

generation, on account of the great blessing you have poured upon myself; on yourself especially for having been a good mother to me, that your faith and hope, your charity and example be as the tree laden with excellent fruit in present and in future, and when your last day arrives that the good God shall be so much pleased with your pious spirit that he will bear it from earth upon the wings of angels. It is now two o'clock in the morning of my last day on earth, and Père André has told me to be ready for the grand event. I listened to him, and am prepared to do everything according to his advice and earnest recommendation. God holds me in his hand to keep in peace and sweetness as oil held in a vessel which can not be disturbed. I do what I can to keep myself ready for any event, keeping myself calm in accordance with the pious exhortations of the venerable Archbishop Bourget.

Yesterday and to-day I prayed to God to reasure you and send you all sweet consolation, and in order that your heart may not be disturbed by anxiety and trouble I am brave, and I kiss you all with affection. I embrace you as a dutiful son, and my dear wife, I embrace you as a Christian husband, according to the conjugal spirit of the Catholic union. I embrace you, children, in the breadth of divine mercy, and my brother and sisters-in-law and all relatives and friends, I embrace you with all the good feeling of which my heart is capable.

Dear mother, I am your affectionate, obedient and submissive son,

LOUIS DAVID RIEL.

Prison of Regina, November 16, 1885.

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