

Vice-King of Canada answered most favorably that the Crown was going, for certain and sure, to amnesty all the past troubles, after the conclusion of the treaty, and that the federal regime in the Northwest would be inaugurated by the proclamation of that amnesty complete and general. And the governor-general, Lord Lisgar, gave his Vice-Kingly parole as security. *A third very positive recognition by the Crown of the state, of the government, and president of the Northwest.*

The undersigned, your humble petitioner, respectfully submits that his lordship, Archbishop Taché, then appointed by the governor-general of Canada as pacifier of the Northwest, gave your humble petitioner his official word of honor that the amnesty in question would be proclaimed at the time specified; that is, at the very opening of confederation in the Northwest;

That the archbishop owed his commission as much to the pleasure of the British Government as to the governor-general's choice; consequently, besides being a fourth remarkable recognition of the state government and president of the Northwest, his word of honor is the word of honor not only of the governor-general but of the British Government itself concerning the *sine qua non* condition of amnesty.

Your humble petitioner could here review the whole treaty as it took place; point out the many ways in which it has been broken; and show by facts that the present government of Manitoba and of the Northwest is a perfect chaos of illegality, unconstitutionality, and arbitrary legislation; but for the sake of brevity will confine to the one article of the stipulations on which the breach of faith has been acknowledged and established beyond all possibility of discussion and doubt.

The undersigned has the honor to reter your excellency and your most honorable ministers (1) to a pamphlet entitled "Amnesty," written by Archbishop Taché in the year 1874, whereby his lordship proves his commission, his illimited instructions, his word of honor, and that such word of honor has been repudiated by the Crown.

(2) To the report of a committee appointed by the house of commons of Canada, in the year 1874, for the purpose of enquiring into the causes of the Northwest troubles and the reasons which had delayed the proclamation of amnesty; wherein more than a dozen of highly respectable witnesses prove that an amnesty general and complete has been guaranteed and that it has not been fulfilled.

(3) To a series of resolutions adopted by the Canadian government in '75 read during the session, on or about the 12th of February, and endorsed by a large majority of the house of commons, such resolutions showing with all conclusiveness that the general and complete amnesty in question had not only been promised and guaranteed, but that it had even been made a *sine qua non* condition of alliance with the Northwest.

Your humble petitioner respectfully calls, however, your excellency's and cabinet's attention to the fact that the Hon. A. Mackenzie, then premier of Canada, his whole ministry and his large majority in the house, instead of logically concluding by petitioning the Queen to fulfill the promise, the Vice-Kingly parole, the word of honor, the condition *sine qua non* of the amnesty general and complete on the Northwest troubles, committed the fault of continuing and perpetuating the breach of faith.

I. By decreeing against your petitioner a banishment of five years.

II. By offering my adjutant-general, A. D. Lepine, the alternative of a banishment for the same period of time or the loss of his political rights forever.

III. By issuing themselves an amnesty to the rest of the Northwest people, such an amnesty being in itself a mockery of justice; in the first place because the secretary of the Dominion was but the secretary of a mere colony and had no more sovereign power to amnesty us than the Northwest would have had to amnesty Canada; and in the second place, the provocation having come from Ottawa, the fact of an unjust aggressor amnestying his victim was nothing else but the height of injury, and may be taken as the worst of our grievances against the Federal Government.

The Imperial authorities have allowed all this to take place while perfectly aware of the outrage.

N. B.—In '69, during the month of December, Lord Granville, minister of the colonies, in one of his dispatches to the governor-general, accuses the Dominion government of *having been a cause of troubles in the Northwest.*

N. B.—And the Dominion committed these wrongs against us, after having officially confessed that we were in the right, as can be seen by the following: In the same month of December, '69, Hon. Joseph Howe, secretary of state for Canada, states plainly in a dispatch to Hon. W. McDougall, concerning the way he (McDougall) and Col. S. Dennis had acted in the Northwest; that they had compelled the people of that Territory to form a government of their own; that such a government on account of the circumstances and of necessity was legal; that the responsibility of the troubles, even the shedding of blood, if it took place, rested on the Canadian government's officials, and bitterly complains of their *imprudence and temerity.*

N. B.—In the month of May, 1870, Sir George E. Cartier, one of the ministers who had treated with my delegates and minister of militia for Canada, acknowledges in