

fashion. We have ourselves seen the homes of pioneers in flames, settlers murdered, women dragged into horrible captivity and even priests massacred while in the act of administering the last consolations of religion to other victims. That which has been may be again. Certainly one effect of Mr. Cameron's speech will be to inflame the Indians of the North-west against the Government and against the white settlers; and it may be to start again the lurid blaze of savage warfare. If the speech was accurate in its statements and just in its reasoning, Mr. Cameron cannot be held responsible for any possible consequences of it: the responsibility in that case falls upon the Government and upon its officials. But if the statements are not true; if the reasonings are not founded on facts; if the censure and vituperation of the member for West Huron are not justified by the administration of Indian affairs, then Mr. Cameron has not only exposed himself to the charge of violating the truth but of endangering the lives of thousands of peaceful settlers and of imperiling the prosperity of the whole North-west. Again the reader will be left to judge for himself whether the facts were or were not such as to warrant Mr. Cameron in assuming so grave a responsibility, possibly involving such frightful consequences.

Mr. Cameron is a man of ability and a lawyer. He is skilled in preparing evidence and has experience in presenting his case. It is fair to assume that he made the best case that could be made against the Government's administration in the North-west. Further it is fair to assume that he would not resort to untruth if the truth would serve his purpose. If evidence existed that the Government or its officers had not done their duty, that the public money had not been judiciously expended, that the Indians had not been justly treated, it is fair to assume that he would not manufacture evidence or distort facts. If he be found to have manufactured evidence or to have distorted facts, it is fair to assume that the truth would not sustain the charges