

reverend gentleman is as much to blame as the *Globe* newspaper would represent him to be in making a statement which does not appear in this letter, and, I think, in this at all events, his views are more likely to be correctly represented. The letter continues :—

“My article is already too long, or I would endeavor to show how I think our whole system of reserves is, a failure, and a great mistake. My theory is the formation of a large Indian province north and east of Lake Winnipeg, in which all our Indians could be more advantageously placed, both for their own happiness and welfare, and for the future progress and safety of the great prairie regions, which we hope to see yet filled with millions of people, who will till the soil and live happy and contented on its resources, and now is the time to promptly attend to it. The uprising of the Indians has destroyed the confidence of the whites. They can never again live in peace and contentment with the Indian. Reserves, as they now are, scattered all through the white settlements. ‘Heroic treatment’ must be the order of the day, if we expect settlers to come in after what has occurred. The strong arm of the law must punish the half-breeds; the Indians must be removed.”

Now, I do not think it would be right for the Government to force the Indians to go into a certain part of the country to settle by themselves, but if they could be persuaded to do so, no doubt it would be the best thing that could happen. I believe, with the rev. gentleman who is the author of this article, that there will never be peace in that country until the Indians are sufficiently civilized to live by agriculture. I would not have detained the House so long if my hon. friend from Quinte had not come to me to obtain the address of the rev. gentleman with a view to writing to him, and he showed me the report in the *Globe*. I had no faith in the accuracy of the report then, and I have no faith in it now. I believe this article which I have read, contains just what the rev. gentleman would have written to the Government, and he should not be blamed for the report in the *Globe*, although he has not contradicted it. I feel that I have been doing a simple duty not only to the rev. gentleman, but to the country, in submitting this article to the Senate.

HON. MR. BELLEROSE—I am thankful to the hon. member from Quinté for the way in which he has explained this

question to the House. I thought when he took his seat that there would be no other speeches on the subject. I felt that I could add very little to what he had said, except to endorse the greater part of it. I suppose it never entered the head of any one in this House that the Government, after making treaties with the Indians, had failed to carry out their part of the agreement. The hon. member from Quinté said nothing more, but merely tried to show from the blue books and public accounts that the Government had done their duty, but the hon. member for Alma has been, on this occasion, a little too zealous. I regret that this discussion has taken place, because we are no more capable of arriving at a correct conclusion upon it than a blind man would be to judge of colors. We are ignorant of the facts. Some hon. gentlemen denounce the rebels, although no one in this Parliament can say why they are in arms. They put other gentlemen in this House in this position, that knowing something more on the subject, they are forced to deny the assertions which are made, and then the trouble begins. I think it would be much better to let those questions rest for the present, until Parliament is in possession of the whole of the facts. Surely, we have a right to expect that a majority in Parliament will prefer the public good to personal prejudice, and if it be found that the Government have done wrong, I am sure a majority of the House will be ready to condemn them. If it should be proved by public documents that the rebels are not as wantonly mischievous as some represent them to be, I hope that there are men who are conscientious enough to admit that these unfortunate people are not such wretches as some believe them to be. I rely upon the honor of our public men to wait until they see what is at the bottom of these troubles before condemning anyone. If the hon. member from Alma were not my representative, I would not say a word on this subject; but in this instance he does not represent my view of the matter, because I am far from believing that those who are now in arms in the North-West, are influenced merely by a desire to be the sole proprietors of that country. They may be wrong in their views, but there are other reasons behind their movement than those which