

munication to Governor Gore, but it is also detailed in the several accounts drawn up and signed by Mr. Fauche, Mr. M'Nab, and Alexander Fraser, all of whom were upon the spot at the time, and whose separate narratives form part of the documents inserted in the Appendix to the Statement which I had the honour of transmitting to you. Fraser was a hired servant of the North-West Company, and had resided several years at Fort William. He positively swears that he saw the partners busily engaged in examining, and burning a large quantity of their papers, on the night of the 13th of August; and that, during the same night, the fusils were removed from the magazines in which they were commonly deposited, and in which it was not usual to keep arms loaded; but that "the guns removed from thence were found loaded, primed, and ready for use, concealed in a hay-loft at Fort William, the morning following the arrest of the partners;" and "that barrels of gunpowder were also removed and hidden, during the same night."

If the fact be once admitted,—and it cannot, with any semblance of truth, be denied,—that the fusils were thus taken out of the magazine in the night-time, after the partners, who were arrested, had been permitted to return on their parole to their apartments in the fort,—there will scarcely exist a doubt in the mind of any one, as to the persons by whose directions these arms were surreptitiously purloined, loaded, and concealed; or the purpose for which they were so prepared and secreted. Indeed, it is highly probable, that the very clerks, Vander-