

were living in the Province of Manitoba. I believe it was the duty of the Government as soon as this was shown to them, to acknowledge the same rights with respect to the half-breeds who were living in the North-West Territories, as with respect to those of Manitoba, because they were of the same family and nationality, they came from the same source, and they were entitled to the same rights. So, Sir, during the years of the Administration of the hon. gentleman opposite—

Mr. LANDERKIN. How many rebellions had you in that period?

Mr. ROYAL. I shall answer the hon. gentleman in a few moments; but I will state now that the rebellion was caused by white settlers who certainly were not friendly to this Government.

Mr. LANDERKIN. Why didn't they hang them?

Mr. ROYAL. I can show the hon. gentleman that if the meaning of the word rebellion was taught among the Metis it was taught to them by the *Globe*, and I can show the hon. gentleman that if revolt against legitimate authority was ever inculcated in the North-West, it was through the Farmers' Union of Manitoba. In 1880 Sir John Macdonald took the first opportunity he had, in order to bring in a Bill in this House—he himself, the leader of the Conservative party, introduced a Bill in Parliament to extend the same privileges and rights to the half-breeds in the territories as those enjoyed under the Manitoba Act by the half-breeds in the Province of Manitoba. Now, Sir, by that we can ascertain in what party and on what side of the House there existed a feeling of friendship towards the half-breed population, and an acknowledgment of the justice of their cause. As I have stated, from many causes, some under the control of the Government and some beyond their control, the acknowledgment and settlement of the rights of the half-breeds were deferred for a certain number of years. However, I believe that the Government lost no time in extending the surveys as rapidly as they could. I think, also, that we can see whether there was any attempt made, on the part of the preceding Government, to make haste in order to do justice to that population. When the half-breed population, or a certain portion of them, saw that their rights were too tardily acknowledged they communicated with the Government, and at last they wanted to have from the United States a man whose name they thought would be a warning to the Government and