

Duck Lake. "He (Riel) said that he would be happy to have my support, and that it was not too late for me to join them, that this was the last chance for Crozier to avoid the effusion of blood, and that unless he surrendered Fort Carleton an attack would be made by midnight." These propositions are scarcely pacific, and do not absolutely indicate a man decided on waiting to be attacked, on the contrary, one already perceives there the fixed idea to attempt a surprise. But let us continue. When MacKay re-enters Carleton in company with Mitchell, the latter hands to Major Crozier, a letter in which Riel requested him to meet half way 2 men whom Riel preferred to send, rather than to go there himself. The interview takes place at the place designated. MacKay and Captain Moore declare to Charles Nolin and Maxime Lépine following the orders of Major Crozier; "*that they must give the names of the chiefs of the movement, and that they would have to give account to justice, but that a great number of those who had been dragged by force into the movement would be treated with kindness.*" Nolin declared that "*Riel and his council required the surrender of Fort Carleton without condition, AND THAT NOTHING ELSE WOULD SATISFY HIM.*" The delegates of Crozier having replied, that it was perfectly useless to discuss such propositions as they could not be accepted, Nolin answered, *that he had a letter for Major Crozier, but that it was useless to deliver it to him, seeing that Fort Carleton would not be surrendered.*

Let us note by the way that Major Crozier caused to be posted up by Astley a proclamation in the sense of what he had caused to be told Riel by Capt. Moore and McKay, and that these posters were torn down by order of Riel (trial of Riel. Evidence of John W. Astley). This fact, any more than the preceding ones, does not prove an expectant attitude on the part of the exovide.

Here is the letter of which Nolin and Lépine were the bearers:—

SAINT ANTOINE, 21st March, 1885.

To Major Crozier, Commander of the Mounted Police at Carleton and at Battleford:

MAJOR,—The Councillors of the Provisional Government of Saskatchewan, have the honour to communicate to you the following conditions of surrender: "You must abandon completely the position wherein the Canadian Government has placed you at Carleton and Battleford, and at the same time all the properties of the Government."

If you accept you and your men will be free on your word of honour to keep the peace, and those who may wish to leave the country will be provided with waggons and provisions to enable them to go to Qu'Appelle.

If you refuse we intend to attack you when to-morrow, the Lord's Day, shall have passed, and to commence, without delay, a war of extermination against all those who have shown themselves hostile to our rights.

Messrs. Charles Nolin and Maxime Lépine, are our representatives with whom you must treat.

Major, we respect you. May the cause of humanity be to you a consolation in the misfortunes which the bad administration of the Government will have caused you.

Louis "David" Riel, Exovide; René Parenteau, J. B. Parenteau, Pierre Henry, Charles Nolin, Gab. Dumont, Albert Delorme, Moise Ouellette, Albert Monkman, Dam. Carrière, Maxime Lépine, Bte. Boyer, Bte. Boucher, Donald Ross, David Touround Amb. Jobin, and P. Garnot, Secretary.

It would be difficult to find a more crushing proof of the guilty designs of the "Exovide."

REVOLT, CONSEQUENCES AND PUNISHMENT.

No community or State can sanction rebellion, and itself continue to exist. And as respects punishment for rebellion, it has been pointed out that the United States did not inflict the punishment of death, after crushing the rebellion in the South. But in that case let us not forget that the two armies, during four years, made regular warfare with exchange of prisoners and all other rights accorded to belligerents; this was much less a revolt than a war for a principle.

At a date much more recent, did we not see, in France M. Thiers cause to be summarily, executed some thousands of rebels in defending the communes of Paris? Who in the civilized world ever dreamed of making that a reproach to him except the communists themselves?

Let us not forget that rebellion arms the citizens of the country one against the other, that its consequences are the ruin and devastation of the country in which it breaks out, and that far from being useful to its authors, it overwhelms them with calamities. Under pretext of obtaining redress of grievances it precipitates the unfortunates who have recourse to it into an abyss of miseries, even when it is crowned with success. Relations and friends killed or disabled, properties devastated, poverty, hunger, such is the hideous train which rebellion