

"with his fellow-citizens, to rally to the support of the Crown in the present emergency.

"Should Mr. *Riel* come forward as suggested, he need be under no apprehension that his liberty will be interfered with in any way; to use your own language, "*pour la circonstance actuelle.*"

"It is hardly necessary for me to add that the co-operation of the French half-breeds and their leaders in the support of the Crown under present circumstances, will be very welcome, and cannot be looked upon otherwise than as entitling them to most favorable consideration.

"Let me add that, in giving you this assurance with promptitude, I feel myself entitled to be met in the same spirit.

"The sooner the French half-breeds assume the attitude in question, the more graceful will be their action and the more favorable their influence.

"I have the honor to be, Rev'd Sir,

"Yours truly,

"(Signed,) A. G. ARCHIBALD,
Lieutenant Governor.

"Rev'd *Père Ritchot*,
"St. Norbert."

And subsequently, in reply to a letter to him on the same subject, from *L. Riel*, *A. D. Lépine* and *P. Paranteau*, caused the following letter to be sent:—

"GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
"Fort Garry, Oct. 8th, 1871.

"GENTLEMEN,—I have it in command from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge receipt of your note of this morning, assuring His Excellency of the hearty response of the Métis to the appeal made to them in his Excellency's Proclamation.

"You may say to the people, on whose behalf you write, that His Excellency is much gratified to receive the assurance which he anticipated in his communication with the Rev. *Père Ritchot*, and which your letter conveys, and that he will take the earliest opportunity to transmit to His Excellency the Governor General this evidence of the loyalty and good faith of the Métis of *Manitoba*.

"His Excellency will be pleased to be furnished, as soon as possible, with a nominal list of persons in each parish who desire to enrol for active service in the present emergency.

"His Excellency will rely upon their readiness to come forward the moment they receive notice.

"I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,

"Your obedient servant,

"W. F. BUCHANAN,
"Acting Private Secretary.

"To *M. L. Riel*,
"A. D. Lépine,
"Pierre Paranteau."

That from the same evidence, it further appears that the said *L. Riel*, *A. D. Lépine* and *P. Paranteau* accordingly raised a large body of men to assist in the defence of the Province, and marched them to the vicinity of *Fort Garry*, where they were received and their services accepted by the Lieutenant-Governor, who shook hands with *L. Riel* and *A. D. Lépine* as leaders of the force, and by a subsequent proclamation recognized their services; and the action of the Lieutenant Governor was not disavowed by the Canadian Government, which continued him in his place, and thereafter promoted him to the Lieutenant Governorship of *Nova Scotia*.