

Chapter 1 : Lord Selkirk : Wikis (The Full Wiki)

Thomas Douglas, 5th Earl of Selkirk FRS FRSE (20 June - 8 April) was a Scottish peer. He was noteworthy as a Scottish philanthropist who sponsored immigrant settlements in Canada at the Red River Colony.

Additional Information In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: There is no attempt to discuss the over-all picture of settlement or provincial development in either time or place. The division of chapters, like the order of the chapters, is difficult to understand. One wonders why they are separated because the first is only three and a half pages of text and the second only eleven. The illustrations appear to be the result of printing everything the writer could lay hands upon rather than any careful selection and they often have only the most strained relevance to the text. The footnoting is of the same order. The index fails to note the subjects one would expect to find, crop types, farm implements, and so forth. Gullitt carefully lists, however, the names of all the minor characters who are noted anywhere in the contents—including Wendel Wigle who merely appears in one illustration holding a dead turkey. This type of work is simply antiquarianism, not historical writing. Antiquarianism itself is certainly not to be deplored, and antiquarians have done much to forward the knowledge of history; but this collection of chaotic, inaccurate, and often misleading and ill-digested facts certainly cannot be recommended. The University of Toronto Press may find the distribution of these volumes a profitable venture, but it will certainly add nothing to their laurels as academic publishers. University of Western Ontario F. The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited. Pritchett in *The Red River Valley* Augmenting these two basic studies have been the valuable, but more limited and specialized contributions of A. The monographs by Martin and Pritchett tell much of the Selkirk story, including detail omitted in *Lord Selkirk of Red River* presumably to avoid overburdening the narrative. But scholarly monographs tend to be coldly analytical, while Mr. The political circumstances in the two Canadas which affected his plans and his subsequent legal entanglements are clearly presented, as well as the grave defects in the administration of justice. Always supporting her intense and stubborn husband with affectionate good sense was Lady Selkirk, who emerges in these pages as a person of rare courage, charm, and high intelligence. When the Selkirks came to Canada she established a home for herself and her family in Montreal; here for four long years she effectively countered the libellous anti-Selkirk propaganda of the politically influential partners of the North West Company. Gray has rescued this remarkable woman from undeserved obscurity. Yet while it is abundantly clear that Selkirk was not primarily profit-motivated, there is still an element of mystery about this reserved, single

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His early education was at the Palgrave Academy , Suffolk. While there, he noticed poor Scottish crofters who were being displaced by their landlords. Seeing their plight, he investigated ways he could help them find new land in the then British colonies. In , on the death of his brother Basil, Thomas became Lord Daer. Involvement in Canada[edit] When Thomas unexpectedly inherited the Selkirk title and estates in , he used his money and political connections to purchase land and settle poor Scottish farmers in Belfast, Prince Edward Island , in and Baldoon , Upper Canada in See Highland Clearances for more on the emigration of poor Scots. In , he was in Halifax and became a member of the North British Society. However, Selkirk was very determined, and together with Sir Alexander Mackenzie bought enough shares in H. This position of power, along with his marriage connections his wife Jean was the sister of Andrew Wedderburn , a member of the H. He also agreed that the settlers would not be allowed to participate in the fur trade. By placing the Red River Colony astride the trade routes used by the N. Even with a full growing season the next year, the colony never thrived. Because of a shortage of food in , Macdonell issued the Pemmican Proclamation , prohibiting the export of food from the entire area. Robert Semple was appointed as governor of the Red River Colony. In the aftermath, Selkirk was ordered to appear in court in Montreal and was charged with four separate offences, all of which related to the alleged unlawful occupation of Fort William. A flag and a national anthem were born during this period in time. Newman tells the story as follows in his history The Empire of the Bay. Benjamin Franklin had suggested that he might capture a British nobleman to exchange for American prisoners. Having been born near the Selkirk estates, Jones selected the elder Lord Selkirk. At the last moment, Jones decided not to go himself, but to assign the duty to two lieutenants and a boatload of sailors. As the Americans approached the Selkirk mansion, a governess saw them coming and removed young Thomas to safety. The Americans knocked on the front door and were greeted by the butler. Lady Selkirk came from the breakfast room to see what the fuss was about. She invited the American officers into the drawing room, told the butler to make tea and to find some whisky for the sailors who were waiting outside. When they explained that they had come to kidnap her husband, Lady Selkirk replied that unfortunately Lord Selkirk was not at home. When Lieutenant Wallingford suggested that instead, they might take the young gentleman they saw on the way to the house, Lady Selkirk replied that they would have to kill her first. After more discussion, Lady Selkirk suggested that, so that their mission would not be a complete failure, they might steal the family silver. The officers allowed as how that might be the best solution, so Lady Selkirk ordered the butler to provide the American gentlemen with what they needed. He filled a sack half full of coal, filled the top half with silverware and presented it to the officers. After drinking a toast to Lady Selkirk, they returned to their ship and presented their captain with his sack full of coal and silverware. Jones wrote Lady Selkirk a flowery letter of apology, proposing himself to buy back the booty from the Navy and return it to the Selkirks. Lord Selkirk wrote back that he could not possibly countenance the return of his silver without the consent of the Continental Congress. The objects, which became the subject of protracted legal negotiations, were returned seven years later. Marriage and family[edit].

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This article was published originally in Manitoba History by the Manitoba Historical Society on the above date. We make it available here as a free, public service. Please direct all inquiries to webmaster mh.s. As the founder of the Red River colony, the Earl of Selkirk has always enjoyed a prominent place in the early history of the province of Manitoba. Lord Selkirk from bust by Chantrey Source: Western Canada Pictorial Index The difficulties which Selkirk had to overcome on his way to lionization were many. Moreover, there were among surviving Selkirk settlers especially those who had come to Red River before many who remembered their suffering and felt ill-used by the Earl. But leavening forces were at work upon the initial focus on the fur trade rivalry and the resultant bias of the contemporary documentation for the Red River troubles. More than one historian of Manitoba sought to capture Selkirk for his own thematic purposes, a tendency which increasingly gained strength at the end of the century, as Manitoba moved away from its fur trading origins and acquired a pretension to civilization and Euro-Canadian culture. The story of the gradual lionization of Selkirk is a complex one, which tells us a good deal about the changing perceptions of Manitoba by its own historians. Emigrating to Canada in 1793, he had joined John Jacob Astor in the well-known Astoria venture on the Pacific Coast, marrying an Okanagan Indian woman and eventually retiring to Red River with his family in 1796. A staunch adherent of the Church of Scotland, Ross was largely responsible for bringing the first Presbyterian clergyman to Red River in 1796, thus fulfilling an ambition which Selkirk himself had not brought to fruition. In his account of the early days Ross gave no indication of any research among the documents. Instead, he was content to present Selkirk as the man whose vision had been to create more or less the sort of settlement which Red River represented in the 1790s. Ross insisted in the opening pages of his book, *The History of the Red River Settlement*, that the few emigrants sent out by him were intended merely to diffuse a spirit of industry and agricultural knowledge among these children of nature, and, in fine, to act as the pioneers in the wilderness, who might open otherwise inaccessible paths for the spread of the Gospel. Nevertheless, Ross plainly exemplified one of the main threads of Selkirk scholarship among later Manitoba historians: Nearly a generation passed during which the Riel rebellion had occurred and Manitoba had become a province before another full-scale history of Manitoba was published. In 1907, however, the *History of Manitoba*, written by the late Donald Gunn with the assistance of Charles Tuttle for the period after 1793, was published in Ottawa. Like Ross, Gunn was Scots-born, coming to the territory in 1793 in company with the settlers recruited by Selkirk in Kildonan. An eye-witness for at least a small part of the Selkirk enterprise, Gunn eagerly collected local folklore from other participants. His interpretation of Selkirk was decidedly unfavourable. To some extent Gunn may have been in this regard affected by a familiarity with the literature then gaining currency concerning the Highland Clearances as much as by his own personal experiences, although he never made specific reference to any of this material. Selkirk was more than merely an opponent of the North West Company: He returned to the material of the contemporary controversy selecting those incidents for his narrative least favourable to Selkirk. Gunn then turned to his own connection with Selkirk as part of the emigration from Kildonan. Nevertheless the surviving settlers persevered. Throughout his narrative of the experiences of the settlers and the first years of the colony, Gunn introduced a running critique of Selkirk. The Earl was attacked for misleading the Kildonan emigrants into thinking that supplies were as easily obtainable in Red River as in Scotland, for example, and Gunn queried why the emphasis had been placed upon guns and defense instead of upon agricultural implements and farming. Providing far more detail than had hitherto been available to any reader not familiar with the earlier printed controversy, Gunn constructed a narrative favourable to the North West Company and highly sympathetic to the suffering of the settlers, while simultaneously condemning Selkirk as aggressive, self-interested, and basically dishonest. When Macoun came to sum up his chapter on early Red River, however, he found it difficult to maintain the persistently hostile tone of his running account of events. But Macoun was not satisfied to stop with this obvious echo of the Coltman report. He then added one final sentence: But he was, in a sense, the victim of his sources, which deal almost exclusively with the struggle for the fur trade in the

West. Some new perspective on Selkirk was obviously necessary if he were to be viewed as the forward-looking founder of a settled agricultural province. Manitoba and the Great North-West was a transitional work in terms of the Selkirk legend, pointing toward an interpretation but lacking the material to substantiate it. So long as the picture of Selkirk remained entirely within the context of the fur-trade rivalry, it was unlikely that he could receive a sympathetic hearing, even from those careful scholars who turned to the available source material. He rehearsed the previous historiography. The Norwesters had accused Selkirk of being little more than a land-grabbing speculator. Alexander Ross had argued that Christianization of the Indians was the aim. Lord Selkirk organized a colony for the good of the colonists who were in miserable circumstances in their native country: Why will men attribute sordid. Had Bryce stopped here, of course, merely asserting an alternative explanation, his work might have had little impact. But using the Selkirk papers and the Company archives, Bryce set out systematically to present a more rounded Selkirk, one whose life had not been spent solely in opposing the interests of the North West Company on the banks of the Red River. Although he greatly over-simplified, he made plain that Selkirk was a product of an intellectual and moral tradition in Scotland, a friend of Scott and Burns, and that Red River was a logical extension of his philanthropic efforts in the east. The fur trade was truly finished, and Selkirk had pointed to the future rather than attempting to maintain the dead weight of the past. Hill came a few years later to produce his *Manitoba: History of its Early Settlement, Development and Resources* Toronto, , it was to Bryce that he turned for an interpretation of Selkirk. Although Begg had not arrived in Red River until , his sympathies remained with the fur trade rather than the agrarians, and he resolutely refused to honour Selkirk. His account of the early days of the settlement rested squarely upon the Coltman report and the Parliamentary Blue Book of . Thus the old version of the Earl, concentrating exclusively upon his activities in Red River and critical of his policy there for its aggressiveness, still had an adherent. Dugas had been a missionary priest in Manitoba from to , and wrote several biographical studies of Bishop Provencher before turning to a larger subject. The present clearly justified the past. Yet another Manitoba clergyman, the Reverend R. He reached the high point of his fulsome panegyric when he commented, By the time F. Schofield came to prepare *The Story of Manitoba*, a three-volume work appearing in and obviously intended as a sort of centennial offering, all the ingredients for turning Selkirk into the visionary founder of the new Manitoba were firmly in place. Schofield took his information and even his illustrations from Bryce, but added a new explicitness to the melding of past and present. Schofield returned to this theme when he concluded his account of the arrival of the first party of settlers in . Thenceforward it was to be an agricultural country, not a mere hunting ground; farmers rather than trappers and fur traders were to determine its destiny. Panegyric is impossible, because his gravest mistakes were palpable and self-confessed: In other words, he was unselfish. He was a philanthropist. Some of his contemporaries said that he was one hundred years ahead of his time. *Archives of Manitoba* With this final statement, Garrioch had bridged the time gap in a rather interesting and imaginative way. Little more needed to be said. The process of lionization was now complete. In the context of the fur trade, Selkirk tended to be an enemy. He had contributed to the violent confrontations of the fur traders and the settlers he sent to Red River, and perhaps equally important as Chester Martin suggested he had opposed the resolution of that conflict through merger of its antagonists. Provincial historians did not have to shade the evidence overmuch to come out with this sort of Selkirk, once George Bryce had shown the way; evidence less needed to be invented than selected and heightened. As any Manitoba historian could have put it by the first years of the twentieth century, the history of the province had vindicated the life and suffering of its founder. For a bibliography of this literature see W. I am in part indebted for this general perspective to a paper given to the Winnipeg History Club by Professor G. Friesen on the early years of the Manitoba Historic and Scientific Society. Interpreting the Western Canadian Plains Regina , For biographical details on Ross , see Kenneth A. Ross, *The Red River Settlement*, p. Gunn and Tuttle, *History of Manitoba*, p. Macoun, *Manitoba and the Great North-West*, p Bryce , *Manitoba*, p. For Begg , , see the introduction to W. MacBeth, *The Selkirk Settlers*, p. Schofield , *The Story of Manitoba*, p. *Its Resources and People* Toronto. Garrioch , *First Furrows*,

Chapter 4 : Earl of Selkirk | Revolvvy

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Grade five teachers may find the chronology helpful for review of what was learned in Grade 4. Can your students place the most significant events on a blank time line? Or perhaps a KWL brainstorming session would help you identify what your students know and guide your planning. The courage and fortitude of the Selkirk Settlers makes for a gripping and inspiring story that can capture the imagination of your students, inspire their sense of citizenship and pride, and enhance their understanding of the experiences of refugees and new immigrants in their communities. But it also features the generosity of Chief Peguis and the compassion and support of friends and neighbors far from their homelands. The amazing conclusion of this story is the successful establishment of the first permanent agricultural settlement in British North America. Why did the Selkirk Settlers leave their homeland? In recent years immigration to Manitoba has soared. Many classrooms throughout the province have children who have recently arrived from far away lands. And many other children have moved at least once to a new home or neighborhood or city. In this context an exploration of why and how people move and why they choose the place they move to can become a vibrant cross cultural experience. Explore with children the reasons why people move and why people choose the place they move to. A discussion or brainstorming activity might incorporate these questions. Perhaps you can engage children with their personal experiences and then expand to include their school, neighborhood, city, province and country. Have any of you moved recently? What do you think might be the reasons people move? What are the good things and the bad about being here? What are some of the challenges that newcomers might face? The Last of the Clan Source: MacDonald Family Letters To understand why the Scots left their homeland early in the 19th century to immigrate to the wilderness of Canada it is important to be aware of the Highland Clearances. A more complete discussion of the clearances with reference to opposing views about it is here. This immense movement of people had a profound impact on the culture and economy of the highlands and created a Scottish Diaspora throughout the new world which today vastly outnumbers the population of Scotland itself. Beginning in the mid 18th century and lasting for more than 100 years, thousands of Scottish highlanders were forced to abandon the land their families had farmed for many generations, by landlords who sought greater economic gain from new agricultural processes. As a result large numbers of Scottish highlanders were forced into very poor coastal villages or the newly industrialized cities as workers in the mills and factories. As well many immigrated to the new world looking for opportunities to rebuild their lives in places where they would be free from the exploitation of the ruling elites. However, not all of the people recruited by Lord Selkirk were from the Highlands of Scotland. Many of the Irish left the settlement under pressure from the Northwest Company in and many of the Swiss and German settlers left for the United States after the great flood of 1811. Further information is in this article , published in by the MHS. Selkirk Settlers Monument Source: Manitoba Historical Society You can invite children to investigate why the settlers left their homeland with this interactive website produced by the BBC. It was developed to supplement the Scottish curriculum and offers more activities than you may want to use. However, an extensive outline will allow teachers to pick and choose with relative ease. Born in Scotland to a wealthy family he was well educated and much influenced by the Scottish Enlightenment and the French Revolution. During a visit to the Scottish highlands in 1786 he was moved by the poverty and desperation of tenant farmers who were the victims of the Highland Clearances. Lord Selkirk developed a plan for a settlement in the Red River valley. He believed that there, farmers displaced by the Clearances would be given an opportunity for a new start in life. Children can be challenged to think about helping others with these questions which lead to an exploration of why Lord Selkirk cared about the people affected by the Highland Clearances and why he thought helping them move to Canada would be a good thing. Do you know people who give help to others? How do you help others? Why do people want to help others? Why do you think Lord Selkirk cared about the people who were being forced

from their farms in the highlands? It tells the story of a meeting the colonists had with Lord Selkirk during his only visit to the colony in 1793. Students might be encouraged to read or listen to the article and respond with their observations about the people and this event in a response journal. A suggested DRTA discussion outline for this article is available [here](#). Lord Selkirk Monument Source: Teachers may want to encourage students to look for information about Thomas Douglas by following these links, and locating the plaques and streets on a map. In the context of looking for these commemorative sites, your students may be intrigued by the observation that Lord Selkirk seems to have more than one name. Why does he have more than one name? Students can be challenged to investigate why he is a Baron and not an Earl. Can they infer from this information which title has a higher rank? Why did he disclaim his title as the 11th Earl of Selkirk? From this initial discussion a brainstorming session could develop a list of things the settlers might take with them on their voyage to the new world. Working in small groups, children can be asked to categorize the list according to needs and wants and to share and defend their lists in a whole class activity. Or they can be challenged to work collaboratively to identify just a few things to pack for the voyage. Their Story Told In Many Ways The resources that follow provide opportunities for children to explore the people and events that defined the Red River Selkirk Settlement through different media. A television documentary, historical fiction, historical articles and original sources present their lives with drama and color that will surely intrigue many of your students. Along the way, children will become more aware of issues such as the hostility of many in the fur trade who feared the presence of an agricultural settlement would disrupt their business, the poor judgment of some leaders in both the settlement and the fur trade which led to incidents like the Pemman Proclamation and the Seven Oaks event, and the fear and prejudice occasioned by beliefs brought from the old country that aboriginal people were less than human because they were not Christians. Though produced a decade ago, the CBC television series *Canada: If you have access to it you will find the story of the Selkirk Settlers in Episode 6: The Pathfinders*, Lesson A synopsis of the episode is available [here](#). *Footsteps in the Snow* Footsteps in the Snow: From the book jacket we read: They cannot even start to build once they finally reach their destination. The harsh climate and escalating threats against the settlers make it impossible to start a new life. Only through perseverance and help from the local Cree band are Isobel and her family able to put down roots in the Red River Valley. Teachers will want to prepare students for the prejudices Isabel expresses at the beginning of the book and help them to discover that as she comes to know the aboriginal people of the Red River, she realizes the falseness of these prejudices. You may want to do a novel study or read this story aloud to your students. However you choose to use it, Scholastic Canada offers teaching resources to support the novel, including an authors note, art activities, and an interactive time line. Several free downloadable teaching activities are [here](#). For teachers who are interested, a Teaching Guide which develops both social studies and language arts skills can also be ordered. If you have access to a public library you may be able to find multiple copies of *Footsteps in the Snow*. The Winnipeg Public Library lists 22 copies. In addition, it has 4 copies of a teachers guide: *Teaching with Dear Canada: Frances Ramsay Simpson* Source: Several diary entries describing her observations of life in the colony and during a long trip by canoe with her husband are bookmarked [here](#). *The Lord Selkirk Settlement at Red River, Parts 1 and 2* by Anne Matheson Henderson Part 2 can be accessed at the bottom of the page provides an opportunity to compare the people and events in this historical account with those of the fictionalized historical novel discussed above. This article also references many of the most important events, including the roots of the hostility towards the Settlement by the Northwest Company. Morton, published in April It provides interesting background on the Red River Colony and the Selkirk Settlement, including information about the naming of Point Douglas. Teachers may want to prepare their students for the reference to half-breeds, a term used to describe people of mixed aboriginal and Scots blood which was an acceptable term to use in the 1800s when this article was published, but is often considered pejorative today. Other links on this site lead to interesting accounts of life in the settlement that may be useful source material for further study. An example is this description of bringing in the hay. *Battle of Seven Oaks* Source: As such they are highly recommended for an examination of settlement life through the eyes of artists and historians as well as the first person accounts of some of the Settlers and their leaders. It is our intention to supplement those resources with on-line activities and information. However, circumstances

have necessitated doing so at a late date. In the meantime a focus on Scottish country dancing allows us to recreate some of what may have transpired in the homes and halls of the settlement during those occasions that drew people together for social celebrations. Indeed, several first person accounts belie, at least somewhat, the stereotype of the dour Scotch Presbyterian sometimes associated with the settlers. Dancing in the Red River Selkirk Settlement A focus on dancing allows us to recreate some of what may have transpired in the homes and halls of the settlement when people met for social celebrations. Indeed, several first person accounts belie, at least somewhat, the stereotype of the dour Scotch Presbyterian sometimes associated with the settlers! The diary entries of Miles MacDonnell, written during the first winter at Fort Daer, reference only reels, the oldest and some would say, most Scottish of dances. The letter written in , however, makes specific reference to country dances, jigs and other popular dances of that period. The old Scottish reels influenced the development of modern Highland dancing. This dance tradition has however, become largely an athletic sport that is very competitive and is seldom danced as a social activity. In the early days of the settlement it is more likely that the reels that were danced were influenced by country dancing whose influence began to spread from the cities to the countryside, including the highlands in the mid 18th century. It too is thought to have been influenced by European traditions, including the scotch reels, but is also linked to aboriginal Pow Wow dancing. The old reels were also an influence on Scottish country dancing.

Chapter 5 : Chester Martin (Author of Lord Selkirk's work in Canada)

Lord Selkirk's work in Canada and millions of other books are available for Amazon Kindle. Learn more Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App.

July 09, Rating: So this is Winnipeg sunday night cruise, and im cruisin my 97 BMW i. Raced an Audi r8 xD Kinda, But the Videos provided by Youtube are under the copyright of their owners. This list contains brief abstracts about monuments, holiday activities, national parcs, museums, organisations and more from the area as well as interesting facts about the region itself. Otherwise the related wikipedia article. Winnipeg North 40px Manitoba electoral district File: Manitoba federal electoral districts, Politics of Winnipeg Inkster electoral district Inkster was a provincial electoral division in the Canadian province of Manitoba. It was located in the northwestern corner of the city of Winnipeg. Officially created by redistribution in , it has existed since the provincial election of Manitoba provincial electoral divisions, Politics of Winnipeg The Maples electoral district The Maples is a provincial electoral division in the Canadian province of Manitoba. The riding was created by redistribution in , has been represented in the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba since the provincial election of It is located in the north end of Winnipeg. The riding is bordered by Kildonan to the east, Inkster to the west, Burrows to the south and Gimli to the north. Manitoba provincial electoral divisions, Politics of Winnipeg St. Johns provincial electoral district St. Johns is a provincial electoral division in the Canadian province of Manitoba. It was created by redistribution in , and has formally existed since It is located in the north-end of Winnipeg. The constituency is bordered by Kildonan to the north and west, Burrows to the west, Elmwood to the east, and Point Douglas to the south. Manitoba provincial electoral divisions, Politics of Winnipeg Burrows Burrows is a provincial electoral division in the Canadian province of Manitoba. It was created by redistribution in , and formally came into existence in the provincial election of The riding is located in the northern part of Winnipeg. It is bordered to the east by St. Manitoba provincial electoral divisions, Politics of Winnipeg Sisler High School Sisler High School is the largest high school in the province of Manitoba with over students. It was built in , and named after William James Sisler. Sisler was instrumental in helping new immigrant families adjust. He faced a great challenge in the fact that a majority of the students did not speak English; there were twenty-two countries of origin and eighteen language groups in his student body. Before the City of Winnipeg Act of , it was an independent rural municipality. The population as of the census is 39, It was established on July Currently, there are 18 elementary and middle schools and 4 high schools. An apartment block, the "Olympic Towers", today stands on the site. The Olympic had a storied history in connection with hockey in Winnipeg. From the start and until , it operated without artificial ice. The winter temperatures in Winnipeg allowed this even though it was indoors. It was the home of the greater Winnipeg Midget and Juvenile leagues. It is run by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. The labour temple is one of the few left in a once large network of such halls and is one of the largest and oldest of its kind. The building was constructed from using volunteer labour. The temple is located at Pritchard Avenue. The building was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in It has a land area of 2. It corresponds roughly to census tract

The Silver Chief- Lord Selkirk and the Scottish Pioneers of Belfast, Baldoon and Red River. Belfast, Prince Edward Island, founded in August , owes its existence to Lord Selkirk. However, Selkirk's work in Canada extended beyond Belfast to Baldoon (later Wallaceburg) in Ontario, as well as to Red River, the precursor to Winnipeg.

Thomas Douglas was the seventh son of the 4th Earl of Selkirk, and though two of his brothers had died in infancy he had no prospect of inheriting the title until his mid twenties. Then, between and , all four of his remaining brothers died, two of yellow fever in the Caribbean and the others of tuberculosis. In , on the death of his father, Thomas Douglas became earl at 28 years of age. As a boy Douglas had been quiet and not strong, but he was apparently well liked at the University of Edinburgh which he entered at the age of There he followed a general course in the humanities with some studies in law. His education was filled out in with some months of travel in the Highlands of Scotland, an experience which was to influence the course of his life decisively. This journey was followed by a period of travel in Europe until Two other matters seem to have been of particular importance in his growing-up years. Though there was no bloodshed or brutality the boy found it a frightening experience, and in later years he believed it had left him with a dislike of Americans that he never wholly overcame. Douglas never lost interest in the Highlands after his travels there, and he studied Highland affairs and learned some Gaelic. He had been shocked by the effect of the clearances with their callous, if inevitable, uprooting of helpless people who obviously were capable and deserving of a better life. Though he had not been in a position to help he had begun to develop a theory of emigration that might both restore hope to dispossessed people and strengthen Britain overseas. An opportunity to apply his theories arose even as he came into his title and fortune. In a rebellion in Ireland brought on by starvation and rack-rents had been put down harshly. The young earl spent some months in travelling there to study conditions at first hand. He believed the same qualities that had made men leaders in rebellion could be of value in a different setting. To provide real opportunities and new challenges would change the whole thrust of an oppressed society. Selkirk advanced these arguments repeatedly and with enthusiasm to the Colonial Office, but they met with little favour. The Irish were regarded as intractable, and hopeless prospects as colonists; moreover the government was opposed to large-scale emigration. Finally recognizing that the government would not countenance the resettlement of Irish rebels, Selkirk proposed the emigration of Highlanders instead. As his plans for the Upper Canadian venture went forward it became clear that costs would be higher than he had anticipated. He was therefore obliged to turn to Prince Edward Island, since he had already recruited a number of Highland emigrants and contracted for ships and supplies. Selkirk gave his next year to travel in the United States and the Canadas, tirelessly observing, questioning, and taking notes. He informed himself about the terrain, crop expectations and prices, conditions of trade, and local government. Above all he was interested in the degree and speed of adaptation by immigrants, especially those from the Highlands. Though he found great variations in progress as a result of differing effort and ability, he concluded that all were better off than they would have been at home. He had prepared himself as well as was possible through study for his Prince Edward Island venture, but now he had the added benefit of on-the-spot reconnaissance and of discussion in depth. It all went down in a diary written in the evenings by candle-light or when bad weather prevented travel by day. He was determined to be an expert on the problem he had made his own. Having started his travels in Halifax, N. Part of his time was spent in studying maps of the western part of the province in search of a site for another colony. Then in January he left York by sleigh for Montreal. In Upper Canada he had seen and heard much about the fur trade. In Montreal he learned more of its importance, its glamour, and its power. Characteristically he was full of questions about the country and about the fur trade, which they were happy to answer at the time but later considered to have been an indication of sinister designs by Selkirk on their business. Travelling toward the site, the two men agreed on elaborate and ambitious building plans, and construction started on their arrival in early June. The first small group of settlers was already on the way. In Scotland he prepared Observations on the present state of the Highlands of Scotland, with a view of the causes and probable consequences of emigration London, , advancing his theories

in the face of opposition from the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland and the Colonial Office and using the success in Prince Edward Island to support his claims. The fact that there had already been warnings of disaster at Baldoon was largely ignored. Located on swampy ground and suffering from mismanagement, that colony was becoming a tragic and costly failure [see William Burn], although despite sickness, death, and bad crops settlers would remain in the area. His rank and wealth had made Selkirk prominent; the book, clearly and persuasively written, made him a celebrity. Other books, both to challenge and to support his arguments, were rushed out. Although he accepted, in the end the appointment was not made. In the spring of he applied for an immense grant of , acres in New Brunswick but attached conditions that could not be accepted. Turning his back on his North American interests he flung himself into domestic affairs with characteristic energy. He became involved in the abolition of the slave trade, the problem of national defence, and parliamentary reform. On national defence he made himself something of an expert, and when in he published a proposal for national service his ideas were respectfully received. On parliamentary reform he was cautious and conservative, having been horrified by the excesses of the French revolution and disappointed in the working of democracy in the United States. His efforts as parliamentarian, colonizer, and author were bringing Selkirk some of the pleasant rewards of prominence and service. In he was made lord lieutenant of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright; he was shortly to be elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London and to become a member of the prestigious Alfred Club in that city. And in came the greatest reward of all. The shy, rich, and distinguished bachelor of 36 was married to Jean Wedderburn, aged His attractive, intelligent, and courageous wife was to be the source of most of his future happiness and an unfailing and invaluable support in the troubles that lay ahead. Though with his marriage and involvement in government Selkirk appeared to have put aside any interest in the emigration question, he probably never entirely lost sight of it. But the most obvious area, Upper Canada, seemed closed to him; the failure of Baldoon and the attitude of the ruling clique made it hopeless to try further in that province. By , however, the loss of free markets in Europe due to the Napoleonic Wars had seriously reduced the value of HBC shares, and this devaluation seems to have revived his hope of colonizing Red River, since it provided a favourable opportunity for him to secure an interest that would get him a hearing. Thus Selkirk and his allies, although they never came close to a controlling interest in the company, gained a strong voice. It was against this background that Selkirk early in put forward his plan, which called for a large grant of land anchored to a substantial settlement. When news of the proposal reached the NWC the partners did not take the settlement idea very seriously but considered that if it should succeed it might destroy their trade, for the site was astride their route to Athabasca and they were already in financial difficulty through loss of markets and rising costs. Too late the NWC attempted to block the grant. Although in the first three years there seemed to have been little to show for his enormous expense, by the autumn of the earl felt the worst was over. But in a letter written from Montreal at that time Colin Robertson, whose plan for competition in the Athabasca country had now been approved, advised him that the senior NWC partners were openly rousing natives against the settlement. The government refused its support, and when he reached New York in late October he heard that the colony had been destroyed. The remainder were driven away, their crops and houses destroyed. Macdonell, who had given himself up on a promise of amnesty for the settlement, was arrested on a dubious warrant and taken as a prisoner to Lower Canada. Through the autumn and winter of he gathered information on the events and prepared to go to Red River himself, strongly supported and with the powers of a justice of the peace for the Indian Territory, in the spring of He also found time to complete a book entitled *A sketch of the British fur trade in North America; with observations relative to the North-West Company of Montreal* London, The talks were to be confidential and conducted through a third party, but since each company argued from a fixed position unacceptable to the other, the negotiations served only to sharpen existing tensions; and they were soon common knowledge in Montreal, bearing an interpretation injurious to both Selkirk and the HBC. Robertson had met the fleeing settlers and led them back to Red River; and Robert Semple , the new governor, had arrived with another group of settlers. The colony was as strong as before and more determined than ever to survive. Both parties seem to have concluded that this summer would be decisive for the settlement. In a larger party than usual left, and advance elements had gone ahead with clear instructions to finish off the settlement, preferably with a

front of Indians, but by storming the fort if necessary. But they were already too late. Governor Semple and about 20 colonists had been killed at Seven Oaks Winnipeg and the rest driven away, except for a few who were prisoners at Fort William. Selkirk, roused to passionate anger, led his force straight to Fort William, risking a pitched battle, and in mid August arrested nine of the NWC partners after a preliminary hearing. He then decided to occupy their fort for the winter, impounded their furs, and sent the partners off as prisoners to Montreal, including William McGillivray himself. Reckless of opinion he now entered into a dubious transaction with the one remaining partner at the fort, Daniel McKenzie , a notorious drunkard. More serious, though more understandable, he twice refused obedience to warrants for his arrest which reached Fort William from Upper Canada in the late autumn. The one he believed to be spurious and the other no longer valid; he compounded the offence by locking up a constable who sought to use force. He undoubtedly was also influenced in his refusals by hearing that Owen Keveny , one of his agents, had been murdered after submitting to an NWC warrant. However justified his refusals may have been, they were to be given more weight in Quebec and in London than all the tragic acts in the mounting dispute. In the spring of the NWC came west in force, including the partners released on bail. They found Fort William intact, and the supplies purchased from McKenzie left behind under caretakers, whom they promptly arrested and sent to Montreal under guard. Mail which reached Selkirk on his way chilled his optimism. The latter called for a cessation of hostilities and a restitution of property. It assumed throughout that the struggle was purely a trade war in which the parties were equally guilty; it took no notice of Selkirk or the settlement as special factors. Moreover, he expressed the gravest doubts of the validity of the HBC charter though prominent lawyers re-examined and confirmed its soundness in If the charter was not valid neither was the grant to Selkirk, and the acts of Miles Macdonell as governor were of doubtful legality. To this assessment Coltman added doubts about the feasibility of the settlement, since like many he had accepted NWC propaganda about the unsuitability of the soil for crops. And if the settlement was not feasible its creation could only have been a tactical move in a fur-trade war. Though there was much satisfaction for Selkirk in the weeks at Red River, and though his settlers returned to fine crops and felt at last secure in his presence among them, the future was full of uncertainty. A purchase of land from the Indians had been arranged, but Selkirk could not give clear title to the settlers. In his hope for justice from the commission Selkirk was frustrated and bitterly disappointed. In these proceedings and in all that followed he felt himself hopelessly entangled in a web of perjury, postponements, and manipulation of justice that was both maddeningly frustrating and deeply shocking. In York, still a small village, there was some doubt that a competent jury could be empanelled. In August Selkirk went the miles to Sandwich from Montreal for his own trials. At that moment a local newspaper carried word that for the first time since he had not been elected as a representative Scottish peer; this news would certainly be interpreted in the Canadas as a loss of favour with the British government. Leaving his clever and courageous wife to watch his interests from Montreal, he returned to London. Though now seriously ill he continued the fight from his sick-bed, informing and arousing his friends.

Chapter 7 : Lord Selkirk's Work in Canada

Lord Selkirk's work in Canada. by Martin, Chester, Publication date Topics Selkirk, Thomas Douglas, Earl of, , Red River Settlement.

Aptly named "The Silver Chief" by the five Indian chiefs with whom he negotiated a land treaty at Red River, the fifth Earl of Selkirk spent an immense fortune in helping Scottish Highlanders relocate themselves in Canada. Selkirk has been well observed through the eyes of the rich and powerful, but his settlers have been neglected. Why did they leave Scotland? Which districts did they come from? Why did they settle in Canada? Why did Selkirk help them? How successful were their settlements? Did Selkirk realize his ambitions for Canada? In answering these questions, Lucille H. Campey presents a new and powerful case for re-assessing the achievements of Selkirk and his settlers. Using a wealth of documentary sources, she reconstructs the sequence of emigration from Scotland to the three areas of Canada where settlements were founded. She shows that emigration took place in a carefully planned and controlled way. She reveals the self-reliance, adaptability and steely determination of the Selkirk settlers in overcoming their many problems and obstacles. They brought their rich traditions of Scottish culture to Canada and, in doing so, helped to secure its distinctively Canadian future. Together, Selkirk and his settlers succeeded against overwhelming odds and altered the course of history. Lucille Campey is a Canadian, living in Britain, with over thirty years of experience as a researcher and author. She is the great-great-granddaughter of William Thomson, who left Morayshire, on the northeast coast of Scotland, in the early 1800s to begin a new life with his family, first near Digby, then in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He is described in D. James Church and Cemetery at Antigonish. Lucille was awarded a Ph.D. Lucille has published four books on the subject of emigrant Scots. Described by the P. Her second book, "Fast Sailing and Copper-Bottomed": Aberdeen Sailing Ships and the Emigrant Scots They Carried to Canada Natural Heritage, 2001, gives a gripping account of emigrant shipping from the north of Scotland to Canada in the sailing ship era. Her third book, The Silver Chief: A chemistry graduate of Ottawa University, Lucille worked initially in the fields of science and computing. After marrying her English husband, she moved to the north of England, where she became interested in medieval monasteries and acquired a Master of Philosophy Degree on the subject of medieval settlement patterns from Leeds University. Having lived for five years in Easter Ross, in the north of Scotland, while she completed her doctoral thesis, she and Geoff returned to England, and now live near Salisbury in Wiltshire. Lucille is currently working on a fifth book, to be published by Natural Heritage in the spring of 2005, which will cover emigration from Scotland to Upper Canada during the period to

Chapter 8 : Dunbar Douglas, 6th Earl of Selkirk - Wikipedia

The Life of Lord Selkirk Coloniser of Western Canada by George Bryce Documents Relating to the History and Settlements of the Towns Hudson and Mohawk Rivers (With the Exception of Albany), From to , and Also Illustrating the Relations of the Settlers With the Indians by B. Fernow.

As he had not expected to inherit the family estate, he went to the University of Edinburgh to study to become a lawyer. While there, he noticed poor Scottish crofters who were being displaced by their landlords. Seeing their plight, he investigated ways he could help them find new land in the then British colonies. Involvement in Canada When Thomas unexpectedly inherited the estate, he used his money and political connections to purchase land and settle poor Scottish farmers in Belfast, Prince Edward Island in and Upper Canada in He traveled extensively in North America, and his approach and work gained him some fame; in he was named Lord-Lieutenant of Kirkcudbright District in Scotland, and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of London. However Selkirk was very determined, and he and Sir Alexander Mackenzie bought enough shares in HBC to let them gain control of the land. This position of power, along with his marriage connections his wife Jean was the sister of Andrew Wedderburn , a member of the HBC governing committee allowed him to acquire a land grant called Assiniboia to serve as an agricultural settlement for the company. By placing the Red River Colony astride the trade routes used by the NWC coureurs des bois , Selkirk could cut off the easy flow of furs. The first colonization attempt started in , consisting of men led by the new governor, Miles Macdonell. Even with a full growing season the next year, the colony never thrived. Because of a shortage of food in , Macdonell issued the Pemmican Proclamation , prohibiting the export of food from the entire area. In the aftermath, Selkirk was ordered to appear in court in Montreal and was charged with four separate offenses, all of which related to the alleged unlawful occupation of Fort William. A flag and a national anthem were born during this period in time. Peter Newman tells the story as follows. Benjamin Franklin had suggested that he might capture a British nobleman to exchange for American prisoners. Having been born near the Selkirk estates, Jones selected the elder Lord Selkirk. At the last moment, Jones decided not to go himself, but to assign the duty to two lieutenants and a boatload of sailors. As the Americans approached the Selkirk mansion, a governess saw them coming and removed young Thomas to safety. The Americans knocked on the front door and were greeted by the butler. Lady Selkirk came from the breakfast room to see what the fuss was about. She invited the American officers into the drawing room, told the butler to make tea and to find some whiskey for the sailors who were waiting outside. When they explained that they had come to kidnap her husband, Lady Selkirk replied that unfortunately Lord Selkirk was not at home. When Lieutenant Wallingford suggested that instead they might take the young gentleman they saw on the way to the house, Lady Selkirk replied that they would have to kill her first. After more discussion Lady Selkirk suggested that, so that their mission would not be a complete failure, they might steal the family silver. The officers allowed as how that might be the best solution, so Lady Selkirk ordered the butler to provide the American gentlemen with what they needed. He filled a sack half full of coal, filled the top half with silverware and presented it to the officers. After drinking a toast to Lady Selkirk, they returned to their ship and presented their captain with his sack full of coal and silverware. Jones wrote Lady Selkirk a flowery letter of apology, proposing himself to buy back the booty from the Navy and return it to the Selkirks. Lord Selkirk wrote back that he could not possibly countenance the return of his silver without the consent of the Continental Congress. The objects, which became the subject of protracted legal negotiations, were returned seven years later. Canadian History to Confederation", 4th ed. The Musson Book Company, p.

Chapter 9 : The Silver Chief

*Lord Selkirk's Work in Canada; Volume 7 [Chester Martin] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it.*