

APPEAL TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

P. C. No. 1743.

*CERTIFIED copy of a report of a Committee of the Honorable the Privy Council,
approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the 25th Sept. 1885.*

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a petition from Louis Riel, now under sentence of death at Regina, in the North-West Territories of Canada, through his counsel, Messrs. Lemieux and Fitzpatrick, asking that such steps may be adopted by the Governor General in Council as will allow him the necessary time to procure an appeal to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council from the sentence and judgment rendered in his case at Regina.

The Minister of Justice to whom the petition was referred for immediate action, reports with respect to the application for delay in order to allow the prisoner time to appeal to the Privy Council, that the Magistrate has postponed the execution until the 16th of October, and he recommends that Your Excellency be moved to communicate with the Right Honorable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view, if possible, to secure an early meeting of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in order that the question as to whether leave to appeal in this matter will be granted or not, shall be determined at the earliest possible time.

The Committee concur in the above recommendation of the Minister of Justice, and they submit the same for approval.

(Signed)

JOHN J. MCGEE.

Clerk, Privy Council.

IN THE PRIVY COUNCIL

In appeal from the Court of Queen's Bench for the Province of Manitoba,
Dominion of Canada.

LOUIS RIEL,

and

THE QUEEN,

Appellant.

Respondent.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

The humble petition of Louis Riel sheweth, as follows :—

1st. On the 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th days of July last, your petitioner was tried for the crime of treason before a stipendiary magistrate and a justice of the peace, with the intervention of a jury of six persons in the North-West Territories of the Dominion of Canada, and having been found guilty has been sentenced to death.

2nd. Your petitioner caused an appeal to be taken to the court of Queen's Bench for the Province of Manitoba, and that court has confirmed the sentence aforesaid.

3rd. Your petitioner feels aggrieved by the proceedings of the said courts for the following, amongst other reasons :

1st. The said stipendiary magistrate and justice had no jurisdiction to try Your petitioner for the crime aforesaid.

2nd. If they had jurisdiction in any case of treason, there was not in the case of your