

in Montreal, at any rate for a long time. As to the other elections, the Orangemen as a body were decidedly hostile to the Liberal party in 1882, and maintained that attitude in 1887 on the ground that Mr. Blake had attacked them in a speech on the question of incorporating their Order, and also because he had condemned the execution of Riel on the occasion of the second rebellion in 1886. I do not say that the conduct of the Orange body was the sole deciding cause in these elections. There were other issues, undoubtedly. But I do say that in all those cases the hostility or the support of the Orange Order made all the difference, and that in all probability the Liberal party would have carried Ontario against Sir John Macdonald in each and every one of these elections if the Orangemen had remained passive.

REPORTER. You put it strongly. What of 1878?

SIR RICHARD. The actual returns of the votes polled show that even in 1878 the two parties polled very nearly the same number of votes, and that the Liberals in especial lost a great many seats by very small majorities. Of course I speak of Ontario alone.

REPORTER. What were the general results of the Red River Rebellion?

SIR RICHARD. Almost unmixed evil. It revived and intensified the old jealousy between Quebec and Ontario, which was in a fair way to die out. In one way or the other it delayed the proper development of Manitoba for some twenty years. It was the means of introducing a most mischievous speculative element into the North-West and, between grants to volunteers and to half-breeds, of giving up immense areas of the best land in the country to men who merely held for a rise. Finally, it tempted Sir John Macdonald, against his own better feelings and judgment, into measures which resulted in great injury to himself and to Canada, from the evil effects of which we are still suffering. Altogether, that unfortunate business has been the cause of more heartburnings and more positive mistakes in our policy than all the rest of our blunders put together, which is saying a great deal. Looking at it