

and I told him not to compromise his cause, and I told him to withdraw instead of going ahead till we saw if we were going to be listened to at all. He wanted me to make a bargain and to renounce my american citizenship. I told him that it was a matter of more strength that I should be an american citizen, not that I want to make any ground of it, but as it took place naturally and as the fact existed, I wanted to take advantage of it as such. I told him it is of advantage for you that you should have me an american citizen. I have no bargain to make with you about my american papers, no bargain on such a matter as that. Mr. Charles Nolin speaks of my own ambition, and other witnesses also. There are men among the prisoners who know that last year Mr Renez and Mr Joseph Forget came to the Saskatchewan and said I could have a place in the Council if I wanted it, and that it was a good chance for the Half-breeds of the Saskatchewan. If I had been so anxious for position I would have grasped at this place; but I did not, and Mr. Nolin has some knowledge of that. I speak of those things to defend my character as it has been said that I am egotistical

The agitation in the North-West Territories would have been constitutional and would certainly be constitutional to-day, if in my opinion we had not been attacked. Perhaps the Crown has not been able to find out the particulars that we were attacked, but as we were on the scene it was easy to understand. When we send petitions to the Government, they used to answer us by sending police, and when the rumors were increasing every day that Riel had been shot here or there, or that Riel was going to be shot by such and such a man, the police would not pay any attention to it. I am glad that I have mentioned the police, because of the testimony that has been given in the box during the examination of many of the witnesses. If I had been allowed to put questions to the witnesses I would have asked them when it was I said a single word against a single policeman or a single officer. I have respected the policemen and I do to day, and I have respected the officers of the police; the paper that I sent to Major Crozier is a proof of it: "We respect you Major." There are papers which the Crown has in its hands and which show that demoralisation exists among the Police, if you will allow me to say it in the Court as I have said it in writing.

Your Honors, Gentlemen of the Jury: If I was a man of to-day perhaps it would be presumptuous to speak in that way, but the truth is good to say, and it is said in a proper manner, and it is not without presumption, it is not because I have been libelled for 15 years that I do not believe myself something. I know that through the grace of God I am the founder of Manitoba; I know that though I have no open road for my influence, I have big influence concentrated, as a big amount of vapour in an engine. I believe by what I suffered for 15 years, by what I have done for Manitoba and the people of the North-West that my words are worth something, if I give offence I do not speak to insult. Yes, you are the pioneers of civilization, the Whites are the pioneers of civilization, but they bring among the Indians demoralization. Do not be offended ladies, do not be offended. Here are the men that can cure that evil, and if at times I have been strong against my true friends and Fathers, the Reverend Priests of the Saskatchewan, it is because my convictions are strong. There have been witnesses to show that immediately after great patience, I could come back to the respect I have for them.

One of the witnesses here, George Ness, I think, said that I spoke of Archbishop Taché and told him that he was a thief. If I had had the opportunity I proposed I would have questioned him as to what I said so that you would understand me. I have known Archbishop Taché as a great benefactor, I have seen him surrounded by his great property, the property of a widow whose road was passing near, he bought the land around and took that way to try and get her property at a cheap price. I read in the Gospel "Ye Pharisees with your long prayers devour the widows." And as Archbishop Taché is my great benefactor, as he is my father I would say because he has done me an immense deal of good, and because there was no one who had the courage to tell him, I did, because I love him, because I acknowledge all he has done for me. As to Bishop Grandin, it was on the same grounds. I have other instances of Bishop Taché, and the witness could have said as the Revd Father Moulin: "When you speak of such persons