

confer upon it. The French language was ignored in the Act, but this grave error was corrected two years after, in 1877. A jury of six was granted in criminal cases, but the grand jury and the mixed jury system which prevails in Quebec and Manitoba was refused. With the hon. gentlemen opposite lies, therefore, the responsibility of the position of Louis Riel, who, as matter of right, is not entitled to a trial by his peers. He is entitled to have only six jurymen, and among these he is not entitled to have three of his own countrymen. In 1877 new powers were given to the North-West Council by Order in Council :

"And whereas, by the third section of the said Act, it is further enacted that 'the Lieutenant-Governor, by and with the advice of the Legislative Assembly, as the case may be, shall have such powers to make ordinances for the government of the North-West Territories as the Governor in Council may, from time to time, confer upon him: Provided always, that such powers shall not at any time be in excess of those conferred by the ninety-second section of The British North America Act, 1867,' upon the Legislatures of the several Provinces of the Dominion;

"Now, in pursuance of the powers by the said statute conferred, His Excellency, by and with the advice of the Privy Council, has been pleased further to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council shall be and he is hereby empowered to make ordinances in relation to the following subjects, that is to say:—

"1. The establishment and tenure of territorial offices, and the appointment and payment of territorial officers;

"2. The establishment, maintenance and management of prisons and for the North-West Territories;

"3. The establishment of municipal institutions in the Territories, in accordance with the provisions of the 'North-West Territories Act, 1875 and 1877;

"4. The issue of shop, auctioneer and other licenses, in order to the raising of a revenue for territorial or municipal purposes;

"5. The solemnisation of marriage in the Territories;

"6. The administration of justice, including the constitution, organisation and maintenance of territorial courts of civil jurisdiction;

"7. The imposition of punishment by fine, penalty or imprisonment for enforcing any territorial ordinance;

"8. Property and civil rights in the Territories, subject to any legislation by the Parliament of Canada upon these subjects, and—

"9. Generally on matters of a merely local or private nature in the Territories."

I have heard it stated that hon. gentlemen opposite did nothing for the North-West during the time of their administration. I will not go so far; I am too much of an independent member to go that far. I will admit that the late Administration conferred upon the population of the North-West a constitution which is certainly worthy of admiration; but this is the only thing they did. That constitution is similar to the constitution of the old Provinces. To-day the Crown is represented in the North-West council very much in the same way as it is represented in this Parliament or in the Legislature of Quebec. There are two or