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The Weekly Messenger.

ECHOES OF THE WAR.

The North-West rising is now a matter of history; the last shot has been fired and the victorious volunteers are on their way to their respective homes. To their relatives and friends this will be the most welcome news of the campaign. To some homes those who departed from their midst at the outbreak of this cruel war will never return, but the families will be consoled by the thought that their dear ones died bravely in the service of their country. Now that the rebellion itself has been put down, justice, and speedy justice, is to be meted out to all those who were either directly or indirectly instrumental in bringing about the sad course of events that have taken place within the last few months. The trial of the leading conspirator, Riel, is to take place at Regina on the 20th instant. A long indictment has been drawn up against the prisoner, charging him with unlawfully and maliciously levying war against Her Majesty at Duck Lake, Fish Creek, and Batoche. The trial will likely be one of the most important ever held in Canada. There will be thirty-seven witnesses for the Crown, the principal being General Middleton, Col. Irvine, Capt. Crozier, J. C. Astley, H. Ross, J. Kerr, G. Kerr, J. A. Jackson and the Indian agent Mr. Lash. It is also stated to be the intention of Riel's Counsel to summon Sir David MacPherson, Minister of the Interior, Hon. Mr. Caron, Minister of Militia, and Sir John Macdonald, to give evidence and produce papers of importance. The panel of jurors for the trial has already been selected; it consists of thirty-six persons, of whom not a single one is a half-breed, so that there is not likely to be any feeling of very great sympathy among the jurors. In the meantime Riel seems to take the preparations very coolly. He is getting better looking in appearance every day, and is even ready to talk with the guards and frequently asks about public opinion. Since his imprisonment he has written a long document, which dwells upon his connection with the rising, Big Bear and the other prisoners captured with him, will also be sent for trial to Regina with other ringleaders of the rebellion. Now that peace has been restored the troops are moving eastward. The gallant boys who have worked so nobly for their country are not to be forgotten by a grateful public. They will be given a grand reception at Winnipeg, where Major General Middleton will hold a general review and a reception. The various cities throughout the Dominion are also making active preparations to welcome back their citizen soldiery. Parliament has not been forgetful in its acknowledgement, and an order-in-Council has been passed granting pensions to officers and men who have been killed or wounded during the campaign. It is also the intention to make a grant of land to the officers, soldiers, and volunteers, and in addition, a formal vote of thanks will be passed by Parliament. The men deserve all the honors that can be given them and if the North-

west rising has done nothing else, it has at least shown that the citizen soldiery of Canada can be depended upon in time of need and that the men deserve well of their country.

A GREAT CITY'S SIN.

England, and in fact the whole civilized world, has been startled this week by revelations made by the *Pall Mall Gazette* regarding abominable crimes practised in London. It is an undisputed fact that in all great centres of population practices such as those referred to are carried on under the very light of civilization with more or less impunity. In the great drift of busy surging every day life, they may pass unnoticed but their deadening and sickening influences remain all the same, and it only needs the bold voice of some individual or institution to bring them into the light of day and expose their abominable hideous-

ness to the gaze of the world. Such a course has been taken by the *Pall Mall Gazette*. There are, of course, strong differences of opinion about the propriety of its action but there can be no doubt that however painful it may be to make these disclosures the ultimate effect will be beneficial. The newspaper's action has been approved by some of the leading churchmen and thinkers of England and it has shown the sincerity of its course by daring prosecution. The disclosures made in the columns of the newspaper are of the most loathsome description and would seem almost incredible if they were not vouched for by unimpeachable authority. The *Gazette* opened the *expose* on Monday afternoon when it devoted five pages of its space to show that the trade in young girls for immoral purposes has increased alarmingly of late years, and that the growth in the traffic was due to the utter worthlessness of the law in relation to the matter. The article gave revolting details of the business showing how young and innocent children were lured from their homes by the agents of the great and wealthy, to be used for vile purposes and the names of a number of wealthy men, holding prominent positions in society were mentioned in connection with the business. The publication of the article created a profound sensation throughout England. The book stalls refused to sell the papers, but the street sales were enormous, and a number of news vendors were arrested for selling the papers

the Criminal Law Amendment Bill to punish such offenders was quickly ordered to a third reading, which practically insures its passage. A full enquiry is to be made into the conduct of the London police who are charged with connivance in the crimes. Rev. Mr. Spurgeon preached a powerful sermon on Sunday on the patrician iniquity of London, as exposed by the *Gazette*. There was a judgment, he said, for sin in the world both for men and nations and London would not be more favored than Rome. It was necessary for the church to warn men of what would happen if such sin was continued and every preacher should cry aloud and spare not.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

The real leader of the North-West rebellion was not Louis Riel—the head only in name—but Gabriel Dumont, whose portrait appears on another page. The one, vacillating, timid, fearful, and only upheld by a religious craze, is insignificant by the side of Dumont, the brave, fearless, resolute though ignorant half-breed, who, in company with his compatriots, had real grievances to complain of and who, not knowing better, led his comrades into battle against the overwhelming power of the authorities. In this despairing contest Dumont displayed extraordinary power as an organizer. He alone it was that drilled the raw and crude material around him into a force that was able to successfully resist the Dominion troops day after day; the rifle pits at Fish Creek and Batoche which more than anything else stopped the onward march of the troops were the products of his engineering skill, and behind them in person he urged his small but well-disciplined forces to a gallant resistance. It was only when he saw that all was lost that he resolved not to be taken alive and succeeded in reaching the other side of the boundary line. Of Dumont's personal history but little is known, as he led a quiet and peaceable life previous to the rising which suddenly called him into prominence. He was born near Edmonton in the North-West Territory, his father being in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company. He became closely identified with the Indians in their hunts and tribal wars and subsequently he settled on the Saskatchewan river, established a ferry, now known as Gabriel's Crossing, and opened a store. Dumont was the possessor of a large amount of land. His portrait is that of a man of great intelligence, decision of character and strength of purpose. He was the head and front of the recent rebellion which, but for him, would, in all probability, have been a short-lived one. In the neighboring Republic he is assured of freedom, and when years have passed away and the grievances of the half-breeds have become things of the past, it is not improbable that he will return to his native land and witness the fruits of the unfortunate rising of which he was the guiding star.

LOUIS KOSSUTH, the Hungarian patriot, is in a very precarious state of health, and his death is daily expected.



GABRIEL DUMONT.

The *Gazette*, however received, the approval of many leading men for its conduct and published a number of letters written in commendation by peers, bishops and members of the House of Commons. The investigation, it was announced, into the abominations, was commenced, on May 24th, by a commission composed of members of the *Gazette* staff. The commission applied to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and Cardinal Manning for advice and they all supported the object. The result has been to bring the matter before the House of Commons, and, as a consequence,

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