## Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show

And now, ladies and gentlemen, from the faraway plains of Canada, we bring you the one, the only, the incomparable Gabriel Dumont! Gabriel Dumont!



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The man who, with a handful of followers, defeated a vastly superior Canadian army twice before himself giving way in the face of overwhelming odds.

The man who rode eight hundred miles through dust, flood, and fire, to elude nearly two thousand Canadian army and police scouts who were sent out to capture him, and who finally reached the blessed sanctuary of the United States of America! Ladies and gentlemen, I give you Gabriel Dumont, the halfbreed General!

- This is reported to be the introduction of Gabriel Dumont, Métis leader, to audiences attending Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, which Dumont joined in 1886, as cited in Sandra Lynn McKee's book *Gabriel Dumont: Indian Fighter* (1973).

Using what you know about Gabriel Dumont, answer the following questions with a partner.

- 1. Is this a primary source about the 1885 Resistance? (Be careful—remember the definition of "primary source.")
- 2. What details do you think are exaggerated in the introduction?
- 3. What details are definitely not true?
- 4. What details may be true or may be false (it's difficult to know for certain)?
- 5. Which words suggest stereotypes?
- 6. Which words suggest American superiority?
- 7. What observations can you make about sources of information about the past?