

things, whether I am deceiving. If they say I am deceiving, I am not an impostor by will. I may be declared insane because I seek an idea which drives me to something right. I tell you, in all what I say, in most things I do, I do according to what is told to me.

In Batoche many things which I said have already happened. It was said to me: "Not far from here." And that is why I never wanted to send the Half-breeds far. I wanted to keep them and it was said to me: "I will not begin to work before twelve o'clock" and when the first battle opened I was taking my dinner at Duck Lake, when the battle began it was a little after twelve o'clock "I will not begin to work before twelve o'clock". And what has happened? And it was said to me: "If you don't meet the troops on such a road you will have to meet them at the foot of a hill and the Half-breeds facing it." It is said my papers have been published, if they have been published examine what took place and you will see we had to meet general Middleton at the foot of the hill. It was also told me that men would stay in the *belle prairie* and the spirit spoke of those who would remain on the *belle prairie* and there were men who remained on the *belle prairie*. And the pits it was looked upon as something very correct in the line of military art; it was not come from me or Dumont; it was from the spirit that guides me. I have two reasons why I wish the sentence of the court should not be passed upon me, the first I wish my trial should take place as I said. Whether that wish is practical or not I bow respectfully to the court. I ask that a commission of doctors examine me; as I am declared guilty I would like to leave my name as far as conscience is concerned all right. If a commission of doctors sits and if they examine me, they can see if I was sincere or not. I will give them the whole history and I think while I am declared guilty of high treason it is only right I should be granted the advantages of giving my proofs whether I am sincere, that I am sincere. Now I am judged a sane man, the cause of my guilt is that I am an impostor; that would be the consequence. I wish a commission to sit and examine me. There have been witnesses around me for 10 years about the time they have declared me insane and they will show if there is in me the character of an impostor. If they declare me insane, I have been astray. I have been astray not as an impostor, but according to my conscience. Your Honor that is what I have to say.

MR. JUSTICE RICHARDSON,

Louis Riel, after a long consideration of your case in which you have been defended with as great ability as I think any counsel could have defended you with, you have been found by a jury who have shown, I might almost say, unexampled patience, guilty of a crime, the most pernicious and greatest that man can commit; you have been found guilty of high treason, you have been proved to have let loose the flood gates of rapine and bloodshed, you have, with such assistance as you had in the Saskatchewan country, managed to arouse the Indians and have brought ruin and misery to many families whom if you had simply left alone, were in comfort and many of them were on the road to affluence. For what you did, the remarks you have made form no excuse whatever, for what you have done the law requires you to answer.

It is true that the Jury in merciful consideration, have asked Her Majesty to give your case such merciful consideration as she can bestow upon it. I had almost forgotten that those who are defending you have placed in my hands a notice that the objection which they raised at the opening of the court must not be forgotten from the records in order that, if they see fit, they may raise the question in the proper place. That has been done; but in spite of that I cannot hold out any hope to you that you will succeed in getting entirely free or that Her Majesty will, after what you have been the cause of doing, open Her hand of clemency to you. For me I have only one more duty to perform that is to tell you what the sentence of the law is upon you: I have, as I must, given time to enable your case to be heard. All I can suggest or advise you is to prepare to meet your end, that is all the advice or suggestion I can offer. It is now my painful duty to pass the sentence of the court upon you and that is that you be taken now from here to the police guard room at Regina, which is the jail and the place from whence you came, and that you be kept there till the 18th September next, and on the 18th September next you be taken to the place appointed for your execution and there be hanged by the neck till you are dead. And may God have mercy on your soul!