

That from the same evidence, it further appears that Sir *J. A. Macdonald*, then First Minister of *Canada*, and Minister of Justice in December, 1871, after the Fenian Raid was over, entered into negotiations, through Archbishop *Taché*, with the said *L. Riel* for his retirement from the Province of *Manitoba* for the space of a year, and for his maintenance during this expatriation out of the public funds of *Canada*, and in order to induce him so to retire, pointed out to the Archbishop that the proposed step would improve the chances of obtaining the amnesty from Her Majesty's Government, and stated that he would exert his personal influence to procure action in the matter by Her Majesty's Government, and that he would so far make *Riel's* case his own, and having so induced the Archbishop to interfere, sent him the promised sum, which was taken from the Secret Service Fund, placed at the disposal of his Government by Parliament, with the following letter:—

“(Private and strictly confidential.)

“Ottawa, December 27th, 1871.

“MY DEAR LORD ARCHBISHOP,—I have been able to make the arrangement for the individual that we have talked about. I now send you a sight draft on the Bank of *Montreal* for \$1,000. I need not press upon your Grace the importance of the money being paid to him periodically (say monthly or quarterly) and not in a lump, otherwise the money would be wasted and our embarrassments begin again. The payment should spread over a year.

“Believe me, your Grace's very obedient servant,

“JOHN A. MACDONALD.

“His Grace The Archbishop of *St. Boniface*,
“*Manitoba*.”

That from the same evidence, it further appears that Sir *G. E. Cartier*, Minister of Militia and Defence, afterwards communicated with Archbishop *Taché*, requesting that *A. D. Lépine* should be included in the same arrangement, and that the Archbishop was, on his return to *Manitoba*, further requested by Lieutenant Governor *Archibald* to procure the expatriation of the said persons, and in order to make a sufficient provision for the maintenance of themselves and their families, the Lieutenant Governor procured from the *Hudson's Bay Company* the further sum of £600, and that the Archbishop thereupon induced *L. Riel* and *A. D. Lépine* to consent to the request of Sir *J. A. Macdonald*, Sir *G. E. Cartier* and *A. G. Archibald*, and they departed accordingly; and they and their families received for their maintenance said sums of \$1,000 and £600.

That thereafter, and during the General Election of 1872, *L. Riel* was contesting *Provencher* with Attorney General *Clark*, when, at the request of Sir *John A. Macdonald*, First Minister and Minister of Justice, Lieutenant Governor *Archibald* arranged that both the said Candidates should retire, in order that Sir *G. E. Cartier*, Minister of Militia, might be elected for the County; and he was elected accordingly, and publicly received and acknowledged the congratulations of *L. Riel* and *A. D. Lépine* on the event.

That from the same evidence, it further appears that Sir *John A. Macdonald*, First Minister and Minister of Justice, gave assurances to Archbishop *Taché* to his Quebec colleagues and others that he would, on his intended visit to *England*, press on Her Majesty's Government to take up the question, thinking that they might see their way to granting a complete amnesty without the Canadian Government being responsible for it, to which he had no objection, and which would, he believed, be loyally accepted by the Canadian people.

That in the opinion of this House, it is not for the honor or interest of *Canada* that the question of amnesty should remain longer in its present shape.

That in the opinion of this House, the facts developed in the said evidence cannot be ignored by the people or the Parliament of *Canada*, and must be considered in the expression of their views as to the disposition of the question.