



LOUIS RIEL'S FATE

The Ministry Issues the Death Warrant.

The Execution Condemned by all Civilization.

The French Members Protest and Will Go Into Opposition.

OPINIONS OF LEADING MEN

The government has decided to hang Riel and sentence his influence in Quebec in the hope that they may capture the full Orange vote in Ontario at the next general election.

THE DEATHLY UNUSUAL. The trial of Riel for high treason was an unusual event in the history of the Dominion.

THE SUFFERING METIS.

From all that Bishop Grandin says the position of the half-breeds of St. Albert is worse to-day than that of the men who gave Canada constitutional government in 1877.

HANGING A LUNATIC.

WINNIPEG, Man., Nov. 14.—Dr. Levelle, one of the medical commissioners, was interviewed to-day, but he made statements of such reluctance, fearful lest they should affect the government in their decision in Riel's case.

THE SCAFFOLD.

REGINA, Nov. 14.—The officials at Regina are going on with preparations for the hanging. The scaffold is back of the guard room, situated on Barrack square.

RIEL RECEIVES THE NEWS.

REGINA, N.W.T., Nov. 15.—The special messenger bringing the warrant signed by the Governor-General of Canada, directing that the execution of Louis Riel should take place, arrived here on a special train at 8 o'clock to-night.

RESULT OF THE CAUCUS OF FRENCH CANADIAN M.P.'S.

At the caucus of the members of parliament hastily convened on Friday in reference to the action of the government, it was resolved, after a lengthy discussion, to forward to Sir John the following telegram:—"Under the circumstances, the execution of Louis

"Riel would be an act of cruelty for which we decline to be responsible." It was signed by the following members:—J. C. Couriel, M.P. for Montreal East; Alphonse Desjardins, M.P. for Hochelaga; D. Girouard, M.P. for Jacques Cartier; F. Vanasse, M.P. for Yamaska; L. H. Massue, M.P. for Richelieu; F. Dupont, M.P. for Bygon; A. L. Desaulniers, M.P. for Maskinonge; J. Bie Daoust, M.P. for Two Mountains; L. G. H. Bergeron, M.P. for Beauharnois; L. V. Bain, M.P. for Soulanges; P. B. Benoit, M.P. for Chambly; Ed. Guibault, M.P. for Joliette; G. A. Giguault, M.P. for Rouville; S. Labrosse, M.P. for Frezcoeur; L. L. Desaulniers, M.P. for St. Maurice; F. Dugas, M.P. for Montcalm; Messrs. Fortin, M.P. for Gaspé, and Oimet, M.P. for Laval, were the only members who refused to sign.

It being then intimated that Mr. Chapleau was in town, it was agreed to postpone the meeting until they had had the advantage of a conference with the Secretary of State.

The members met Mr. Chapleau at the Windsor at 4 1/2 p.m. An old member, a person representing one of the most important constituencies of the Province, having asked in positive terms whether the sentence passed upon Riel would be carried into execution, the Secretary of State answered:—"Riel was a great criminal. He was guilty not only of the personal part he took in the rebellion, but also of murders, of rape and burglaries committed by those whom he had led into the rebellion. This is founded on law and reason. The Indians who were killed had not been committed, and would certainly be executed on the 27th instant; but if the law were not to take its course in Riel's case, how could it, in justice, take its course in their cases?"

Another member, from the district of Three Rivers, enquired whether Riel would be hanged on Monday next. Mr. Chapleau merely said it took four days and a half before a death warrant could reach Regina, after having been despatched from Ottawa. Being further pressed on the question, he replied that the Governor-General, having signed Riel's death warrant, he could then deal with the matter according to the view he took, and either let it be carried into execution or exercise the prerogative of mercy. He would be informed of His Excellency's decision between six and seven o'clock this evening.

At this moment, the aged member who had put Mr. Chapleau the first question, manifested dissatisfaction with the mode of proceeding, and said that His Excellency had followed the advice of his Cabinet, and that it was now known that on Friday last Mr. Chapleau had secretly gone to Montreal, and the object of feeling the pulse of the people, and that he having found the population of both cities to be in a state of great anxiety and agitation about the matter, they had advised Sir John by telegram, to have Riel's execution respite until Monday next. That he felt both gentlemen had this morning again departed from Ottawa on a similar mission, and that the despatch Mr. Chapleau expected to receive in a short time from there was in answer to one conveying intelligence to the information he had obtained. The Secretary of State admitted the nature of his visit to the city last week to have been such as was just disclosed by the honorable member.

THE DEATH WARRANT ARRIVES!

OTTAWA, Nov. 15.—His Excellency has approved of the order in council deciding to interfere in the matter of carrying out Riel's death sentence, and the law will, therefore, be allowed to take its course. There is no excitement here over the matter. It is understood that the hour of execution has not been fixed, as all the details are, as a rule, settled by the sheriff.

RIEL RECEIVES THE NEWS.

REGINA, N.W.T., Nov. 15.—The special messenger bringing the warrant signed by the Governor-General of Canada, directing that the execution of Louis Riel should take place, arrived here on a special train at 8 o'clock to-night. There is no longer a doubt that Louis Riel will meet his fate at some hour to-morrow. The arrival of a warrant was a surprise to even many of the officials, who, owing to the late hour and previous delays, had argued that another respite would follow. Riel received the formal intelligence at 9 o'clock to-night in his cell in the guard room of the Mounted Police barracks, three miles west of this city. The intelligence was conveyed to him in person by High Sheriff Chapleau. The scene was, in many respects, remarkable. The famous rebel's cell is immediately adjacent to the guard room of the troops, doing night patrol duty, fully fifty of whom occupied the room. Through the iron gates, in front of the cell, was seen an armed sentinel on duty and outside the building a cordon of armed men were patrolling their beats. The iron gate was thrown open on the approach of High Sheriff Chapleau and Col. Irvine, commandant of the Mounted Police. Riel, who had been conversing with the surgeon of the post, arose and welcomed the sheriff in a hearty and thoroughly unconstrained way. His voice was modulated, and he

displayed no sign of excitement. His initial greeting was: "Well, and so you have come with."

THE GREAT ANNOUNCEMENT!

I am glad," Sheriff Chapleau replied; the death warrant had come. Riel, continuing in the same cheery way, said: "I am glad that at last I am to be released from my sufferings." He then broke off into French and thanked the sheriff for his personal considerations. He proceeded again in English: "I desire that my body shall be given to my friends to be laid in St. Boniface" (this is the French cemetery across the Red River from the city of Winnipeg). The sheriff then asked him if he had any wishes to convey to the disposition of his personal estate or effects. "Mon cher," he replied, "I have only this," touching his breast above the region of the heart, "this I gave to my country fifteen years ago and it is all I have to give now." He was asked as to his peace of mind and replied, "I long ago made my peace with my God. I am, as prepared now as I can be at any time. You will find that I had a mission to perform. I want you to

THANK MY FRIENDS IN QUEBEC

for all they have done for me." He continued in reply to another question, "I am willing to go. I shall be permitted to say something on the scaffold?" he said, in a tone of enquiry. When told that he would be allowed, he said smilingly, "You think I may speak too long, that it will weary me, oh no; I shall not be weak. I shall feel that when the moment comes I shall have wings which will carry me upward." Then reverting again to the French tongue and in an intimate way saying for which he is famed to all those who have known him closely, he spoke again of the kind remembrance he would retain of those who had espoused his personal cause. He closed by saying to Sheriff Chapleau, as he held out his hand to him in parting, *Adieu, mon ami*. His eye was clear and unflinching, and his bearing throughout was such as to evoke a sense of admiration by the absence of any tremor of excitement. It is ever a strange thing to witness under fire on any occasion, he succeeded in keeping himself admirably under command in the presence of his own approaching fate. Père André, his spiritual adviser, then arrived, and he was left with him to undergo a Mass.

THE OFFICIAL MESSENGER.

WINNIPEG, Man., Nov. 15.—Chief Sheriff, of the Dominion police, arrived here this morning with a posse of police direct from Ottawa, and proceeded by special train to Regina, where he would arrive this evening about ten o'clock. It is surmised that he is the bearer of the official documents from the Government in relation to the execution of Riel to be carried out. Large sums of money have already been laid out in the past two days on the question of hanging Riel. Being to-day is two to one that the death penalty will be carried out. Excitement here sees as the fatal hour approaches. The execution is expected to take place at 8 a.m. (9 o'clock Eastern time) and will be conducted in the presence of officials and newspaper men only.

AN ALLEGED LETTER FROM RIEL.

A letter is published alleged to have been written by Riel. It is said to be written at Regina, the 4th inst., and was received here by Mr. Lamont. It is written in a most friendly manner. He thanks his counsel and Dr. Fortin, of Kamouraska, who is the promoter of the defence, for having taken the stand that they did. He calls upon Heaven to bless them and their families, to bless them, if not in this world in the next. He then proceeds to state that he has a very sad news from his home family, that on the 21st October his wife gave birth to a child that only lived three hours, but the sole consolation that he has had to reconcile him, in the death of the little one whom he never saw, is the knowledge that it received baptism. Referring to the appeals taken in his case, he states that he never had any great confidence in them, because England would have to reverse her whole judicial system in Manitoba and especially the Northwest, and to have admitted the appeal would have been to condemn what Ottawa has been doing there during the last fifteen years with her approval. He concludes as follows: Good Father André visits me constantly. Yesterday he said mass for me and had the happiness to take communion, which sustains me. You have been good enough to say that I will rivet my name eternally to history. Excellent, provided that my glory is edifying. What I work for chiefly is to establish principles of equity in the government of my native country and to rivet my name eternally to the sacred heart of Jesus, in so far as a poor heart like mine can be intimately bound to the sacred heart of the Saviour. You appear astonished at my calmness. You should be a touched that I am not more calm since Archbishop Bourget in his lifetime told me, "Be ready for whatever may happen, by maintaining an unshakable calmness. I bless you," and that holy bishop blessed me, and I am confident that his prayers in my behalf will be heard, and that I am under the shadow of his benediction. Early this morning one of the most beautiful of God's angels appeared to me and said, "Your death is recalled. There are angels." On hearing these words I felt great consolation. This angel is one of the guardian angels of right among men. Mercy bears him on its wings. He is one of the heralds of God's greatest clemency, and I saw that he was squarely in favor of my cause. I think he was sent to me because of my efforts to not be carried away from justice. You, dear friends, who see what is going on and everything that is being done, you can judge whether anything will occur to justify those words of the angel. Dear friend and devoted defender, a good Providence has brought me into connection with you. You and Fitzpatrick came to my help in my hour of need. Your devotion has made efforts and struggles which God has already weighed in the scale of good works. After other eulogy on the part of his counsel and friends he signs himself Louis "David" Riel.

EXCITEMENT IN QUEBEC.

QUEBEC, Nov. 15.—The excitement here to-day over the Riel execution is almost unparalleled. From an early hour this morning French-Canadians were pre-marching the streets and eagerly questioned every passer-by as to the possibility of one of our devoted sons of the half-breed chief's sentence. At noon the enthusiasm on this subject reached a feverish point when all assembled in conclusion around the Post office, where it was most particularly noticed that politicians who had led grudge and feuds of years standing, met and shook hands as if their friendship had never previously been shaken. Conservative and Liberal could be seen in group earnestly discussing the question, and their "common cause" taken to defend the national pride of their race which had so far been trespassed upon by the Orangemen of Ontario in claiming Riel as their victim. L'Orangisme is the general expression used in the streets during the whole day. Rumors of every imaginable description have been in circulation as to a chance of saving the rope from Riel's neck, but up to midnight, notwithstanding all the wheels which had been set in motion, nothing was accomplished or learned. The telegraph news agencies have had the best of all day for news of what the French-Canadians term the fate of the "hero of the day." Threats and imprecations, which promise no peaceful turn here to-morrow, were expressed, and the feeling amongst the English-speaking population to-night is intensified, and their lot is regarded as a dangerous one, especially in the country where the scaffold has been erected at St. Roch, and that to-morrow night, in the event of the hanging of Riel, the officials of Sir H. C. Langevin, Sir A. P. Caron, and Sir J. M. Macdonald will be hoisted and so very much in public profession and after-wind. It is hardly necessary to say that this does not mean the view of the immense sensible portion of the population, and it is feared that should any such disgraceful demonstration take place, that it would be a riot with uproar and finally terminate in a riot.

As it was not repealed or recorded by Imperial act to be Dominion jurisdiction, existed not, and the position of the half-breeds was similar to one of our devoted sons of the half-breed chief's sentence. At noon the enthusiasm on this subject reached a feverish point when all assembled in conclusion around the Post office, where it was most particularly noticed that politicians who had led grudge and feuds of years standing, met and shook hands as if their friendship had never previously been shaken. Conservative and Liberal could be seen in group earnestly discussing the question, and their "common cause" taken to defend the national pride of their race which had so far been trespassed upon by the Orangemen of Ontario in claiming Riel as their victim. L'Orangisme is the general expression used in the streets during the whole day. Rumors of every imaginable description have been in circulation as to a chance of saving the rope from Riel's neck, but up to midnight, notwithstanding all the wheels which had been set in motion, nothing was accomplished or learned. The telegraph news agencies have had the best of all day for news of what the French-Canadians term the fate of the "hero of the day." Threats and imprecations, which promise no peaceful turn here to-morrow, were expressed, and the feeling amongst the English-speaking population to-night is intensified, and their lot is regarded as a dangerous one, especially in the country where the scaffold has been erected at St. Roch, and that to-morrow night, in the event of the hanging of Riel, the officials of Sir H. C. Langevin, Sir A. P. Caron, and Sir J. M. Macdonald will be hoisted and so very much in public profession and after-wind. It is hardly necessary to say that this does not mean the view of the immense sensible portion of the population, and it is feared that should any such disgraceful demonstration take place, that it would be a riot with uproar and finally terminate in a riot.

THE CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS.

Mr. A. Desjardins, M.P., has received a despatch from Lieut. Col. Amyot, M.P. for Bellechasse, who commanded the 9th Quebec Battalion during the North-West campaign, informing him that he fully concurred in the action of the Montreal members, and stating he had wired Sir John to that effect. A similar message was also received from Dr. Lesage, M.P. for Dorchester. It is understood that nearly all the Conservative French members of the Province have communicated, in one form or another, in the same sense, their wishes to the Government.

THE EXECUTION.

RIEL DIES A MARTYR.

REGINA, N.W.T., Nov. 16.—Riel was hanged this morning at 8 1/2. The coroner's jury, under Dr. Cord, awaiting the verdict. He died some on the scaffold. His last hours. He concluded his hours were passed in the solace of his spiritual adviser, who performed masses during the early portion of the night for him. Riel then laid down and appeared to sleep soundly, awakening at an early hour and again resuming his devotions. THE TEMPORARY PRISON. L'Etendard heads its leader this morning in very large type with the words *Le Gibet*, and says that this morning the unhappy fate of the *Gibet* will be executed. Then again, in large type, it puts the date "*Le 16th November, 1885*," which it says will be a day of glorious rejoicing for the sanguinary fanatics of Ontario and the North-West. It is feared that the Canadian people will be a day of supreme humiliation. "When will come the day of retaliation?" it reminds. Then recommends its readers to possess themselves in peace and to guard against excitement. "Riel is a bad counsellor, and the best act of violence might have compromised the most just cause."

"BLOODY MONDAY."

La Patrie, of Saturday, says that the 16th, which was on Monday, will be known in the annals of Canadian history as "Bloody Monday." In speaking of the hanging of nine Indians on the 27th it says, that we can only go to the Sepoy Mutiny in India for a similar example of wholesale butchery. When the Metis and the Indians have paid their debt to the soil, the French Canadian people will be a day of supreme humiliation. "When will come the day of retaliation?" it reminds. Then recommends its readers to possess themselves in peace and to guard against excitement. "Riel is a bad counsellor, and the best act of violence might have compromised the most just cause."

AN INTERVIEW WITH RIEL.

TORONTO, Nov. 16.—The Globe to-day publishes a report of an interview with Riel by the Crown reporter. It was granted, it says, at Riel's own request, and for its genuineness they vouch with confidence. The report is dated Regina, 15th November and reads as follows:—"About eleven o'clock this morning I reached the Regina barracks, where, by appointment, I was to see the prisoner Riel. He was in his cell, and I called him by his name. When I called he was taking his exercise in the yard, and some delay took place before the order of Judge Richardson and Sheriff Chapleau, for my interview, procured admission to his cell. Effort after effort had been made, but all had been refused, and my own application to the Governor-General had met with refusal to interfere with the local authorities. Fortunately, on what is probably the last day of which Riel will see the sun set, I was admitted to his cell and introduced to him by Colonel Irving, Commissioner of the North-West Mounted Police. Riel looked better than I expected, and was calm and collected during most of the interview, though it was almost impossible to keep him away from his mission. On the subject of the North-West trouble, he said:—"My object in coming over the line was to make petitions concerning matters on the Pacific in 1869. The administration attempted to get hold of the North-West without consulting the people. Many people thought Canada had jurisdiction over the North-West between July 1st, 1867, and July 15th, 1870, but they had none. The jurisdiction given to Canada before that time was a charge of matters in the North-West, vanished with the union of the two Canadas,

and as it was not repealed or recorded by Imperial act to be Dominion jurisdiction, existed not, and the position of the half-breeds was similar to one of our devoted sons of the half-breed chief's sentence. At noon the enthusiasm on this subject reached a feverish point when all assembled in conclusion around the Post office, where it was most particularly noticed that politicians who had led grudge and feuds of years standing, met and shook hands as if their friendship had never previously been shaken. Conservative and Liberal could be seen in group earnestly discussing the question, and their "common cause" taken to defend the national pride of their race which had so far been trespassed upon by the Orangemen of Ontario in claiming Riel as their victim. L'Orangisme is the general expression used in the streets during the whole day. Rumors of every imaginable description have been in circulation as to a chance of saving the rope from Riel's neck, but up to midnight, notwithstanding all the wheels which had been set in motion, nothing was accomplished or learned. The telegraph news agencies have had the best of all day for news of what the French-Canadians term the fate of the "hero of the day." Threats and imprecations, which promise no peaceful turn here to-morrow, were expressed, and the feeling amongst the English-speaking population to-night is intensified, and their lot is regarded as a dangerous one, especially in the country where the scaffold has been erected at St. Roch, and that to-morrow night, in the event of the hanging of Riel, the officials of Sir H. C. Langevin, Sir A. P. Caron, and Sir J. M. Macdonald will be hoisted and so very much in public profession and after-wind. It is hardly necessary to say that this does not mean the view of the immense sensible portion of the population, and it is feared that should any such disgraceful demonstration take place, that it would be a riot with uproar and finally terminate in a riot.

THE POLICE ARE OUT OF PLACE.

They would give up our rights instead of keeping guards over us, men so employed could be put to much better purpose. In developing the country I wish the Dominion Government would book one-seventh of our land and compute that as capital and give us for the present what the interest would be on that capital, and let the country become rich, increase that interest, still retaining the capital. A DELEGATION FROM THE NORTH-WEST. I received on the 31st of June, 1884, a delegation from the North-West. The delegation was invited to the Dominion Government to book one-seventh of our land and compute that as capital and give us for the present what the interest would be on that capital, and let the country become rich, increase that interest, still retaining the capital.

THE DECK LAKE AFFAIR.

The first difficulty arose at Duck Lake, where Major Crozier came with cannon to force out from our settlement. He was justified in using cannon to fetch out why we were not justified in using small arms in defending our lands. The parish of St. Louis de Langevin had been completely sold with the property of twenty-four families, and they could not get even the appearance of the title and the title. The priest's house and all the grounds and everything were taken away. This is only one instance of the injustice under which we labored.

ON THE SCAFFOLD.

LATER.—REGINA, Nov. 6.—The scene presented here was that of Riel on the scaffold with Père André and Father McWilliams with him, celebrating mass. Riel was on his knees, wearing a loose woolen surcoat, gray trousers and wooden shoes. On his feet were unshoes, the only feature of his dress that partook of the Indian habit was a sash. He received a message to proceed by the scaffold a few minutes before the execution. The scaffold was full of color and he appeared to have complete self-possession, paying no heed to the service in a clear tone. Prisoners received only a moment before starting for the scaffold to make a speech. He was owing to the earnest solicitation of both the priest's attending him. He displayed an inclination at the last moment to make an address, but Père André rebuked him of his promise, and he arose and walked toward the executioner, repeating his prayers to the last moment, the final words escaping being: "Merci, Jésus!" He died with a smile. No exceeding twenty persons were permitted within the walls of the barracks to witness the execution, and it was certainly performed with decorum and respect. The body was taken in charge by the coroner, and the verdict usual to a state execution was rendered.

THE FEELING IN THE CITY.

The excitement in the city to-day was intense. Every day was on the tip-toe of anxiety awaiting the latest news from Regina. Groups of citizens were to be seen on the street corners of the principal thoroughfares eagerly discussing the situation, and it was not unusual to see still clung to the hope that Sir John would relent, and that the cause of the Orangemen of Ontario would for once be defeated. When the sad intelligence was received, however, that Riel had been sentenced to die, a portion of the public opinion of Upper Canada, and not a few there were made acquainted with decorum and respect. The body was taken in charge by the coroner, and the verdict usual to a state execution was rendered.

A GURE SPEAKS.

Reverend Father Piché, curé of Lachine, in his sermon at Grand Mass, yesterday, referred to the recent rebellion and to the sentence of death which had been passed upon the chief of the Metis. He recommended his flock to pray for the repose of the soul of Riel, and assured them that by his execution the Orangemen would score a triumph over the French Canadians. He advised them to be united on the great question now agitating the whole Dominion, and also to support any petition which might be presented to them in favor of Riel. After Mass, Mr. Girouard, M.P. for the county, delivered an address to the prisoners on the question at issue, and desired to know if they supported his action in signing the resolution sent to Sir John on Thursday. After he had concluded, his

bearers in large number signed a resolution supporting the position taken by Mr. Girouard, and forwarded it at once to Ottawa. In the County of Jacques Cartier the affair has caused intense excitement and much ill-feeling.

STUDENTS AROUSED.

The first persons to enter an emphatic protest against the action of the government in sacrificing Riel were a number of students of Victoria University, who marched down in a body this morning, to Laval University, where they were joined by a large number of students of that institution. Mr. Britz then acted as leader, and having secured a tricolor, which they draped in mourning, the procession formed and proceeded along Notre Dame street, giving three roars for *Le Ménéseur* as they passed that office. *La Marseillaise* and other patriotic songs were then sung with much spirit and soon both sides of the street were filled with hearty sympathizers. Turning down St. Lambert Hill to St. Jean street the students, with the large crowd which followed them, halted in front of *L'Etendard* building, from the roof of which the *Fleur de Lys* was floating at half-mast out of respect to the memory of Riel. Here repeated and deafening cheers were sent up for *L'Etendard* and Riel. Windows on both sides of the street were thrown open, handkerchiefs and hats were waved and other movements made to show that the students had now the sympathy of a large portion of the community. They then proceeded to the Champ de Mars, where two of their number mounted one of the canons on the field, and addressed the crowd, which gradually well-in numbers and cheered to the echo the remarks made by these gentlemen. The speeches were brief and to the point, and consisted of strong denunciations of the Government's action. They would show their hatred that they the youth of the country, would live their day to rest at this outrage on their nationality, for the question was not now one of politics, but one of race. After speaking further in support of Riel, the speakers concluded by stating that the students would assemble again at Victoria University at 7:30 p.m. to decide upon what form a demonstration should take this evening. As the line was forming to proceed up the main street, several citizens expressed themselves as being in favor of joining the students to-night, and as a consequence a mammoth celebration is to take place this evening on the Champ de Mars. As soon as the news became more widespread in the city, divers emblems of mourning were displayed in different parts of the city, and the news were soon floating at half-mast from a number of buildings.

THE HANGMAN'S BROTHER.

This afternoon there was displayed in the window of Mr. Parent, the well known real estate agent, a picture of Hon. J. A. Chaplan, Secretary of State, with a broad band of blood across his forehead. On the bottom of the picture are the significant words, "The Hangman's Brother."

AFTER THE HANGING.

REGINA, Nov. 16.—During the night Père André, while urging upon Riel not to attempt an address upon the scaffold, suggested that a reprieve might still be on its way, but this idea, Riel strenuously repudiated. He said he knew his hour had come, and that he was not only prepared, but that he would not have it any other way, and that the alternative of prison for life awaited him, and to him death was preferable to that. During the night he addressed letters to his mother and sister, which I mailed upon the affection he bore them. He added a coffin to his will specifying that he desired his body to be laid by the side of his father's, in St. Boniface Cemetery, at Winnipeg, which request will be carried out. Père André will go there with Riel's remains within a few days. His body was interred to-day underneath the scaffold. He prayed almost continuously during the night, employing the written prayers of the church, and then again praying *extempore* in both French and English. He directed a prayer for his friends in all United States, and again for his friends in Quebec. He prayed for his lawyers, speaking of their efforts in his behalf and of their going to England for him. The Father told him it was also his duty to pray for his enemies. He replied: "That is so," and at once began to pray in English for Sir John Macdonald, but in obligation he asked that the Government might soon be relieved from his rule. He partook of a light repast at 11 o'clock last night and ate no breakfast, which caused him to show at one time this morning some signs of faintness, but he afterwards completely recovered from this and displayed no effort in mounting the ladder which led to the attic of the guard house on his way to the scaffold. There was barely a quiver as the drop fell. HE DESTROYS HIS PAPERS. During the early hours of the morning he gathered up all his papers which covered his desk, embodying the supposed visions he had seen, and his prophecies, and asked the privilege from the officer of the guard to destroy them. This was allowed him, and gathering them together he carried them to an open stove fire and thrust them in, watching them until the flames had devoured them. He then returned to his cell and his devotions. His executioner, who was a man named Jack Henderson, who was a captive of Riel's in the rebellion of 1870. Rev. Mr. McWilliams, who assisted Father André in attendance upon Riel during his last hours. He is firm in the belief that Riel was insane. In this belief he addressed a letter last Monday to Lord Lansdowne, and a similar communication to Sir John Macdonald, saying that while he deemed Riel a dangerous person and one who should be confined for life, he also held that mental infirmity should prevent the execution of the law. Rev. Father McWilliams has in his possession

A SERIES OF LETTERS.

written by Riel within the past ten days, which serve as a partial index to his character and his claim to be a patriot and a prophet. He handed Father McWilliams the following letter four hours before he heard of his respite:—

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