

would not second his efforts, drove them from the chapel, and assumed in their stead sacerdotal functions. He baptized a number of children, he confessed and gave absolution to over forty persons, he held confirmation at the altar and in public, and in order to transmit to the congregation the breath of the Holy Spirit, he uttered three cries so loud and penetrating that they caused the windows of the building to vibrate. Whoever would go to the spot could collect from the lips of eye and ear witnesses many particulars of this nature in respect to Riel at this time.—[*Cor. Minerve, Quebec.*]

About this period Riel always wrote after his signature the addition "Exoveed," which he interpreted to me to mean, "Chief of the flock," or "Head of the people." All the documents I have seen or heard of during the rebellion, had this affix, except those sent to General Middleton, during the engagement at Batoche.

In 1865 he wrote to a clerical friend in the northwest, that he was not Louis Riel, but somebody else. He claimed that he was David Mordecai, a Jew, and was born in Marseilles, France. He came over to Canada when he was only a mere child. His appearance was so like that of Louis Riel that they might be taken for twins. *The* Louis Riel was thrown overboard from a steamer on the Mississippi and he was put in his place. So alike were they that even those in charge of the child did not detect the deception. His guardians did the foul deed, because his parents had left him immense wealth, and they wished to secure the property for themselves. He was not Louis Riel, and not the rightful heir of an immense estate, which had been acquired in this way. Being a Jew, it was his duty to redeem the race, and rectify the wrongs which had been done. He was a second Saviour, sent in these latter days to not only succor Jews but also Gentiles, from temporal, political and spiritual bondage.

The writer saw a letter written by Riel to a church dignitary, at the time he was a patient in Beaufort Asylum. It is rambling and nonsensical, but natural to any one who has to read the superlative ideas of the conceited insane. It is signed "Louis David Riel, by the grace of Jesus Christ, Prophet, Pontiff, Infallible and Priest-King." This letter is dated July 30, 1876. In a postscript he gives a reason for adding "David" to his name. It was on account of the King of Israel having been chosen by him as his patron saint, and who had delivered him out of the hands of his enemies. The Spirit which spoke to Moses out of the burning bush had often spoken to him. Why? Because he was