

## INTERVIEW NUMBER NINETEEN.

### *LORD DUFFERIN'S OPINION.*

REPORTER. Did Sir John seem visibly affected by the position in which he found himself?

SIR RICHARD. He was not a man to wear his heart upon his sleeve, and for a time he maintained a brave front. I do not think he gave up hope till after that famous day in August, 1873, when Parliament met only to be immediately prorogued, and when ninety-three members of the House presented their memorial to Lord Dufferin praying for instant investigation. On that day I chanced to come face to face with Sir John, and there was no mistaking the look in his countenance. It was that of a hunted animal driven absolutely to bay. From that time to his resignation in the November following he must have known he was doomed; in fact, his acts showed it.

REPORTER. In what particulars?

SIR RICHARD. Not to mention a number of other but very significant indications, when he met the House in November he had already provided for two of his colleagues, for one by a seat on the Bench, and for another by a commission as Lieutenant-Governor. They remained with him in the Cabinet until the close, a rather indecent proceeding, if, indeed, it was not distinctly illegal. Unless he had considered the situation a desperate one, he would never have had recourse to such an expedient.

REPORTER. Who were these gentlemen?

SIR RICHARD. One was Sir Leonard Tilley, who was made Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. The other was Mr. Macdonald, who was made a Judge of the High Court in Nova Scotia. Curiously enough during the ten or twelve days that Sir John's impeachment lasted (for it was practically that in reality, though not in form) one of the most attentive and interested spectators who sat