

MEMORANDUM CONTINUED.

were they approached at the present time in a friendly way by the Government of the United States with propositions of a similar and if possible more convenient character than those formerly rejected, and the undersigned respectfully recommends that this course be strongly urged upon the United States Government, and, should they be willing to make another attempt to obtain the removal of the Indians back to their own territory, the undersigned feels sure that the Dominion Government will cheerfully cooperate, so far as can be reasonably expected, in bringing about so desirable a consummation.

Respectfully Submitted
(Signed) John A. Macdonald

Minister of the Interior.

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD.

(British Legation), March 27, 1879

Sir Edward Thornton handed to Mr. Evants a copy of a telegram sent by the Marquis of Lorne to the Canadian authorities on the frontier, to be communicated to Sitting Bull. This action was taken by the Governor General on Sir Edward Thornton's communicating to him a copy of Mr. Evant's note.

Mr. Evants stated that this Government received information from time to time as to the meditated movements of his Indians. In the opinion of the Interior and War Departments organized military movements on the part of Sitting Bull were to be feared, as the spring opened. The movements were believed to be now being prepared in British territory, preparatory to the crossing of the frontier. This Government considered the British Government responsible for military movements thus fitted out on its soil, and that when advised, as at present, the responsibility was more complete.

Sir Edward Thornton replied that the Government of Canada had no power to restrain these movements. Its only force in the locality where these Indians are in three hundred mounted police, but no military force.

Mr. Evants answered that the power to control these movements was the power of Great Britain, and that it was no answer to say that in one particular portion of British territory the power was inadequate. It is true that the position of affairs is inconvenient and much to be regretted, yet nevertheless the British Government had but one course either to have driven the Indians back across the frontier or, if it granted them an asylum, to have disarmed them and sent them into the interior. Now these Indians were a part of the population and the Government