

*THE RECENT
REBELLION IN NORTH-WEST CANADA.*

THE Rebellion in the North-West Territories would appear to have aroused little interest in England. Telegrams published in the London newspapers have been meagre and incorrect, and owing their origin generally to American sources, have been frequently misleading. All eyes at home have been fixed on the more stirring events in the Soudan or in the probabilities of war in Afghanistan, while the campaign in the Far West, undertaken at a day's warning, and brilliantly brought to a close in a few weeks, has passed by almost unnoticed.

Having, by General Middleton's request, accompanied him to the front as chief of the staff, I may be able to furnish some account of his operations in the Saskatchewan which may not be without interest. To understand them let us glance back at the events of fifteen years ago, and at the Red River Rebellion of 1870.

Louis Riel, a French Canadian half-breed, through the influence of Archbishop Taché was educated for the Roman Catholic Church. Riel first came into notice in the autumn of 1869 when, on the transfer of Prince Rupert's Land from the Hudson's Bay Company to the Government of the Dominion, he espoused the cause of the French half-breeds, or Metis, as they are called, and published a Bill of Rights, his chief assumption being that the Hudson's Bay Company had no legal power to hand over land, the property of Metis and Indians, to the Dominion Government without their formal consent. With some 400 'breeds' he established himself at Fort Garry, a Hudson's Bay post at the junction of the Red River and Assiniboine. He there proclaimed a provisional government, one of the first acts of which was the execution, or rather the cold-blooded murder, after a mock trial, of Scott, a settler who had dared to resist his authority. An expedition, consisting of a mixed force of British and Canadian troops, in all about 1,200 men, was organised for the suppression of the revolt, and during the spring and summer of 1870 Colonel Wolseley, with his birch bark canoes and voyageurs, was pushing up the rapids and over the portages of the Shebaudowan, and threading his way through Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods, and with him McNeill, Redvers Buller, and

to Battleford
127 miles

85 miles

Shuttle