

friend. Dr. Lynch, one of the prisoners released at the time of the rising, is also in the Dominion capital, representing the feelings and wishes of the loyal portion of the settlers; and in the presence of two English half-breeds, Mr. Monkman and Mr. Setter, the public have a chance to learn the view which the loyal natives take of the affair.

All parties from Red River agree as to the necessity of sending at least 2,500 men to restore order, they assuming that a smaller number will not have that moral force which is necessary to impress the Indians and others on the advent of a new Government.

### MR. G. D. McVICAR'S STATEMENT.

The following letter which appeared in the *Chatham Banner* in 1870 gives a very good, and it was thought by most who knew the events, described a very fair account of what then took place:—

"DEAR SIR,—I am once more at liberty to think and speak without fear, and as I am no more troubled with visions of sturdy Half-breeds in arms, I will endeavour to fulfil my promise, and give you a complete description of the whole affair.

On going to Red River, I followed close in the wake of the Hon. Mr. Howe, being only a few days behind him, and I am sorry to say that that gentleman, far from making Gov. McDougall's way smooth, and preparing the minds of the people to receive him with open arms, left a very unfavorable impression. Mr. Howe's position in Canada was known in Red River, and a great deal was expected of him. He has done injury, not so much by what he said, as what he did not say. He was thought in Red River to have come to that country from the Canadian Government to explain to the people what policy the Government intended to adopt with regard to it. He disappointed everyone by not speaking in public—was interviewed and advised by Hudson Bay Company gentlemen and others, who afterwards became Riel's warm friends and supporters. He is even reported (and I believe the report to be true) to have told parties there, that Red River people were right in demanding their so-called rights, and said they would get all they asked, giving them as an instance, Nova Scotia—what he had demanded there and what he had gained.

Before entering on a description of that all-interesting subject, the rebellion, it might be well to give a description of the principal parties engaged in it.

The first is the cut-throat Riel. He is a man of medium height, rather good-looking at first look; now very much bloated and disfigured by excessive drinking. He is rather a clever fellow, but unprincipled, and without honour. He was, by the kindness of Bishop Taché.