

some half-breeds, going up the coulée ahead of the police in order to head them off. When I got to the hollow, I called out to them: "Stay there." I tied my horse in the wood. We went up and stationed ourselves in the prairie, so that the police might not pillage the sides of the coulée. There we fought for a long time. With some of the Sioux and some half-breeds there were about fifteen of us. We remained about three hours and a-half. We fired slowly, but with steady aim. Then I said to those who were with me: "I will go and see our people"; and an Indian said to me: "Do not leave us; if you do, many of ours will run away." I held on for a while, and then said to them: "Try and fight by yourselves for a while; I will go and see our people, and I promise to come back to you. When I hear my men shouting sturdily I know they are in good heart, because God is helping them." Then I went down the coulée to the place where I had left the bulk of my people. There the police had already crossed the coulée with a cannon. I went into the thick bush where the horses were tied. There, towards the middle of the bush where our people were, there was a clearing. Meantime the police were firing at me with the cannon and rifles. There I stopped, where there were large trees, thinking how I could serve them, for it was too great a risk for me. I turned back and went again to the little party I had left. They were still there. We held out for a short time longer. Then I said to them: "We can do nothing for our people here; let us go higher up in the coulée. We started out, following the coulée. We went up a little higher than Donald Ross' house; we saw the Sioux who had fled in front. Then we took the groves towards the river, after crossing the road. We found two of our people mounted on one horse. Then we gave them a horse. All the Sioux were leaving us, and would not listen to us any longer. We stopped in the groves in sight of David Tourond's house. My people said to me: "Go by yourself and see if we cannot get to our people." I went. As soon as the police saw me across the coulée, they fired a cannon shot and rifles at me. Then I returned to see my people. When I got to them I said: "The only way of rescuing our people is to stay here until night. We can go and eat at Calixte Tourond's, and then in the night we shall attack. Then we went to the house, and food was prepared. Shortly before we began to eat, Moïse Ouellette and Philippe Gariépy joined us. Then I told them we intended to attack at night, and that I did not think many of ours would fall. Then we remained there. Moïse and Philippe told us that Mr. Riel was preventing the people from coming to our assistance; but their opinion was that Mr. Riel would not be able to prevent them. Then they said we ought to wait for our people who were coming. There were also some Sioux with us. Two of them started on horseback to see the fight, but they turned back and brought a wounded mare with them. The Sioux, Mad Bull, told me then that it was impossible to go there. Philippe told me the same thing, saying it was useless to go. I said to them again: "We shall not go in daylight, but at night." Then Moïse Ouellette said: "We must wait for our people yet; they will come." We waited a short time, and I said to them: "Let us talk the matter over," and, thereupon, we decided to return to meet our people, and we set out. We met Mr. Boucher a little beyond Roger Goulet's, with Edouard Dumont. They told us they were quite sure our people would come. We went on our way without stopping. Then we met our people coming to our assistance. Then we turned back, going slowly, in order not to tire our horses. Then I said: "Let us put the carts in front, and tell them to move on quickly." I took my position in the rear, in order to command them all. Meantime it was raining heavily, and I said: "We shall stop at Calixte Tourmond's and dry our guns." Afterwards we set out again. Some of our men wanted to hang back, and I ordered them to advance. When we got near the coulée, I left my party, in order to go on in front. There were people on the left side of the coulée, and others on the right. I hastened, with an Indian, Yellow Blanket, to a spot where there were two horses tied. I said to him: "Come down, nephew; let us each saddle a horse, so as to be ready sooner." He answered: "Saddle them both, and I'll watch here for you. While I was saddling Pierre Parenteau's horse, Philippe Gariépy came up to us. I gave him the halter strap, saying: "You take this one." Then I