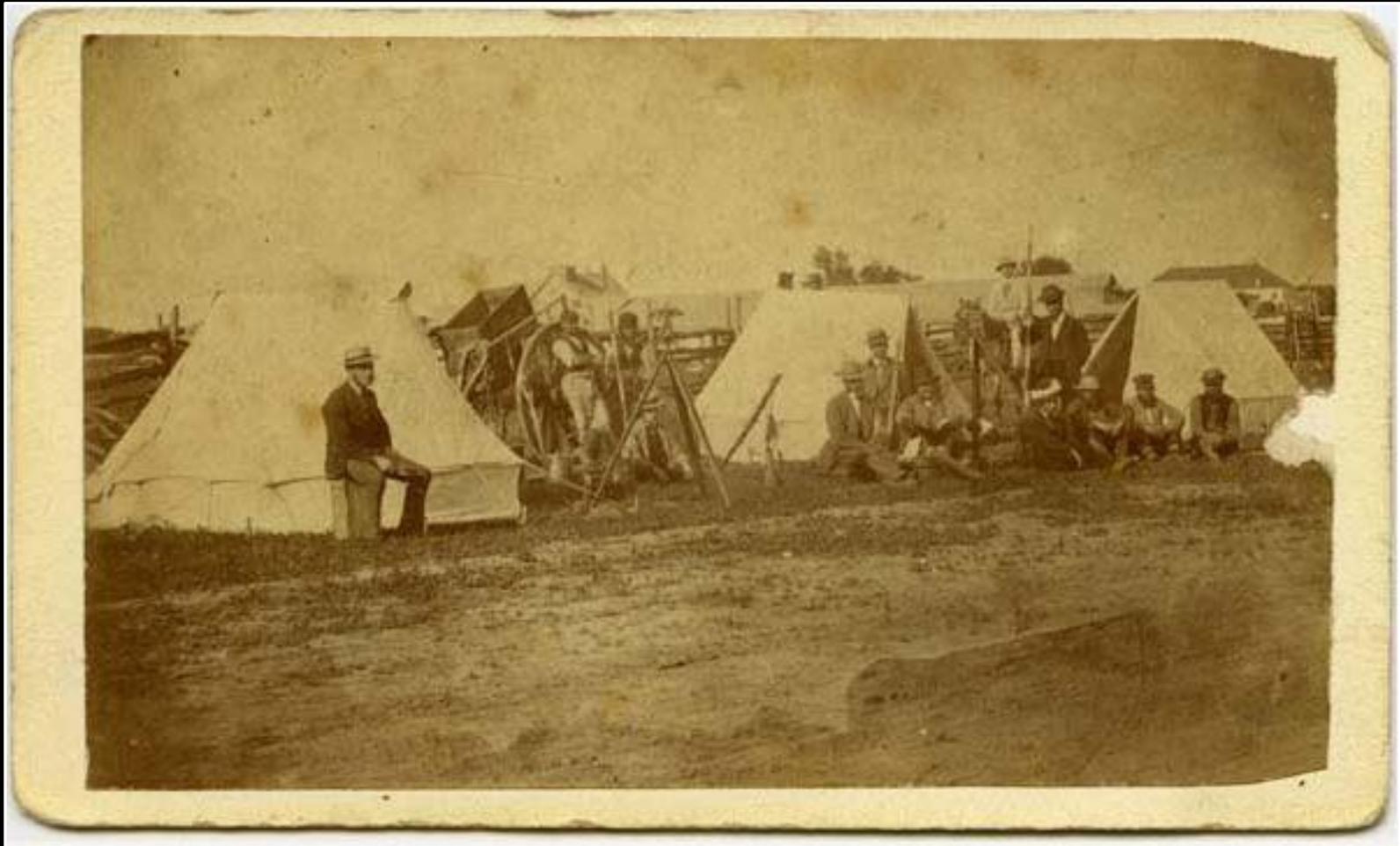


The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

- After the unofficial inclusion of the Northwest Territories in 1869 (official in 1870) → many new Anglophone/protestant **settlers** moved on the **Red River** region for land
- After 1869 → The Canadian government set up **laws** to help/make it easy for new settlers to 'acquire' land within the Northwest Territories
- The federal government sent out **land surveyors** to map out land that could be used for settlers → land that was good for **agriculture**

The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

Land Surveyors around Red River late 1870s-early 1880s



Source: University of Manitoba. <http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/digital/red_river_cartes_visite/land_survey.html>

The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

- The surveyors mapped out sections of 10KM square → then divided each square into 36 sections of 640 acres → then each of these sections was divided into 4 subsections of 160 acre square **parcels of land**
- Each parcel of 160 = 1 LAND GRANT = 1 section of land someone could own
- When mapped out, regions like the Red River region looked like a piece of graph paper when viewed on a surveyor's map

The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

- By 1872 → the surveyors had completed their task
- The Canadian government then established the **Dominion Lands Act (law)**
- A settler could pay a \$10 fee for one of the 160 land grants
- After 3 years → if the settler cleared 2-3 acres for agriculture and built a permanent house, the land was theirs for **FREE**
- What was the point of the Dominions Land Act?
- To **promote the settlement of Western Canada**

The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

A Land Grant Paper -1887

JOHN J. McGEE,
DEPUTY GOVERNOR.

CANADA.

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, **QUEEN**, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

To all to whom these Presents shall come—**GREETING** :

Whereas the Lands hereafter described, are part of the lands known as "Dominion Lands," and mentioned in an Act of the Parliament of Canada, passed in the forty-sixth year of Our Reign and known as the "Dominion Lands Act, 1863" AND **WHEREAS** William Taylor Speed, of Township Eighteen, Range Ten West of the Second Meridian, in the Provisional District of Assiniboia, in the North West Territories, in Our Dominion of Canada, Farmer,

he has applied for a grant of the said lands and his claim to such grant having been duly investigated by Us he has been found duly entitled thereto.

Now Know Ye, that by these Presents We do grant, convey and assure, unto the said William Taylor Speed, his heirs and assigns forever, all that Parcel or Tract of Land situate, lying and being in the Eighteenth Township, in the Tenth Range West of the Second Meridian, in the Provisional District of Assiniboia, in the North West Territories, in Our Dominion of Canada, and being composed of the North East quarter of Section Thirty six of the said Township,

containingly admeasurement One hundred and sixty (160) acres, more or less.

To have and to hold the said Parcel or Tract of Land, unto the said William Taylor Speed, his heirs and assigns, for ever; SAYING AND RESERVING, NEVERTHELESS, unto Us, Our Successors and Assigns, the free use, passage and enjoyment of, in, over and upon all navigable waters that now are or may be hereafter found on, or under, or flowing through or upon any part of the said Parcel or Tract of Land.

GIVEN under the Great Seal of Canada—**Witness,** John Joseph McGehee Esquire,
Deputy of Our Right Trusty and Entirely Beloved Cousin, the Most Honourable JERRY CHARLES KEITH PETTY FITZMAURICE, Marquis of Lonsdowne, in the County of Somerset, Earl of Wycombe, of Chipping Wycombe, in the County of Bucks, Viscount Culse and Carlton, in the County of Wilt, and Lord Wycombe, Baron of Chipping Wycombe, in the County of Bucks, in the peerage of Great Britain; Earl of Kerry and Earl of Shelburne, Viscount Clonmannon and Fitzmaurice, Baron of Kerry, Lismore and Inverlorm in the peerage of Ireland; Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA, and Vice-Admiral of the same Sea, &c., &c., in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty seven, and in the seventh day of January.

At OTTAWA, this seventh day of January 1887.

Ref. No. 31208
initialed 1887260

BY COMMAND,
G. POWELL
Under Secretary of State.

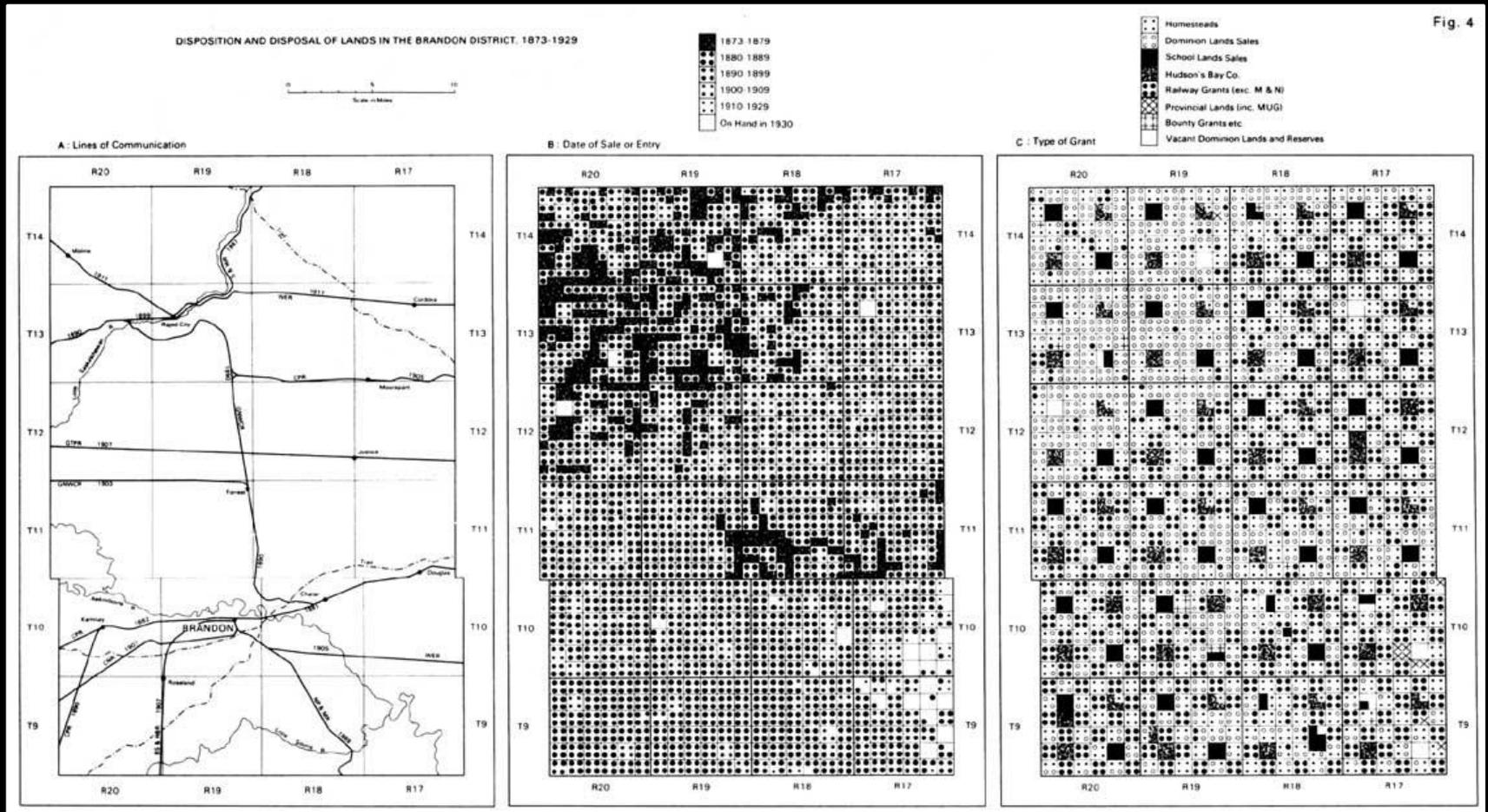
M. EVERESS
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

Recorded in the Department of the Interior
the 9th January 1887
118. 30
1887
Folio 1.
1887
Deputy of Dominion Lands Papers.

This paper is similar to what a settler in the Red river region may have received in the 1870s

The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

En example of how a section of territory was divided up by land surveyors



The Canadian Government & Land Settlement

- How did the Métis view the Canadian government's attempt to settle Western Canada?
- None of this sat well with the Métis people → the Métis were **concerned** their **way of life and culture would vanish** with the arrival of the new settlers and eventually the Transcontinental Railway
- The colonization of the West lead to **conflicts** between the Métis (who wanted to assert their rights) on one side and settlers/Canadian government on the other side
- There would eventually be 2 major conflicts in 1869 & 1885

The Red River Rebellion-1869

- After watching the work of the surveyors → the Métis decided to set up a **committee** to defend the land rights and culture of the Métis
- **Louis Riel** → an articulate Métis man → designated as the **leader** of the committee
- In addition → the Métis disrupted the surveyor's work and took control of a Canadian fort → "**Fort Garry**" (where is modern day Winnipeg)
- In the same year → the committee set up a **PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT** to negotiate with the federal government
- **PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT** = can be considered an 'unofficial' or temporary government during a time of unrest

The Red River Rebellion-1869

The Metis Provisional Government in 1870



The Red River Rebellion-1869



Louis Riel in 1865

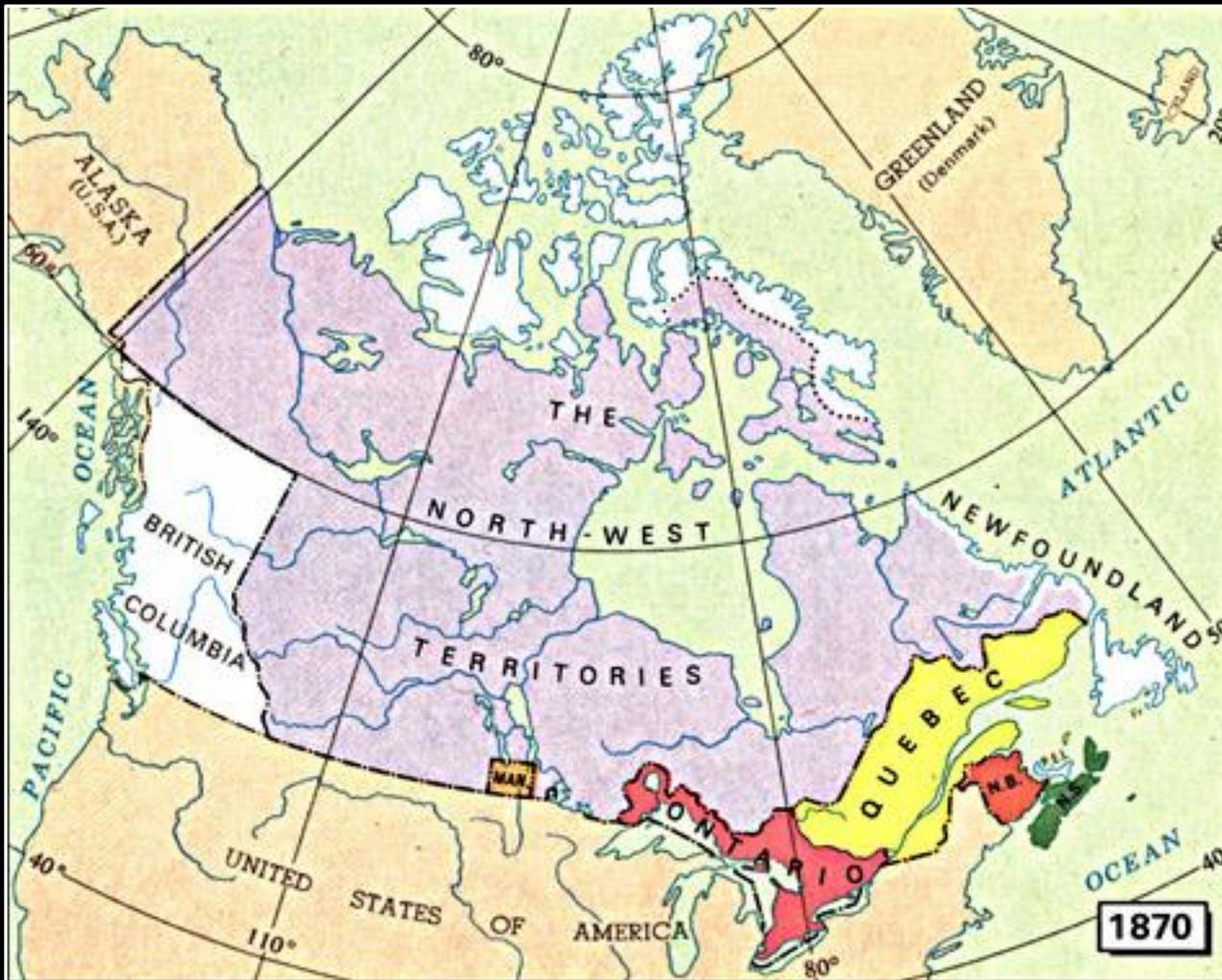
The Red River Rebellion-1869

- The Métis provisional government demanded the **negotiation of their land rights and language/culture**
- In addition → the Métis wanted their territory to be included into the Canadian Federation
- JAM decided to enter into negotiations with the Métis → by July **1870** → the **Manitoba Act** was established
- Manitoba Act = the creation of the province of Manitoba (much smaller than what Manitoba is today) and its entry into the Canadian Federation

The Red River Rebellion-1869

Canada after the
Manitoba Act of
1870

- Notice the small square which was Manitoba at the time → much smaller than it is now



The North-West Territories (Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory) are acquired by Canada from the Hudson's Bay Company. From part of them Manitoba is created as the fifth province.

The Red River Rebellion-1869

- In addition to Manitoba's entry into the Canadian Federation → many of the demands of the Métis were also respected in the Manitoba Act
 - That a portion of the public lands be appropriated to the benefit of schools, the building of bridges, roads and public buildings.
 - That the **English and French** languages be common in the legislature and courts and that all public documents and acts of legislature be published in both languages.
 - That treaties be concluded and ratified between the Dominion Government and the several tribes of Indians in the territory to ensure peace on the frontier.
 - That we (Manitoba) have fair and full representation in the Canadian parliament.
 - That all privileges, customs and usages existing at the time of the transfer be respected (**including land rights for Métis**)
 - Establishment of **denominational schools** for Protestants AND Catholics

The Red River Rebellion-1869

- Despite the fact that the federal government negotiated with the Métis → many Anglo-protestants still had problems with the Métis
- Many **Anglo-protestant settlers did not respect** the rights of the Métis even after the Manitoba Act
- Early 1870 → One group of male settlers attacked Fort Garry under Métis control → several were arrested by Riel
- Riel let many of the men go if they promised to obey the Métis provisional government
- One man → **Thomas Scott** (Irish protestant and anti Francophone) refused and threatened Riel

The Red River Rebellion-1869



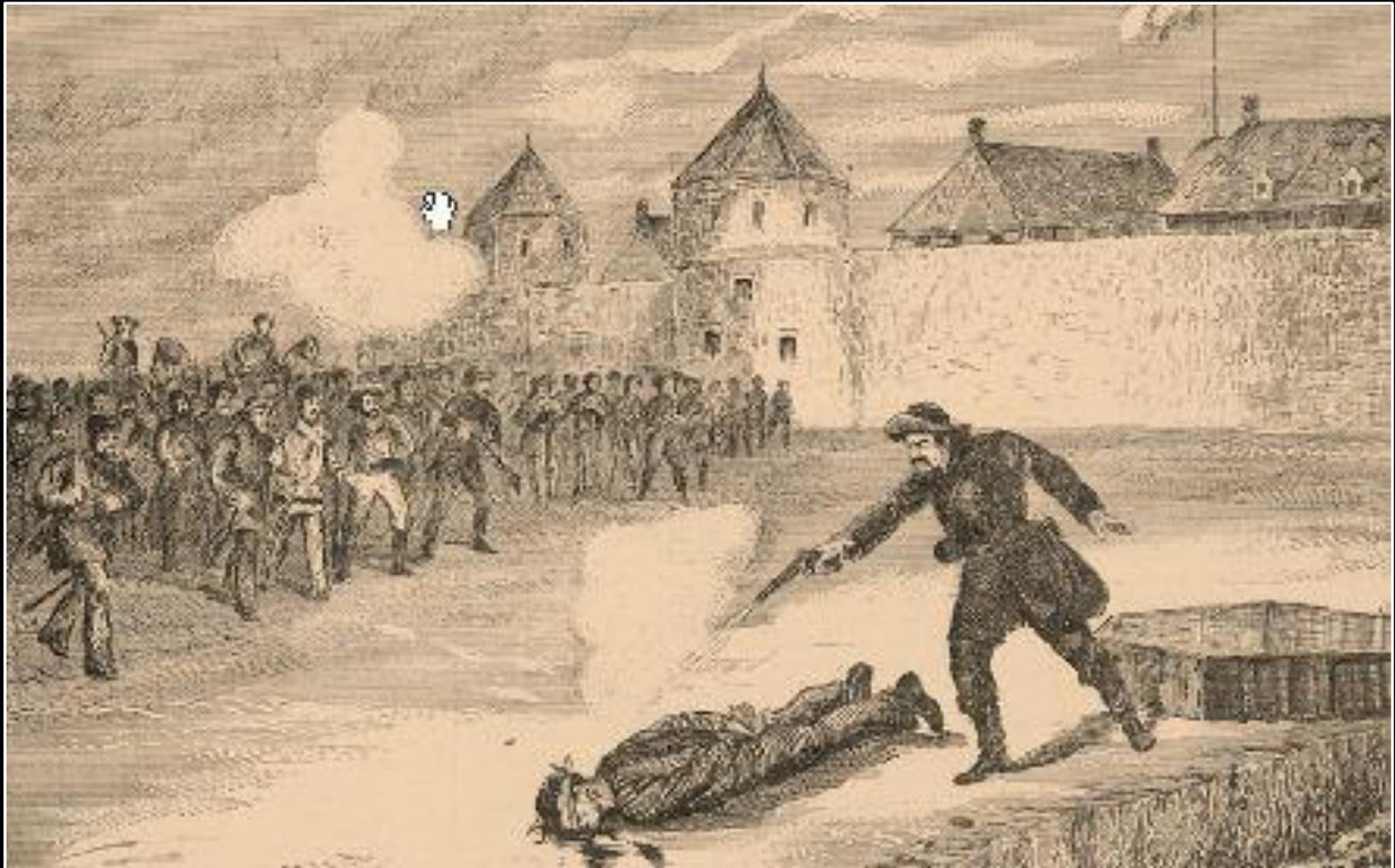
**Thomas Scott in the late
1860s**

The Red River Rebellion-1869

- Riel took exception to Scott and sentenced him to death by **execution in March of 1870**
- This created an even **bigger divide** between Francophones and Anglophones across Canada
- The Métis Rebellions were seen in different ways, depending on religion/language
- Many **Francophones** saw the **Métis and Riel as heroes** standing up for French-Catholic rights
- Many **Anglophones** saw the **Métis and Riel as horrible criminals**

The Red River Rebellion-1869

Canadian Illustrated New → depiction of the execution of Thomas Scott- 1870



The Red River Rebellion-1869

- The promises made during the Manitoba Act did not last long
- In the years that came after the act → the number of Anglophone settlers increased in Manitoba → creating a scenario where the **Métis** were **outnumbered** within the **territory** and within the Manitoba **government**
- Laws to take land belonging to the Métis were established
- Separate schools and the rights for Francophones to have French schooling was lost in 1890
- By 1891 → Francophones represented only a small portion of Manitoba's population
- **Many** of the **Métis moved further West** as a result of these events

The North-West Rebellions-1885

- After the first rebellion → Louis Riel fled to the United States → many bounty hunters were after him AND the Canadian government had a plan to arrest him due to the execution of Thomas Scott
- Riel lived in the USA for 15 years, at times in hiding
- He worked many jobs and started a family
- However, by 1884, Riel returned to Canada to once again help the Métis

The North-West Rebellions-1885

- By 1884 → many Métis left Manitoba and settled in what is now Central Saskatchewan → Duck Lake and Batoche
- Same scenario as 15 years prior → **settlers and the Transcontinental Railway** (we will talk about this rail more in notes 1.13) reduced the land used by the Métis
- Upon his return → Riel setup another provisional government
- However, the federal government met the provisional government with **force not negotiations**

The North-West Rebellions-1885

- **Early 1885** → Several small battles broke out between the Métis and their Indigenous allies & the local police/militia forces
- Eventually **Canadian soldiers** used the newly build Transcontinental **railway** to travel West fairly quickly
- These **soldiers outnumbered the Métis** and their Indigenous allies
- Several Battles across what is now Saskatchewan and Alberta broke out → the battles of **Frog Lake, Batoche, Fish Lake**

The North-West Rebellions-1885

Map of the 2 main Metis Rebellions



Source: Fortin, S., Lapointe, D., Lavoie, R. & Parent, A. *Reflections.qc.ca.: 1840 to Our Times*. Cheneliere Education. 2017. Page 85

The North-West Rebellions-1885

Artistic Depiction of the Battle of Batoche



Source: Government of Canada-Canadian Armed Forces. <http://cmhg-phmc.forces.gc.ca/cmh-phmc/image-531-eng.aspx?page_id=564&pedisable=true>

The North-West Rebellions-1885

Photograph of the Battle of Batoche



Source: Wikipedia. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Batoche#/media/File:HostilitiesOpenAtBatoche.jpg>

The North-West Rebellions-1885

Photograph of the battlefield after the Battle of Duck Lake



Source: Saskatchewan Archives Council. <<http://sain.scaa.sk.ca/items/battle-field-duck-lake>>

The North-West Rebellions-1885

- The sheer number of Canadian soldiers overwhelmed the Métis and their Indigenous allies
- By May of 1885 → most of the fighting was over
- Many Métis and other Indigenous leaders during the rebellion were arrested
- Riel was the only person tried for high-reason against the federal government
- Riel was found guilty and was executed by hanging on September 16th, 1885

The North-West Rebellions-1885

Photograph of the trial of Louis Riel- 1885



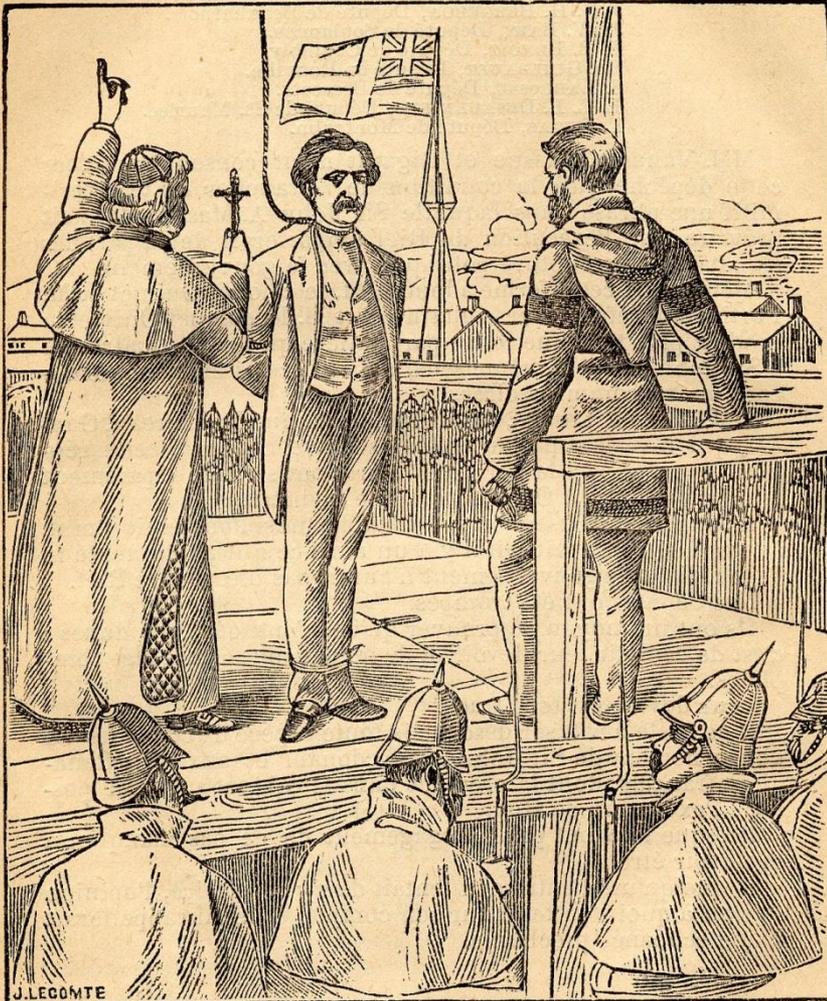
Source: Wikipedia. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_of_Louis_Riel#/media/File:RielAtTrial.jpg>

Political Consequences of the Métis Uprisings

- It is important to understand that the 2 uprisings/rebellions touched other parts of Canada
- Since 1867 → French Canadiens did not necessarily trust English Canadiens
- The “**Riel Affair**” furthered this mistrust
- Many French Canadiens saw Riel as a hero standing up for Francophone/minority rights in Canada
- They felt as though the federal government did not respect Francophone/minorities in Canada

Political Consequences of the Métis Uprisings

Artistic depiction of the hanging of Louis Riel



LE GIBET

Political Consequences of the Métis Uprisings



A RIEL UGLY POSITION.

Political cartoon showing the struggle of Macdonald to keep both Francophones and Anglophones happy during the “Riel Affair”

Political Consequences of the Métis Uprisings

French leaflet depicting
Louis Riel as a
hero/martyr -1885



LOUIS RIEL,
CHEF METIS,

Exécuté le 16 Novembre 1885,

MARTYR POLITIQUE!

Coupable d'avoir aimé ses compatriotes opprimés,

*Victime du fanatisme orangiste, auquel l'ont sacrifié
des politiciens sans âme et sans cœur.*

QUE LES VRAIS PATRIOTES S'EN SOUVIENNENT!!

Imp. L'UNION, St. Hyacinthe.