

one day the peace of the American Territories the Indian question was not exclusively a matter of interior administration for North British America, and that perhaps it was reasonable to consider it as a question of international interest between the United States and this part of British Possessions.

It is why I ask humbly that a commission be jointly appointed by the two governments, and of which I earnestly wish you to be a member, to investigate the matters constituting the claims of the half-breeds and Indians on one side, and to investigate thoroughly whether the Federal Government have prominently inaugurated some principle which they have afterwards conspicuously disregarded, thereby occasioned themselves and caused the late war in the Saskatchewan.

Mr. Consul, if God's goodness and humanity do not come to my aid the sentence against me is that the 18th of September next I shall cease to live.

May God preserve you and help you in all things. And receive my deepest gratitude.

Very respectfully, your humble servant,

LOUIS RIEL.

No. 3.

Mr. J. E. Marier to Mr. Bayard.

LAWRENCE, August 17, 1885. (Received August 19.)

SIR: At a meeting held yesterday by citizens of Canadian-French descent I was directed as their secretary to send you the inclosed petition.

As the present government has at heart the judicious redress of all wrongs and proper dispensation of all American citizens' rights, I beg to call your attention as to the position taken of late by our vice-consul in Winnipeg; so much so as to insure him a position as a Dominion official if he was recalled, showing in many occasions his rather unbounded interest to the representatives of the British power. As such actions may be detrimental to the cause we are submitting to you, I deem it my duty as an American citizen to give you knowledge of the fact, of which I have reliable information from Winnipeg and elsewhere.

Relying on the wisdom and impartiality of our Federal Government, to which you belong, we are assured in advance that the cause we are advocating will be justly dealt with.

I am, Mr. Secretary, your most obedient and humble servant,

J. E. MARIER.

*Secretary of Canadian-French Citizens and Residents
of Lawrence, Mass.*

[Inclosure.]

Petition of the Canadian-French citizens of the United States of Lawrence, Mass.

SIR: Considering the partiality shown in the proceedings in the trial of Louis David Riel, in which the accused was sentenced to death for high treason towards Her Majesty, the Queen of Great Britain, for the more or less active part he has taken in the recent northwest Canadian troubles, and claiming that the said Louis David Riel is a citizen of the United States, we hope that the American Government will have him equitably treated.

In consequence, Mr. Secretary, we beg of you to be our interpreter to His Excellency the President of the United States, requesting him to assist in preventing this abuse of justice, and that the Stars and Stripes, which are our safeguard, shall shield under its noble folds the unfortunate, who is the apparent victim of fanaticism.

Hoping that our request will be favorably considered, we are, Mr. Secretary,

Your most humble servants, citizens and residents of Lawrence, Mass.,

JOSEPH BLANCHET,
MAGLOIRE BOLDUC,
JAMES L. BOLDUC,
ERNEST A. DEMARS,
HECTOR DUCHESNE,

and four hundred and five others.

Hon. T. F. BAYARD,

Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.