

populated countries, revolutionary movements hold within themselves the germ of dissolution. It is difficult to collect the men together for action ; and if collected, it is difficult to obtain food, or funds to buy it for them. Riel got over this difficulty by seizing upon the Hudson Bay Company stores of provisions as a preliminary step in his rebellion. He was thus able to feed, clothe, and pay his soldiers at the Company's expense. If at the outset of his revolutionary career Fort Garry had been set on fire, and all its stores of food, money, clothing, ammunition, &c., &c., thus burnt, the rebellion would have been smothered and buried in the smoke and ashes.

Riel in his fall experienced the fickleness of Dame Fortune. On the 23d August he was the despotic potentate issuing orders like a dictator, there being none to gainsay him. Early in the forenoon on the following morning he might have been seen accompanied only by one follower, both on stolen horses, galloping through the rain and mud, their backs towards the scene of their villany. Let us hope that as he passed in his flight the spot where the poor Canadian volunteer had been murdered by his orders, he repented him of his crime. These two worthies, the master and the man, having crossed to the right bank of the Red River, fled south, thinking they were safer from pursuit on that side of it than if they followed the regular road to Pembina, which runs on the western or left bank of that stream. Night