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fight came on the question of Riel's sanity. The leading alienist in Canada, Dr. Daniel Clark, of Toronto, was strongly inclined to think that Riel was not of sound mind, and Dr. Roy, of Beauport Asylum, in Quebec, in which Riel had spent some months, expressed the belief that Riel was suffering from megalomania—a sort of Kaiseristic disposition to think that he was some great one. Other doctors claimed that the rebel leader was quite sane in matters that were within the scope of his knowledge, and they rather scored when they were able to show by evidence that Riel at one stage would have accepted a sum of money for himself from the government and left the country.

A curious part of the case was that where the evidence showed how Riel had during the rebellion broken with the Roman Catholic Church, of which he had been a devout member and in whose fold he later on closed his stormy life. In this connection nearly all the alienist doctors said that Riel showed marked peculiarity. But one of the doctors said that barring "purely religious questions having relation to what might be called divine mysteries," Riel was a responsible being. They all agreed

that he had hallucinations on political and religious questions, but that he could distinguish between right and wrong. Even at this date, laymen reading over the evidence would have difficulty in deciding on the point of sanity.

But the facts were established, and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy. Riel then received the death sentence, but execution was stayed till his lawyers appealed to the full court at Winnipeg and then to the Privy Council in England on the question of the jurisdiction of the Regina court. In both cases they failed in their appeal, and despite efforts to secure his pardon, the rebel leader was executed for the crime of high treason. His body was given to his relatives for burial, and I remember witnessing his tremendously impressive funeral in the famous old cathedral of St. Boniface, outside which his dust reposes under the plain headstone on which is written the one word, "Riel."

Thus passed one of the strange and almost mysterious figures in western history. His place in the record is not yet wholly fixed, but he made much stir in his day, and generation.

"Therefore I trust, although to outward sense  
Both true and false seem shaken; I will hold  
With newer light my reverence for the old,  
And calmly wait the births of Providence.  
No gain is lost; the clear-eyed saints look down  
Untroubled on the wreck of schemes and creeds;  
Love yet remains, its rosary of good deeds  
Counting in task-field and o'er peopled town:  
Truth has charmed life! The Inward Word survives,  
And day by day its revelation brings;  
Faith, Hope and Charity, whatsoever things  
Which cannot be shaken, stand.—Still holy lives  
Reveal the Christ of whom the letter told,  
And the New Gospel verifies the Old."

—WHITTIER.