126 THE RED HOUSE BY THE ROCKIES.

may have saved many lives. And if so, it is what Riel would have chosen; for he took his life in his hand when he followed those who called him from his quiet home to lead them and redress their grievances. Government needs stern measures at times, but we may yet feel a glow of pity and admiration for those who, even in error, arise at the call of their race or land, and give themselves up for others. And we may hope that Louis Riel found mercy at the Highest Tribunal of all.

Such is the short, sad story of the last rising of the Indians in the North-West, and of a few colonists who were by circumstances drawn into it.

THE END.