Date	Settlers	HBC and Northwest Company and Selkirk
1797	Donald Gunn born in Braeholme, in the Caithness Parish of Halkirk, Scotland. "sprang from that strong and fertile class of peasant farmers whose health of body and mind—nurtured in the frugal simplicity of their native hills—has furnished so many worthy sons to the stout old land that gave them birth. A land whose scant nurture and limited scope, while it conserves so much, yet breeds a necessity enriching other shores than those of the rugged peninsula stretching its rocky arms into the wild northern seas, sending out, from time to time, to the great unoccupied spaces her colonizing children, who achieve by virtue of inherent and trained qualities—that stand them ever in stead—a success second to none, if equalled by any" (p. x)	"The Hudson's Bay Company, who had depots and shipping ports on the neighbouring islands, had long been in the habit of mainly recruiting their forces of servants among the hardy, frugal people in the north of Scotland and the Orkney Isles. Their ships were the 'argosies' that freighted fortunes from the distant shores of Hudson's Bay; and their ships were to the simple youth of the coast—wearied with an unrenumerative toil that held no future—the brave craft that would bear them to a better fate. The slender stipend promising seeming, by home comparison, large indeed" (p. xi). "The Company was a great chartered monopoly, with ascertained governing rights, and finding occasion to use them had formulated such as they deemed sufficient for the time and population, and it is hardly compatible with the least knowledge of human nature to suppose that they would permit—much less initiate themselves—the slightest infringement on their chartered rights" (pp. xvi-xvii). After an 'exploratory' mission in 1669, a group of "adventurers, with Prince Rupert and several other great men at their head, applied and obtained an unlimited charter power of all the lands around and beyond the bay: all included within the grant of land was to be called Rupert's land; and with the land the charter proposed to confer an exclusive right of trade on the company. The famous, but much disputed charter, was granted on the 2nd of May, 1670" (p. 45). At first the HBC set up shop around the Hudson's Bay and the natives came to them to trade. However, the North West Company, formed in XXXX, took its trade to the natives. "The presence of the French-Canadian traders in the interior had" "an injurious effect" on the profits at the factories on the shores of Hudson's Bay" (p. 84). In about 1774, "The Company saw the necessity of carrying their goods to the natives" and "Once roused from the torpid state in which they existed on the frozen shores of the Bay, they followed the example set them by their more energetic competitors, and, in little more than twenty years, had extended their trading posts from

		Cumberland to the base of the Rocky Mountains" (p. 84). "The Hudson's Bay Company's servants made their appearance, for the first time, in Red River in the year 1793" (p. 87). "In the beginning of the present century, the Earl of Selkirk had been extensively engaged in land and colonization speculations in British America, and in the prosecution of these objects he visited Montreal, at the time the emporium of the fur trade in Canada" (p. 60). The "merchant princes connected with the fur trade", were "agents and partners of the North-west Company" (p. 60). "These gentlemen were of respectable parentage, many of them being the sons of clergymen, of small landed proprietors, and of tacksmen in the Highlands of Scotland. A Scotch nobleman, and above all a Douglas, could not fail in meeting with the most cordial reception from these warm hearted Gael" (p. 60). At the time, for French Canada, the fur trade, according to Gunn, was "considered the chief branch of its commerce" (p. 60). Selkirk concluded from this visit that "The route to the remote and most valuable trading stations in the North-west country, was nearly two thousand miles more distant by interior communication from Montreal than from Hudson's Bay, and it was evident, is the assumed rights of this company to the exclusive commerce and navigation of the Bay were legal, by a strict enforcement of them the whole trade in furs and peltries might be diverted into that channel" (p. 61). Selkirk communicated his idea to a certain gentleman, and "an agreement was subsequently entered into between Lord Selkirk and this gentleman to speculate in the stock of the Hudson's Bay Company" (p. 61). "The moment was peculiarly favourable for their purpose; the stock of the Company had fallen from 250 percent to between 50 and 60 in consequence of misfortunes or mismanagement of their affairs, which were in a rapid state of decay and considered bordering on insolvency, no dividends having been paid for several years" (pp. 61-62).

		In about 1809 (reference needed), after "having established for himself a sufficient footing in the affairs of the Company, Lord Selkirk extended his purchases to the amount of nearly 40,000 pounds, the whole amount of the Company's stock being under 100,000 pounds. Several members of the committee immediately made way for the appointment of his near relatives and friends to the direction, and from this period, his Lordship may be considered as possessing unlimited influence and control in the management of the affairs and disposal of the property of the Company" (p. 62). A few years later, "...a general court was convened by public notice in the month of May, 1811. The proprietors were informed at this meeting that the Governor and committee considered it beneficial to their general interests, to grant to his Lordship, in fee simple, about 116,000 square miles of what was supposed to be their territory, on condition that he should establish a Colony on the grant, and furnish, on certain terms, from among the settlers such labourers as are required by the Company in their trade" (p. 62). "The proprietors did not see, in these conditions, and sufficient consideration for the grant, and every one present, with the exception of the noble Lord, and the committee, signed and delivered a protest against it to the court" (p. 62). In the formal protest it says "there does not appear to be any adequate consideration stipulated for between the said Company and the said Earl.—The land proposed to be granted, comprehends a territory of about seventy thousand superficial miles, containing about forty-five millions of acres, of that part of the territory which is valuable and fit for cultivation, and constitutes no inconsiderable portion of the Company's Capital Stock" (p. 63). They also suggest the venture was doomed to failure referring to the "difficulty of peopling a region two thousand miles from any sea port, and out of the reach of all those aids and comforts which are derived from civil society" (p. 64). They also state that they "cannot perceive for the grant any other motive than to secure to the prosterity of the said Earl, at the expense of the stock holders of the said Company, an immensely valuable landed estate" (p. 64). And they conclude that "it has been found that colonization is at all

		times unfavourable to the fur trade" (p. 64), and they were concerned that "in the process of time", the settlement would "erect itself into a distinct interest, adverse to that of the Company" (pp. 64-65). Despite this opposition, and perhaps a bit of clairvoyance, however, the grant was confirmed (p. 63). Selkirk, in his Advertisement and Prospectus of the New Colony, concludes that "the settlers must be emigrants from Europe, and the most feasible plan seems to be, that they should be selected from those parts of the United Kingdom which are most overburdened with inhabitants, viz.: the Highlands of Scotland and some parts of Ireland" (p. 66). Ironically, Selkirk considers the land "capable of immediate cultivation and all well fitted for pasturage, particularly sheep" (p. 67) and through their quick profits from sheep, "with such advantages the settlers must thrive rapidly, and it will soon become apparent to them that the land is worth a much larger price" (p. 67). Selkirk, however, believes that the 'common emigrant' will not see these advantages and "a few of the first who enter into the plan" will therefore need "some extraordinary encouragement" (p. 67). In 1811, "Agents were sent to those countries to engage a number of servants, some for the Hudson Bay Company's service and others to labor in the colony; these were known as His Lordship's servants, and were, as well as the others, engaged for a term of years, and, at the expiration of their contracts each of them became entitled to one hundred acres of land, free of costs, in the new colony" (p. 68).
1811	About fifty to sixty servants and colonizers set sail in June aboard HBC ships and arrive at York Factory in the Fall (p. 70). Arriving too late in the season, they had to overwinter on the banks of the Nelson River and so they had to build "log huts for their protection from the chilling and bitter blasts of winter" (p. 71).	Captain Miles McDonell appointed Governor of the new colony (p. 68).
1812	McDonell and a few men arrived at Red River sometime in July.	"Such generosity on the part of the North-West traders may appear strange to some of my

	The headquarters of the new settlement is built "a mile below the confluence of the Assiniboine and Red River. This point has the name of Douglas bestowed upon it, and continued during a period of fourteen years to enjoy the honour of being the site of the Governor's residence, teh Colony stores, and the Hudson's Bay Fort" (p. 74). Emigrants from Ireland (ten or eleven families) arrive on HBC ships at York Factory in August and arrive at Red River in October (p. 76). Without sufficient stores, the emigrants removed to Pembina to be close to the buffalo. They built a few huts "and dignified the place with the honourable name of Daer" (p. 76). It was a tough winter for them, and without the assistance of some men of the Northwest Company, they would have perished from hunger (pp. 77-78).	readers; but here I must candidly state that up to that time, 1813, there was nothing approaching to animosity existing between the servants of the two companies; the struggle for existence between the rivals had not yet commenced" (p. 79). Despite the generosity of the Nor-Westers, in the spring of 1813, Governor McDonnell "became less equivocal" (p. 80) and "he told the Indians that they must take to him alone, for sale, their provisions and peltries, being the produce of lands of which his Lordship was proprietor, and on which, consequently, they could only hunt with his permission; a doctrine ridiculed by the natives, but of a nature to rouse all the apprehensions of the Canadian traders, whose existence, not only on the Red River, but in great part of the country, depended upon the provisions procured at their posts within Lord Selkirk's grants" (p. 81). This initiated the 'Pemmican Wars'.
1813	Irish emigrants return to Fort Douglas after a rough winter. Donald Gunn joins the HBC (pp. xi-xii). Benjamin Gunn, from the Parish of Kildonan, joins the HBC (HBC records). "Numbers of the families and crofters of the strath of Kildonan, and in some other parts of the country of Sutherland, had been evicted in the spring of 1813. Many of them found means of transportation to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and to the Island of St. John, now Prince Edward's Island, others flocked to His Lordship's agents, offering to become settlers in the new colony, which was to be planted, and in any reliance could be placed on his Lordship's flattering prospectus, "a land flowing with milk and honey, the glory of all lands." A few families, about twenty in number, each averaging about five souls, embarked in the *Enterprise;* agreeing to pay ten pounds sterling per head. For this sum, a passage was to be provided to for them to the place of their destination, and they were to be furnished with provisions for twelve months after the day of their embarkation" (p. 90).	"Stromness, at the time which we write, was a small village; yet it was honoured and protected by a few companies of pensioners, who were quartered at the place and did duty at a half-moon battery, that stood near the harbour, for the protection of the town and the ships that were constantly calling there" (p. 92). "In the beginning of the year 1813 he employed agents, in the North of Scotland, to engage servants for the Hudson's Bay Company and settlers for the colony" (p. 89). "The late Marchioness of Stafford and Duchess of Sutherland in her own right, the only offspring of the last Duke of Sutherland, commenced a few years before the selfish and cruel work of clearing the country of its inhabitants, leasing the farms to sheep-herds who stocked their holdings, in many places very extensive tracts, with sheep. Many of these unfortunate people were driven by the force of circumstances, or rather, the forces of cruel and unnatural laws, from their humble, but once happy homes, which they had occupied, and which, in many cases, had been occupied by their forefathers, for many

	"To the colonists were added a number of young men from all parts of Scotland, who were engaged for a term of three years. Some of them were to serve in the fur trade, others were to serve in the colony. Each of the labourers was to be paid twenty pounds sterling per annum and, at the end of their term of service, each became entitled to one hundred acres of land in Red River" (p. 90). "During the first week in June, 1813, the Earl of Selkirk, on his way north, arrived in Sutherlandshire, where he remained for some time, holding intercourse with intending emigrants, making many promises of future favour, and pointing out to them the advantages which the change they were about to make would ultimately confer upon them" (pp. 90-91). He then went on to Thurso to prepare for the arrival of the settlers in a few days, and from where they would sail to Stromness (p. 90). "...the aged and the very young, who were going to the colony, had a passage provided for them by sea from Helmsdale" (p. 92). Donald Gunn was among the group that arrived in Stromness via Thurso. "About the 20th of June all were embarked. The colonists were lodged between decks in the *Prince of Wales*; the Company's servants were put on board the *Eddystone*" (p. 92). "The morning of the 28th of June 1813 saw our little fleet of four sails weigh anchor, set sail..." (p. 93). "Some bade farewell for ever to their native hills" (p. 93). "Little did these heavy hearted exiles know, or even think that there were far greater sufferings and heart rending trials before them than those which they had to endure on bidding a last adieu to their friends, and to the land of their birth. Little did they know that in a few weeks time they would have to endure the burning pains of typhus fever in the over crowded and ill ventilated hold of a ship, never intended for the transport of any great number of people" (p. 93).	generations, under the good and kind Earls of former times, without knowing where to find a home to shelter themselves and their unfortunate families, and not in a few cases destitute of food, and means wherewith to procure it" (p. 89). "All who could realize a trifle by the sale of their property turned their thoughts towards the western world..." (pp. 89-90). "This crisis in their affairs was well calculated to aid his Lordship's scheme of planting a colony on the banks of the Red River" (p. 90).

	It was just after crossing Davis' Straits and entering the straits of the Hudson that Donald Gunn had heard that "typhus fever had appeared with fatal effects among the colonists on board the *Prince of Wales*" (p. 94). "Our passage across the Bay was quick and pleasant, and about noon on the 12th day of August, 1813, we beheld the low and uninteresting shores of Hudson's Bay stretched before us" (p. 96). They landed on the banks of the Churchill River by Fort Prince of Wales. (p. 97). "We have never been able t o ascertain the number of deaths that took place on board the ship, but the disease was raging among them when they arrived at the Churchill River" (p. 99). However, according to Gunn, they were "thrown ashore on the bare rocks" and "were not provided with anything to shelter or protect them from the heat by day or from frost by night" (p. 99). "... the fever continued unabated, carrying off its victims daily" (p. 99). "However, we may admit, without any doubt, that to the want of proper and suitable nourishment and to the entire absence of warm and comfortable lodging, may be justly attributed many of the deaths which took place after the landing" (pp. 99-100). The autumn was progressing, however, so those who were able "went with indomitable resolution and untiring perseverance" to work to build the huts that would be necessary to protect them from the 60 degree below temperatures that were on their way (p. 100). Gunn explains that at first there was plenty of food in grouse and partridge. However, Superintendent William Auld confiscated their guns. Gunn speculates that this was perhaps "to keep the settlers dependent on the Company's stores for their subsistence" or "taking for granted that the charter had conferred on his employers the exclusive right of hunting these fowls (p. 102).	

	"No record of colonial life is more affecting than the tearful embarkation of these cottagers, their hardships at the bay, and the culminating and dreadful distresses in which they and their helpless families were plunged on their arrival at the Red River, caused by the miserable and unexpected involvement in the deadly strife and murderous competition of the two great rival companies, their own protectors and the wild half-savage men of the "North-West."" (p. xii). "The few colonists who came to the country in 1812 were not provided with sufficient means to enable them to carry on agricultural operations with any fair prospect of success; and we may well believe that nothing had been attempted beyond the planting of a few potatoes..." (p. 107). So, "they had to become trip-men between the Red River and Hudson's Bay" (p. 107). In the summer of 1813, the colony comprised of "the Governor, two or three clerks, and a few labouring men..." (p. 107).	"...the theatre of a warfare so fatal to the contestants as to impel the coalition of the great rivals, the North-West Company being merged into that of the Hudson's Bay in the year 1821" (p. xii). In the early winter of 1813, "the progress of the American arms along the Canadian lakes had become known on the Red River. The North-West partners seen the probability that all supplies from Canada might be cut off by the enemy, and trembled at the prospect of the destruction of their trade throughout the whole country" (p. 107). It was at this moment that Miles McDonell, according to Gunn, commenced "operations against the Canadian traders in pursuance, as will hereafter be shown, of the general instructions of Lord Selkirk" (p. 107). Taking advantage of the location of Fort Douglas, "a general system of aggression and violence against their property was begun by Mr. Miles McDonell under pretense that all the provisions collected in the country were required for the maintenance of the colonists, who, at this time, be it observed, did not exceed twenty-five or thirty persons" (p. 108). Convoys of traders were intercepted on their way to their posts, "their boats and canoes [...] were fired at from the Fort", and all "provisions of any description [...] were plundered without hesitation" (p. 108).
1814	"...about the middle of April they left their humble abodes" and headed for York Factory, at a distance of 140 miles (p. 103). Likely sometime in the middle of June 1814 they headed on a seven hundred mile journey to the Red River colony (pp. 104-105). "We cannot say when these people arrived in Red River, but it is likely that they had the pleasure of seeing the long looked for land of promise some time in the month of July" (p. 105). "A few days after their arrival, each head of family, and some young men who represented families who were expected to come the next	On January 14th, 1814, the Governor of Assinniboia issued the following proclamation: "...it is hereby ordered that no person trading in furs or provisions within the territory for the Hudson's Bay Company, North-West Company, or any unconnected individual, person or traders whatever, shall take out provisions, either of flesh, dried meat, grain or vegetables procured or raised within the said territory by water or land carriage for one twelve months from the date hereof..." (p. 109). According to Gunn there were several acts of aggression against the North-West Company over that winter (p. 110). In one instance, near Turtle River, fifteen or sixteen of the Governor's men, using the threat of arms,

	year to the colony, were put in possession of 100 acres of land each" (p. 106). They were also provided with ponies, muskets, bayonets and ammunition, however, they were not provided any agricultural implements (p. 106). Gunn surmises that this suggests that Selkirk "intended the immigrants to become soldiers rather than agriculturalists" (p. 107).	confiscated the meat and fat (tallow) from about five men (p. 110). "...the North-Wet partner had accumulated a supply of provisions at one of their posts on a river called Riviere la Sourie, upon which the subsistence of their people principally depended" (p. 111). "...within few days after the date of his proclamation, under the pretext that it had been disobeyed", the Governor sent John Spencer, his appointed sheriff, "to seize the Fort" (p. 111). Facing resistance, Spencer to his employers and obtained a "warrant in a legal form for the seizure of the provisions", with which he returned to the Fort, accompanied by "an additional number of armed men" (p. 111). This time there was no resistance. However, "In the first week of June the North-West Traders, who had wintered at different posts in the district, met at headquarters where they were accustomed to receive their supply of provisions to carry them to Fort William; but this year the stores were empty" (p. 111). They and numerous bands of Indians outnumbered Governor McDonell and his followers, and with this advantage they "entered into an arrangement with Governor McDonell, in which he agreed to condescend so far as to let them have a limited supply for their voyage", with a promise to make up for it later (p. 112). His Lordship wrote the following letter: "You must give them (the Canadians) solemn warning that the land belongs to the Hudson's Bay Company, and that they must remove from it" (p. 112). "We are so fully advised by the unimpeachable validity of the rights of property that there can be no scruple in enforcing them wherever you have the physical means" (p. 112-113). With their lives on the line, "the North-West Company at this critical juncture in their affairs, came to the determination of resisting to the utmost of their power, the further violence of their opponents and, if possible, to make an example of Governor McDonell and of his sheriff, Mr. Spencer, by procuring their arrest and trial at Montreal, for the offences they had committed in the spring of the year" (pp. 113-114).

		Mr. Duncan Cameron, a North-West partner, obtained warrants for the arrest (granted under the authority of the 43rd King) of Mr. McDonell and Mr. Spencer. Meanwhile, on October 21st, 1814, Lord Selkirk issued an order for all associates of the North-West Company to vacate his lands (p.114). Mr Spencer was arrested on the warrant and "sent down to Lac la Plui" (p. 117). Mr. McDonell began taking prisoners. Then a group of "French half-breeds, under Cuthbert Grant, opened fire on the Fort, where the Governor resided" (p. 119). According to Gunn, a malfunction of one of the bastions, and three or four of the Fort men were wounded and one died (p. 119). In exchange for a ceasing of hostilities, Mr. McDonell was given up into custody and taken to Montreal to be tried (pp. 118-119). The colonists then presented themselves to the North-West Fort and pressed "their entreaties for a passage to Canada" (p. 120). "...about fifty families, comprising above one hundred persons, were embarked in North-West Company's canoes and safely landed at their destination" at York (p. 120). Gunn refers to Selkirk as a "land-jobbing speculator" (p. 120). Some of the other settlers "took employment in the Hudson Bay Company's service, a few went to Jack River, and three, the residue of the emigrants of 1813, went as far as York Factory with the intention of returning to their native land, but met a number of their former neighbours at that place, who had just landed from the ship, and returned with them to Red River" (p. 120). Sympathetic to the plight of the settlers who escaped to York, a Rev. Dr. Strachan, published the following statement on October 5th, 1815: "...promises still more extravagant were made by the Earl of Selkirk himself at Stromness, in June, 1813 to persons whom he was enticing to go out" (p. 121). "...for surely punishment ought to be inflicted on speculators who persuade families under false pretenses to leave their native land. Of the settlers who went to the Red River, many died at Churchill, in Hudson's Bay, from fever, the severity of the

		climate and the quality of the food. Others seriously injured their health, and not one of those who have escaped saw a joyful day from the time they left Scotland till they began their journey to Canada (p. 121). "We have observed above that the Governor's first official act was to enrol the new comers among the Company's servants, and to put arms into their hands to fight His Lordship's battles for the destruction of his commercial rivals; and for the establishment of a cruel and despotic monopoly in the great north-west territories" (p. 115). The colonists became "extremely dissatisfied with the experiment they had made" (p. 115). "They were fully convinced that it would be impossible for them to succeed in their agricultural efforts, or to remain with any prospect of safety in the country, while the Hudson's Bay Company assumed the right of seizing the persons of the North-West Company's servants and of confiscating their property, and had enforced these assumed rights whenever their physical means enabled them to do so" (pp. 115-116). Rightfully worried about the increasing tensions and aggressions, they decided to leave Red River for Canada (p. 116). The settlers began commiserating with the North-West Company men at Fort Gibraltar; irritating Governor McDonell, who then refused "provisions for the maintenance of those whom he suspected of being discontented [...] and he put the most obnoxious in prison..." (pp. 116-117). This had the opposite effect and virtually the entire colony "decided on leaving the country, if they could procure the means to enable them to do so; and, as a preliminary step in self-protection, they took possession of the field pieces that were either in the bastions or in the colony stores. These they committed for safe-keeping to Mr. Cameron's care on the 3rd of April, 1815" (p. 117). "...others deposited handsome sum in His Lordship's hands, every farthing of which was lost to them, partly owing to their own ignorance in money transactions, but chiefly from the dishonesty of the parties to whom, in their simplicity, they entrusted their property" (p. 137).

		After a skirmish by Isle a la Cross, started over a missing trap, in which a man from either side was killed, "Mr. Howse was appointed to take charge of the Hudson Bay Company's interests at Isle a la Cross" (p. 125).
		"In the winter of 1815 and 1816, no fewer than eighteen or twenty Hudson Bay Company's men perished from the united effects of cold and hunger, in the Athabaska district" (p. 113). Because the Peace, Athabasca, and McKenzie River systems drained into the Arctic Ocean, the accompanying drainage basin did not form part of Rupert's Land, and therefore, "the North-West Company enjoyed the exclusive trade of those districts, which then abounded, and even now abound, more in valuable furs than any other district in North America" (p. 126). Gunn explains that Selkirk, aware of this wealth, "took steps to turn it to his own advantage", and by buying up 40 of the 100 shares of the HBC's stock, he became "not only the moving spirit in that body, but in fact its lord and master" (p. 126). Before 1815, the HBC "had made a few attempts, with long intervals between, to establish their trade beyond the Long Portage" (p. 127) (Edmonton to Athabasca?). In 1814, however, Gunn says Selkirk became quite interested in "carrying on the trade successfully in the country to the north and west of the Long Portage" (p. 127). In May, 1815, a brigade of canoes, under the direction of the HBC, headed west, arriving "in the latter end of June at Jack River, below Lake Winnipeg" (p. 128). They "arrived late in September at Athabaska Lake, which was to be considered, for the present, the head-quarters of the expedition" (p. 129). "Having arrived at this central point, canoes were sent to lesser and greater Slave Lakes. A third brigade went up to Peace River" (p. 129). "All these detachments arrived too late in the season at their appointed stations. The spawning season was over, the fish had left the shores for the deep parts of the lakes and could not be found" (p. 129).

		The Indians were off to their hunting grounds and couldn't help them out. They had to build "temporary habitations for the winter" (p. 129), and "no fewer than eighteen men of these different parties, died from the combined effects of cold and hunger" (p. 129).
1815	From Sutherland in 1815, "A number of families (consisting of seventy-two individuals) believed the promises made, and accepted the offer of transportation to the plains of the far west" (p. 130). "They were habitually humble and devout students of their bibles. They remembered who said, "Fear not little flock," and believed that he who decked the lilies of the field with their brilliant hues, and fed the fowls of the air, would provide for them and theirs. Animated by hope, founded on faith, they commenced the long and arduous journey..." (p. 131). "It has been said, and said, I believe with truth, that no people in Europe can compare in deep heart-felt attachment to their native land with the Highlanders of Scotland" (p. 131). They took the same route as those in 1813, a three day trip by land to Thurso and then across the Pentland Firth to Stromness (p. 131). However, this time the ship was the *Hedlow*, "capacious and well arranged for passengers" (p. 132). "The fleet took its departure from Stomness on the 17th day of June, 1815" (p. 132), accompanied by "a sloop of war, to protect the merchantmen from the depredations of French privateers; for Napoleon I. had burst the chains that bound him to his insular Empire (Elba) invaded the ancient kingdom of France, drove the unfortunate Bourbon from this throne, reseated himself upon it and rekindled the flames of war from the mouth to the river Oby to Cape Finisterre" (p. 132). This trip was "easy and pleasant" and they arrived at the mouth of the Hay's River, about five miles from York Factory, on August 18th (p. 132). They shortly proceeded on their 700 mile journey to Red River, arriving at Fort Douglas on November 5th (pp. 132-133) "in good health and full of hope". However, despite Selkirk's promises, the stores were empty, and they therefore had to re-locate	Robert Semple, on landing at York Factory, became "Governor-in-Chief of the Northern Department" of the HBC (p. 136). He seemed a peaceable man and relations between the two companies settled down for a while. (p. 138).

	to Pembina to be close to the buffalo (p. 133). After a difficult journey, they arrived at Fort Daer where they had "to build huts to shelter them from the inclemency of the weather, which had now set in in all its severity" (pp. 134-135). However, without adequate provisions, they had to re-locate a further 150 miles to the west in late December (135).	
1816	"Thus the winter of 1815-1816 was passed by those who may appropriately be handed down to posterity as "The Pilgrim fathers of the Red River Colony."" (p. 143). They had an excellent spring, planted crops, and "fortune seemed to smile on all their efforts" (p. 145). After the Battle of Seven Oaks, "they considered their prospect of success in Red River hopeless while the country continued in such a state as prevailed during the last three years, which state was ushered in by the aggressive policy adopted by the Earl of Selkirk and the stern resistance with which these aggressions were now met by the other party" (p. 155). They arrived in Jack River, on the north end of Lake Winnipeg, with the intention of heading to York Factory, and eventually back home to Scotland (p. 155). They had to pass the winter at Jack River (p. 193). In the spring, "a special messenger was dispatched to Jack River to bear the welcome tidings" (p. 195) that Fort Douglas had been retaken and the HBC was now firmly in charge. They suffered another horrible winter, but in August, 1817, on "the lot on which Saint John's Cathedral now stands", Lord Selkirk reiterated his promises, for a "minister of religion who was to be of their own persuasion", 100 acres of land for each settler, payable in produce, a market for their produce, and all the privileges of British subjects (pp. 200-201). "This lot on which we are met to-day shall be for your church and manse; the next lot on the south side of the creek shall be for your school and for a help to support your teacher, and in commemoration of your native parish it shall be called Kildonan" (p. 201).	However, in March 1816, Mr. Semple left Fort Douglas to inspect other posts, and left Mr. Colin Robertson in charge (p. 138). On the night of March 17th, 1816, Mr. Robertson, at the head of an armed party of Hudson Bay Company's servants, attacked Fort Gibraltar, invaded it, took the residents as prisoners, and took 'ownership' (pp. 139-140). After other attempts to take other Forts, Mr. McDonell called for support from the Saskatchewan and Swan River districts and a number of half-breeds responded (pp. 141-142). "...on the evening of the 19th day of June, 1816, the party proceeded" toward Fort Douglas. After a shot (accidental or otherwise), a battle ensued and 21 of the Fort's men were killed, including Mr. Semple. The half-breeds apparently killed all of the surviving wounded (pp. 147-148). According to Gunn, only one settler was among the dead (p. 148). It became known as the 'Battle of Seven Oaks' (p. 149). All parties later agreed that the first shot was from an HBC Lieutenant "which went off accidentally", thereby setting off a chain reaction (p. 149). The settlers took refuge in Fort Douglas. The next day they surrendered the Fort on the terms that they would proceed to Lake Winnipeg. "On the 22nd of June Mr. Alexander McDonell and his people evacuated the Fort, leaving Mr. Grant and his followers in full possession" (p. 154). In the meanwhile, in 1815, Lord Selkirk had enlisted over 100 men in Montreal (p. 166). Gunn suggests Selkirk spurned proposals for

	Their struggles were not over, however. The next two winters were harsh and their agricultural efforts failed due to locusts and in the fall of 1818 they headed once again for Pembina to be near the buffalo. The locusts plagued their crops for a number of years. "...the English language was to them a foreign tongue, as very few of the aged understood any but Gaelic, for which they longed vehemently" (p. 213). They obtained their first good crop in 1821 (p. 214).	the merger of the two companies during that summer (pp. 166-167). Lord Selkirk was able to enlist "public sympathy in his own favour" as a result of the 'massacre' at Seven Oaks (p. 171) and that summer he was able to overcome Fort William, the North West Company's chief depot, and from there, several others (p. 189), including the recapture of Fort Douglas.
1820		"The Earl of Selkirk died in 1820, which facilitated the amalgamation of the two trading companies. His Lordship's real object in forming the colony on the Red River appeared at the time to be the hope of getting a number of hardy men raised in the country, inured to the climate, and devoted to their patron's interest, to enter into the Hudson's Bay Company's employ and become servile tools in carrying arbitrary measures for the destruction of the North-West Company" (p. 214).
1821	"The Scotch and some men from the Orkney Islands, who had been for some years in the Hudson's Bay Company's service, and who had families by native women, returned to the lower settlement in 1821, where, as usual, they had great difficulty procuring subsistence during the summer months. The locusts that had been hatched in the spring, in due time left the settlement" (p. 215). "A few patches of grain escaped their ravages" but the "quantity of grain was so trifling that the people laid it up of see to sow in the following spring, and began once more to turn their thoughts towards Pembina, and the plains of Dakota, where they passed the winter of 1821-22" (p. 215). "The union of the two Companies contributed greatly to the peace and prosperity of the colony" (p. 224). "the summer of 1822 had been favourable and the harvest abundant" (p. 224).	Sense finally came to the men of both companies, "and wisdom suggested the only means by which the fur trade could be once more made profitable to those concerned in it—namely the union of the two Companies, which event took place in the month of March, 1821" (p. 215). "The new company occupied Fort Gibraltar" (p. 224).