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Approved by the Bishop of London, and recommended by the Archbishop of Toronto, the Bishops of Ottawa, Hamilton, Kingston, and Peterborough, and leading Catholic Clergymen throughout the Dominion.

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lated from his place in Parliament by a prominent member against the Mounted Police. More hostile denials of these charges cannot and will not satisfy the people. The Indians of the North-West have given us peaceable possession of their lands, and are entitled to legal protection. We were not doing our duty to them or to the in-going settlers to the North-West in refusing them such protection even against the police.

Some measures were, we believe, taken to carry out the views expressed by us, but how far from success did they turn out to be may easily be inferred from the correspondence in La Verite published in our last issue. Delays at Ottawa, inefficiency, not to say criminality, in the North-West have brought about the present state of things which has already involved Canada in the waste of many valuable lives and must further involve her in great loss of blood and treasure, besides sowing seeds of rancor and division that may ripen into the ruin of this confederation. In L'Espresso of May 4th appeared a remarkable letter from a missionary in the North-West, which the editor of that journal prefaces by the following remarks:

"The following letter is well calculated to make known the prevailing sentiments of the Metis of the North-West. It is by reason of the light it throws on the situation that we publish it, with, of course, our own reservations on many points it advances. We know that our correspondent strove to prevent any raising of the Metis and Indians, even going so far as to provoke them in this respect, if not to anger, at least to silent resentment. We know him, however, to be a man of sacrifice to a sufficient extent to believe that without directly aiding them he will not abandon them in their hour of trial, but even, if necessary, partake of their lot. His letter is headed 'The Metis and their rights,' and is dated from the Prairies of the North-West, April 20th, 1885."

"Miserere mihi, miserere mihi, nos saltem amici mei. Have pity on me, have pity on me, you at least my friends." "Such, Mr. Editor, is the cry that breaks from the heart of the missionary who writes you to-day. The papers of our dear province of Quebec have arrived. Alas! what a dagger's blade they have plunged into our hearts! In them are re-echoed the many manifestations of the Orangemen of a certain portion of the Ontario press. Why believe the telegraphic news controlled, by whom, you know? There are amongst these manipulators of the wires noble exceptions, but we say it with regret, they are the exception. Articles of La Minerne and of some other journals have caused deepest anguish in the hearts of those who surround me. The people of Quebec are appealed to rise in defence of 'La Patrie en danger.' Again, 'honor to the brave men who know how to defend hearth and fire-side even with their blood,' etc. etc.

"How long will the press of Ontario be permitted to form the theological opinions of the Province of Quebec? Let us examine the theological aspect of the case, putting aside the Indians. Half-breeds, descendants of French Canadians, of old fur-traders in the North-west, occupy fertile lands. They live by the chase and the cultivation of their farms. They have been ten, twenty, thirty and even forty years in peaceable possession of their lands and made on them many improvements. They have been orderly, doing no injury to any man, and their conduct might reflect credit on any race. The Mounted Police come into our midst to keep order. They bring disorder. Some of them teach these poor children of the wilderness crimes these had never even conceived. Some even made it their pleasure to trifle with the honor of families, repeating arrogantly that outside of civilization nothing was allowed. Under the good counsel of the missionaries the Metis bore with patience their sufferings. Yes indeed, they endured much with patience. These missionaries were there, they prayed, themselves, and made their half-breed flock pray with them, and counselled them to hope. The surveyors then came with their chains. How heavy they proved! The Metis made representations to the government. Bishops, priests, Metis and Indians went to Ottawa, but chains continued to be drawn across fields and fences. Ever growing crops of wheat were not spared and in some instances the surveyors line divided the home of the poor half-breed from his barn. If the latter ventured to remonstrate in French, he was told to speak English or 'go to hell.' The Metis endured all for many years for they are a law-abiding people. I fear not to say that they bore their grievances much longer than would the people of Ontario have done under similar circumstances. At last, seeing their rights disregarded and that plighted faith was set at naught, they rose, not in revolt, but in defence of their homes, not to despoil others, and swearing not to fire first. And the fact is, but for that brainless Crozier, the profound peace would to-day reign in the North-West, for the government, it appears, was ready to do us justice. I do not throw the blame for the present situation on the government, but on its officials. Let not the opponents of the government seek out of this to make political capital. At the time of the first troubles here they made much noise, but, once in power, were quite indifferent in our regard. They cried out in hatred of the government of that day and not out

of love for justice. This their subsequent actions proved. In the same manner to-day, it is hatred that is heard all along the line, hatred of the God of truth and justice! Suppose that the Metis were Protestants and that, instead of the government at Ottawa, it was that of Quebec which had to deal with the question? High heaven! what meetings of indignation would not be held in Ontario, and would betide the soldier passing through that Province to fire on the Metis! I do not indeed propose to belaud the rising, but St. Thomas Aquinas, who was as good a theologian as any of the journalists of Ontario, says there are cases wherein revolt against an abuse of power is justifiable. With more reason therefore are there cases wherein it is lawful to defend oneself. If the Province of Quebec had suffered as we have, it would not send soldiers to slay us at the point of the bayonet. What an auspicious occasion were there not for the two extremities of the Union to join hands and show that the French and Catholic element had to be taken into account. Now, however, it has passed, and the ball of the fanatic will plough the earth fertilized by the sweat of Catholic fellow-countrymen and Catholic missionaries. Last year, to obtain advantages of limited importance, much noise was made by the papers and strong pressure brought to bear on ministers. This year why not have asked that the case of the French Metis should be at heart examined, (I use the word French purposely, for the others have nothing to complain of), and if they were found guilty of wrongdoing, then let an army be raised to crush them. But no, faith is put in a few telegraph operators who now rejoice that they have succeeded in hiding the turpitude (the true word) of some of their friends and put the blame on those who merit rather praise for moderation than the war of extermination made on them.

"The Metis do not deceive themselves as to the result of the war. They look forward to their effacement and to that of their missionaries and to the time when their churches, bereft of altars, will be turned into meeting-houses. All this they have foreseen, but they are ready at heart. They have their chaplains who will fall with them, but the bullet of the enemy will cause them less pain than their abandonment by their friends and relatives of the Province of Quebec. May God forgive you, as we ask Him to forgive our trespasses, but before we die, let us make one tender reproach. What is the meaning of the words, Religion and Country in that beautiful French tongue, words you so often repeat? I have said that the Metis do not deceive themselves, but do not on this account believe you will subdue them in a year. I do not know where that general of yours is to be found, who, it is said, believes that the victory will be easy. If he knew what awaits him! He might kill some of the Half-breeds, might win a brilliant victory, but that in this country is not the end but the very beginning of the struggle. Everything will depend on the treatment of the prisoners. The Metis will respect their prisoners, but if, unfortunately, any of their men taken prisoner are shot or lynched, then will commence a war of extermination." The writer then proceeds to speak of the mode of fighting amongst the Metis. They are, according to him, the best shots in the world. They lie in ambush, awaiting the approach of the enemy. So deadly is their aim that in a moment thirty of them could disperse three times their number. He adds this very significant remark: "A letter I have received goes to show that the general impression was that the Metis would, after the first encounter, lay down their arms. If peace be not made—hear me well, I beg of you—if peace is not made, they will not lay down arms even after the hundredth bullet. But if peace is proclaimed, the Metis being faithful to their word, will observe its conditions."

In a second letter addressed to La Verite by the writer we last week quoted, we read: "If Canada desires to be free from the numerous Indian wars that have cost the United States so many millions, it has but to make ample provision for the aborigines. Believe an old missionary who has a profound knowledge of the Indian character. The Indian will die fighting rather than of hunger, especially when he sees in the midst of plenty the white men who have robbed him of his means of subsistence. Why economize a few thousand dollars when it is certain that by expending them a much greater expenditure is obviated, not to reckon at all the sufferings of the soldiers, the loss of blood on both sides, the grief of families, and the terrible responsibility resting on those who are the cause of the trouble? True, the government should enforce the laws and make its power feared. But it should, on the other hand, do everything, make every honorable concession asked of it, to prevent the spilling of the blood of citizens, and set at naught the outcries of Upper Canadian or other fanatics, whether Orangemen, Franco-phobists or anything else. If the government were to lend ear to certain journalists, organs of men breathing fire and flame, blood and thunder, we had

soon before our eyes a most revolting spectacle. I do not wish to say that Riel and his half-breeds have all the right in the world on their side. But before condemning them, it would not be out of place to ask their enemies what had they done in their place. The men in power should also ask themselves if they have done their duty in respect of this people—if the tergiversations, the negligences and unscrupulous delays from which the Metis have had to suffer are not the cause, as certain as it is inexorable, of the actual troubles.

"If then, the government is largely to blame for those misfortunes it is not just that it make serious efforts and even sacrifices to satisfy the discontented, driven to resistance only after having found it useless to press claims by them considered just and reasonable.

"I see by the papers that a commission has been sent, charged with the adjustment of the difficulty. This measure is already quite late. The commission should have preceded the troops. Much blood and treasure had thereby been saved. Still I have hope that having for eight months shared part luck with Riel, whose full confidence I enjoyed, I can affirm that he abhors the shedding of blood when it can be avoided.

"His actual conduct proves it, for were he of the blood-thirsty disposition attributed to him, had he not time, before the arrival of succor, to ravage the whole country and massacre the settlers? At Duck Lake the Metis did not desire to begin the hostilities. Had Crozier a little less ardor and a little more common-sense he had not lost a man or been forced to fly. The murders committed by the Indians have been committed without Riel's orders; very probably even against his orders. When a man is by circumstances forced into alliance with a race so cruel as the Indians, it is not always easy to keep them in bounds. The history of Canada and of the American colonies offer us more than one sad exemplification of this truth. I hope the commission will succeed in its mission of peace. It has, it appears, full powers. If it employ these powers without talking of reprisals, of hangings and all the terrors which only an authority without stain and without reproach has the right to inflict, everything will go well.

"Our young men will return, fatigued it is true, from their campaign, but blessing heaven that they were not obliged to take part in a fratricidal war."

HOW THE FIGURES SPEAK. We have before us the fourth volume of the Canadian census of 1881. It contains some statistical tables of great interest. Thus Table A shows that when the census was taken there were in the Dominion 753,017 places of abode, fixed or temporary. Of these 40,688 were uninhabited. Quebec had 18,469 and Ontario 19,649 deserted homes. The same table gives 50,813 as the number of widowers and 109,375 as that of widows, a large majority certainly for the latter. Table B presents a summary statement of religions. The total Catholic population of the Dominion is set down at 1,791,982, or 414.3 in every 1,000. In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia, the Catholics outnumber any other religious body taken separately, and in Quebec all put together. In Ontario the Methodists, with 591,503, rank first; the Presbyterians, with 417,749, second; the Episcopalians, with 366,539, third; and the Catholics, with 320,839, fourth. The Jewish population is distributed among the Provinces as follows: In Nova Scotia 19, New Brunswick 55, Quebec 989, Ontario 1,193, Manitoba 33, and British Columbia 104. The Presbyterians are most powerful in Nova Scotia, numbering 265.3 of the total population, or 112.488. While there are but 2 pagans in New Brunswick and 6 in Quebec, there are 1,499 in Ontario and 2,173 in Manitoba. Table C shows that there are in Canada 1,290,161 persons of French, 957,403 of Irish, 882,894 of English, 699,863 of Scotch, and 252,848 of German descent. The number of Indians in Canada is 108,547, of negroes 21,394, and of Chinese 4,383. The total number of churches in the Dominion is given in Table E as 5,662, of which 3,017 are Methodist temples or conventicles, and 1,485 Catholic places of worship. We have in the country 83 hospitals, 46 orphanages, 13 lunatic asylums, and 85 other places of refuge. Ontario heads the list with the number of its lunatics, there being in this Province 2,727, a number sadly out of proportion with its population. Quebec has but 1,013 in its insane asylums, New Brunswick 324, and Nova Scotia 443. The Province of Quebec ranks first as to the number of universities and classical colleges, of which it has 44, with 4,425 inmates. This Province has also 186 boarding schools for young ladies, with 10,101 in attendance. Ontario has 17 universities and classical colleges, with 874 students, and 44 boarding schools for young ladies, with an attendance of 1,711. In the Table of Field Products Ontario holds the first place with honor. The total product of winter wheat in 1881 was 20,247,452, and of this Ontario raised 20,193,067. Of the spring wheat

raised that year Ontario contributed much more than one-half, seven-eighths of the barley, four-sevenths of the oats, two thirds of the wheat and beans, and eight-ninths of the corn. In the wheat crops Ontario holds undisputed pre-eminence. What marvel then that it is called the premier Province and exercises so great an influence in the union?

WERE WE RIGHT? The Ottawa Free Press in one of those occasional outbursts of loyalty which that journal, as with most others indulging in such antics, is an empty display of asinine thick-headedness, made, as stated in our last, a savage onslaught on the Record for speaking the truth in regard of Britain's weakness in the presence of Russian aggressiveness and determination. Were we right in the position we assumed? Did the facts of the case warrant us in making the statement we made? We have several witnesses to summon in support of the ground we felt in the interests of truth, bound to take. The first is Lord Randolph Churchill, and surely even the Free Press will admit that the noble lord's loyalty is not to be impugned. On the 3rd of May Lord Randolph in the House of Commons, said:

"The government have made a base, cowardly surrender of every point at issue to Russia. I greatly fear that as a result we have lost India." He furthermore declared the history of Russia's negotiations with England was the record of treachery, fraud, and falsehood. Remembering the action of the Government in the present matter and the useless sacrifices in the Sudan; remembering how they had forced Egypt to wallow in the mud before France, and gladly associated themselves with her in that act of humiliation, it was impossible to repose the slightest confidence in the Government, and farcical to acquiesce in the present vote. It was impossible, he said, to provide security for India by an agreement with her. He implored the Ministry to remember the past perfidy of Russia, and their duty to England and India.

The noble lord's statement was received with loud cheers. But besides this testimony from a rising star in the Conservative horizon we have that of Lord Claude Hamilton who, amid the ringing cheers of nearly half the House of Commons, declared on Monday night:

"The Government have surrendered every one of the questions between them and Russia. The Prime Minister has altogether abandoned the attitude by which the Government obtained the vote of credit. The great objection I have to the Premier's policy is that from the very day he assumed office until now, he has shown a readiness to sacrifice any body or any thing to save himself."

official class. They are more trusted, and they hear much indirectly through the native Christians. The terrible competence of thirty years ago have made them watchful and careful. They write that the state of feeling among the natives, and especially the Moslems, is most alarming. The intelligence of the fall of Khartoum and of the repulse sustained by the English in the Sudan threw them into a ferment. The news of Russia's advances must add to the disturbance. They do not love Russia any more than England. They resent her conquests of their brethren in Turkistan. But they hope that the mutual injuries inflicted by these Christian powers will open the way to a restoration of Moslem rule in both India and Turkistan."

Is our Ottawa contemporary satisfied? NOT OUR READING. Mr. Charlton, M. P., for North Norfolk in the Commons of Canada, recently delivered an able speech on the Franchise Bill. In the course of his observations the hon. gentleman is reported in Hansard as saying:

"One hundred and twenty-five years ago the power of the French king on the continent of America passed away forever. Canada, after a heroic and desperate struggle, was subdued, and became a conquered race. Now suppose the conqueror had had the bad taste, the fatuity, to endeavor to assimilate this population completely with the Anglo-Saxon population of the other colonies and make it homogeneous with the colonies to the south, would he have succeeded in such an attempt? No, sir, his efforts would have been a blank and total failure. But the English conquerors, who were wise and far-seeing men, treated the French colonists with the utmost forbearance and consideration. They respected their prejudices, they respected the retention of their language, their religion, their semi-fundamental institutions—everything which distinguished the French Canadian, everything which separated him from the Anglo-Saxon colonists, everything which marked him in any degree or sense, as a man of different nationality, different race, different prejudices, different religion—everything of this kind the conqueror respected. He allowed him to retain his language, and to-day that language is an official language here in the House of Commons, just as much as the English language is, and on account of the moderate conduct on the part of the English, when they succeeded to the Dominion of this continent—in consequence of this forbearance, this knowledge and prudence in the management of the French Canadian people—instead of the French Canadian being today an alien or an enemy to the institutions of the country, he is a component part of the population, and is as loyal as any man in the Dominion of Canada."

Mr. Charlton is a very well-read and clear-headed gentleman, and in many of his views on public matters we concur, but in this interpretation of Canadian history we cannot acquiesce. We have paid some attention to the history of Canada just immediately after the conquest, and cannot join in the eulogy pronounced on the English conquerors by the hon. member for North Norfolk. The fact is, that if the thirteen English colonies had not revolted from Britain, the French Canadian would not long have been permitted to enjoy the privileges accorded him by the Treaty of Paris. The erection of a republic on the southern border of the British possessions in America forced British statesmen and their agents in Canada into a course of caution and care in their dealings with the French in Canada. But still English prejudice in many ways manifested itself, and English agents in Canada did their very best in many cases to oppress the French. Was it not out of hatred for the French that their country was in 1790 dismembered and the English Province of Upper Canada formed out of the richest part of French Canada? Was it not out of hatred for the French that the Legislative Council of Lower Canada was filled with placemen despising the race and detesting the religion of the French Canadians? Was it not out of hatred again for the French that the plot was hatched to rob the Sulpicians of their lands, a plot frustrated by the war of 1812—the estates of the Jesuits seized and diverted from their original purpose—and the various attempts recorded in the official correspondence of the time made to vest the appointment of Catholic bishops and priests in the English crown? If the Canadian French to-day enjoy political autonomy and freedom for their language and religion, they owe it to their own vigilance and determination and to the difficulties of Britain. The Anglo-Saxon Protestant would have attempted, but for their political powerlessness, to do in Lower Canada that which he sought also to do in Ireland.

EDITORIAL NOTES. The Gladstone Government has been sustained by a vote of 290 to 260 on Lord Hamilton's motion of censure on the Russo-Afghan policy of the administration. The rebellion in the North-West seems as far as ever from suppression. Three more regiments of militia have been called out and there is now no telling when hostilities will cease. No advantage of a permanent character has as yet been obtained over the insurgents. Sunday, June 28th, having been fixed for the opening of the new St. Peter's Cathedral in this city, every preparation

is being made to render the occasion of the finest in a religious sense ever witnessed in Ontario. Many distinguished churchmen from all parts of Canada and the United States will be in attendance and it is expected that delegations every parish in the diocese will also present.

—After a long illness Mr. Carlo C. president of the academy of fine arts in Rome from the year 1874 till 1882 at his villa in Crenschnee, Rhine-Pr. April 17th. The Berlin Museum of most of his statues, but prominent last works is the beautiful Madonna Infant Jesus, in Bingen on the Rhine. With Professor Cauer one of the sculptors is lost to the academy an rising generation of young sculptors. —There would appear to be much in the statement of the cable despatch of the 9th, that every delay in the negotiations has redounded to Russia's advantage. The Ministers have been talking Russian railway has been actively pushing the Afghan frontier, and the Indian troops have seized the debatable territory. These are facts, and the avowed Briton grows impatient when an attempt is made to belittle their importance. obscure them with a cloud of words. —We have before us some interesting statistics concerning the Church of Switzerland. The clergy are distributed as follows:—The diocese of Bale, priests, under the jurisdiction of Lauch; the diocese of Coire, 332; the jurisdiction of Mgr. Rampa; the case of St. Gall, 203; under the jurisdiction of Mgr. Egger; the diocese of Sane and Geneva, 307; under the jurisdiction of Mgr. Merz; the diocese of Sion, 204; under the jurisdiction of Mgr. Jander; the canton of Tessin, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Come and Milan; total, 2,030 priests. The religious orders count, besides priests—namely, Benedictines, 145; uchin, 183; Bernardines, 41; Carregular, 40; Cordeliers, 12; Chartrons. —France is evidently tired of war, general feeling in that country is the republic has had enough of the enterprise against the Hovas of Madagascar, and that the whole affair should be brought to a speedy termination. despatch conveying this information the states that the Ministry, it is perceived, have come around to the view of the case. A similar policy to followed in settling the difficulty China is likely to be adopted. The France will prepare the way for practically receding from the position which she set out to maintain when hostilities began. It is believed that Ministers are already engaged in proposals of peace which will be acceptable to the Hova Government. Such a course may strike a blow at French prestige there can be no doubt that it will be immensely popular with the French people. —The American pays a just tribute to the Marquis of Ripon's efforts in India. He thinks that "his efforts to secure justice for the Hindoos may yet result in disaster for Britain. "He was determined," that paper "to deal justly with the people of India. But justice means equality of the long run, and to treat the Hindoos equals is to cease to treat them as a conquered people. He awakened hopes and expectations which may prove fatal to English rule. The Indian Empire founded on violence and on injustice and it is too large and motley a structure to be shifted with safety to a different foundation. The Anglo-Indian who the Hindoo "a nigger," and kicks out of any railroad carriage he wishes occupy, knows what he is about. conduct is the natural expression of a man's position in India, and any other course is conscious hypocrisy or fatal infidelity."

OBITUARY. MARTIN RYAN, TORONTO. On Wednesday, the 29th of April, at 176 Queen St. West, Mr. Martin R. Ryan, in the 49th year of his age. Mr. Ryan fully twenty years had been in the employ of Hughes Bros., who always found in a trustworthy, painstaking and industrious employee. Mr. Ryan was for many a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and was ever characterized by fidelity to its rules. A good Christian and faithful imitator of his Divine Master he forgot not the suffering poor who abandoned little ones. His life was a true and fervent Catholic. He practiced his religion through firm conviction, earnest piety, and was a model citizen being a kindly and exemplary neighbor. We beg of his bereaved widow and sorrow-stricken family to accept an earnest expression of our condolence. Our prayer for the departed husband and father that God may grant him eternal light and joy.

Correspondence of the Record. BRANTFORD NOTES. The young ladies of the Sodality hard at work preparing for an entertainment to be given on Tuesday evening next week on behalf of the Sisters' here. The convent is in need of improvements very much, but owing to the being made towards improving the convent and clearing off the debt, the Sisters do not urge their necessities; but the young ladies have become aware of the need and are moving earnestly to supply it. They have the best sympathies of the whole congregation in their good work. A will be satisfactory to know that all

the finest in a religious sense ever witnessed in Ontario. Many distinguished churchmen from all parts of Canada and the United States will be in attendance and it is expected that delegations every parish in the diocese will also present.

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