

"CANADA,
North-West Territories. } THE QUEEN vs. LOUIS RIEL.

"FRANÇOIS XAVIER LEMIEUX, Barrister, one of the counsel of Louis Riel, the accused, being duly sworn, deposeeth and says :

"That in the course of June, towards the end of the month, he was retained by persons interested on behalf of the accused to undertake his defence.

"That persons were instructed to cause to be brought to Regina, essential and necessary witnesses in the defence of Louis Riel, and believed to be such by the deponent.

"That the witnesses above referred to are Doctor Francois Roy, of Quebec, Doctor Clark, of Toronto, and Doctor Vallée, of Quebec.

"That the deponent verily believes that the said witnesses would have reached Regina by this time, but by reason of misapprehension and circumstances beyond control, the said witnesses have failed or have not been able to be present in order to give their evidence.

"That, from his experience as a counsel and advocate, he swears that the said Drs. Roy, Vallée and Clark are necessary, material and indispensable witnesses for the defence of the accused, and, moreover, are the sole witnesses capable of proving certain important facts relating to the said defence.

"That the deponent verily believes that if a delay of one month is granted he can procure the said witnesses by going himself to Quebec and Toronto, and that, at the expiration of the said delay, the above named witnesses will be present at the Court to give evidence in favor of the accused.

"And the deponent has signed.

(Signed), "F. X. LEMIEUX.

"Sworn before me, at Regina, this }
21st day of July, 1885.

"(Signed), DIXIE WATSON, Clerk."

This affidavit is fortified by another one signed by Mr. C. Fitzpatrick, corroborating in the main the statements of his brother counsel. The only object I have in referring to this part of the speech made by the hon. member (Mr. Amyot) last night, is to show that, if the other statements and arguments adduced by him are as wanting in weight and authenticity, they all have little weight indeed, and I can only say that I feel sorry for him. When, during last Session, I had the honor to address you, Mr. Speaker, and this honorable House, on the subject of the administration of affairs in the North-West, I endeavored to give a brief history of the Metis population. I then attempted to show that a distinct nationality had been formed in the North-West Territories before Canada had ever thought of the existence of the population in that part of British North America. I showed also that those people had a title to the soil which had been granted and given to them by the Hudson Bay Company, their rulers, or by Lord Selkirk, who purchased the said territories from the Hudson Bay Company. Apart from the title they had to that soil, they, as descendants of the aborigines of that country, had as much right, or, at least, had a share in the right to the soil as the Indians of those