

While he was speaking he suddenly stops showing me his hand : " Do you see, says he, blood flowing in the veins ; the telegraph is operating actively, and I feel it, they are talking about me, and questioning authorities, in Ottawa, about me."

It is of similar fantastic visions he speaks with me every day. I am convinced that he is not acting a part, he speaks with a conviction and a sincerity which leave no doubt in my mind about the state of his mind, he has retracted his errors but he believes himself to day to be a prophet and invested with a divine mission to reform the world on the day he has spoken to the Court and when I reprove him for his foolish and extravagant ideas, he answers that he submits, but that he cannot stifle the voice that speaks in him and the spirit that commands him, to communicate to the world the revelations he receives. One must have the ferocious hatred of a fanatic or the stupidity of an idiot, to say that Riel is not a fool, because he is intelligent in other matters, as if history was not filled with such anomalies among certain men who, remarkable in certain subjects, have lost the balance which contains intelligence within the limits from which it cannot escape without losing its privilege of guiding us or making us responsible for our own acts.

Riel is truly a phenomenon worth studying. He is under many aspects remarkable. One must know him and above all study him closely to find out that he is a prey to an invincible delusion, which deprives of that faculty which is called *common sense* and which is the criterion which God has given us to enable us to judge of the goodness or of the malice of our own acts. Riel has certainly not the common sense which can shew him the bearings of his actions and specially so when religion and politics are concerned. These are the principles which guide me in my treatment of him since he is in gaol. Although his opinions upon religion are greatly erroneous, I do not hold him responsible and do admit him to receive sacraments. And for all that, he often renews the errors which he has retracted and which he again retracts when I point out to him his heresies as contrary to the dogmas taught by the Holy Catholic Church.

" On the day following such retractation, he talks to me more ardently than ever about his revelations and his communication with some angel who honors him with a nocturnal visit."

I have gone to Regina, about the eight of September last, for the only purpose of seeing Riel, who on many occasions, by letters and telegrams had begged that I should go and see him, as he had very important matters to communicate to me, he said. I have had many interviews with him, during which he did not say one word about his case which had been taken in appeal before the Court of Queen's Bench, in Manitoba, but he spoke to me of his mission, of his prophecies, of his visions, and heavenly communications, and of the other subjects mentioned in the foregoing extracts of the letter from Father André

And during the long conversations which I had with him, I hardly could obtain a few words which had even a dim light of common sense.

I had seen Louis Riel during about a month, at the time of his trial and I solemnly declare it, at the time when I saw him last (8 September ultimo) his mental condition was greatly altered and his mind had considerably weakened and I truly believe that at the date of the 8th September and up to now, Louis Riel was mad and incapable of discerning right from wrong.

Such is also the opinion of persons whom I have met at Regina and who have seen Riel since his trial.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign intituled "An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extrajudicial oaths." And I have signed.

(Signed) F. X. LEMIEUX.

Acknowledged before me at Quebec, this 28th day of October, 1885.

(Signed) D. MURRAY, J. P.