

I perceive it is getting scarce. We wish that the river should be left as it was formed from the beginning—that nothing be broken.”

GOVERNOR—“This is a subject that I cannot promise.”

MR. DAWSON—“Anything that we are likely to do at present will not interfere with the fishing, but no one can tell what the future may require, and we cannot enter into any engagement.”

CHIEF—“We wish the Government would assist us in getting a few boards for some of us who are intending to put up houses this fall, from the mill at Fort Francis.”

GOVERNOR—“The mill is a private enterprise, and we have no power to give you boards from that.”

CHIEF—“I will now show you a medal that was given to those who made a treaty at Red River by the Commissioner. *He* said it was silver, but *I* do not think it is. I should be ashamed to carry it on my breast over my heart. I think it would disgrace the Queen, my mother, to wear her image on so base a metal as this. [Here the Chief held up the medal and struck it with the back of his knife. The result was anything but the ‘true ring,’ and made every man ashamed of the petty meanness that had been practised.] Let the medals you give us be of silver—medals that shall be worthy of the high position our Mother the Queen occupies.”

GOVERNOR—“I will tell them at Ottawa *what* you have said, and *how* you have said it.”

CHIEF—“I wish you to understand you owe the treaty much to the Half-breeds.”

GOVERNOR—“I know it. I sent some of them to talk with you, and I am proud that all the Half-breeds from Manitoba, who are here, gave their Governor their cordial support.”

The business of the treaty having now been completed, the Chief, Mawedopenais, who, with Powhassan, had with such wonderful tact carried on the negotiations, stepped up to the Governor and said :—