By education and conduct': educating trans-imperial Indigenous fur-trade children in the Hudson’s Bay Company Territories and the British Empire, 1820s to 1870s

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Abstract:
Mid-nineteenth-century Indigenous fur-trade students were part of a larger group of mixed-descent children in the British Empire who were the product of intimate relations between British men and local women in the colonies. These imperial children were the source of a great deal of anxiety for their parents, British administrators, missionaries, and entrepreneurs. In the mid-nineteenth-century Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) territories, the parents of elite Indigenous fur-trade children sought a British-style education for their children in order to equip them thrive in the HBC territories and the larger British Empire. These children were sent to schools in the HBC territories, the Canadian colonies, and Britain in order to learn how to perform gendered British middle-class identities. In the HBC territories, however, missionaries who were attuned to the project of civilizing and Christianizing Indigenous peoples leveraged this curriculum in different ways than their counterparts in metropolitan spaces.

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companies in the world. When Canada confederated in 1867, the company was already 200 years old. The Hudson’s Bay Company and the North West Company amalgamated as the Hudson’s Bay Company. After the union of the North West and Hudson’s Bay Companies in 1821, a Royal License was issued to the reconstituted Hudson’s Bay Company, giving it a monopoly on trade in the unorganized territories of North America, including the country west of the Rockies. Hudson’s Bay Company thus became Britain’s custodian of the Pacific North west. Local competition was very strong, however, and from 1870 the land was offered for sale or lease. They created the Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) in 1670. The HBC received control of Rupert’s Land. This was a vast area in the heart of the continent. Like the French, the HBC and other British fur traders gave goods to Indigenous people in exchange for beaver pelts. Both the French and the British wanted to control the fur trade. Their Indigenous allies did too. The French allied with the Huron-Wendat, Algonquin and Innu. The British allied with the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. A battle occurred in 1609 between the French and their First Nations allies, on one side, and the Haudenosaunee on the ot ‘By Education and Conduct’: Educating Trans-Imperial Indigenous Fur-Trade Children in the Hudson’s Bay Company Territories and the British Empire, 1820s to 1870s. Mid-nineteenth-century Indigenous fur-trade students were part of a larger group of mixed-descent children in the British Empire who were the product of intimate relations between British men and local women in the colonies. These more. Mid-nineteenth-century Indigenous fur-trade students were part of a larger group of mixed-descent children in the British Empire who were the product of intimate relations between British men and l