

in the insane asylum. It may be asked how at that time he was allowed to remain the asylum. I answer that an amnesty for the crime of the murder of Scott had not been proclaimed, and there would have been no use in letting him free to become the victim of a bullet for that crime. (Ironical cheers from Opposition.) I hear hon. gentleman laughing. I wish they had been in the councils of their friends in Quebec, who came to me and said that the man interned as Louis David was really Louis Riel, and there would be no reason for setting him free. The other document I have is from Dr. Brunel, assistant of Dr. Hingston, of Montreal. He knew Riel at Beauport and in the United States. He says:—"I certify I have known Louis Riel both in Montreal and in the United States. During time he was interned at Beauport and after that I have been able to ascertain on divers occasions that outside of eccentricities in his manner, which were little to be noticed, he was perfectly lucid in his mind and sane in intellect, and spoke well on all subjects when he was not observed. I attest further that in my presence the said Louis Riel has been simulating insanity in such a manner as to leave no doubt in my mind as to the pretended character of his insanity." After that I do not think there can be any question on that point. (Hear, hear.)

If the evidence of the medical gentlemen can be believed, and we see no reason why it should not, then this man Riel was accountable for his actions during the rebellion, and was cunning enough to stam insanity years before when in danger.

"Third.—That the rebellion was excusable on account of hardships the half-breeds were suffering from neglect of duty on the part of the Government."

The evidence brought down is summed up in this.

#### THE HALF-BREED LAND CLAIMS.

It appears from a return presented by the Minister of the Interior that of 31 half-breeds of the Lake Qu'Appelle district who petitioned the Government in 1874 for land, sixteen had received scrip or land in Manitoba, six did not prove their claims, and nine received scrip certificates from the commission appointed last year. Of 147 residents of the Prince Albert settlement 36 had obtained their scrip in Manitoba, 71 did not prove their claims, and 40 received scrip from the commission. There were 276 half-breeds living in the vicinity of the Cypress Hills who petitioned, and of these 161 had obtained their scrip in Manitoba, 161 could not prove their claims and 14 obtained scrip from the commission. Of 17 settlers at Manitoba village who petitioned, five had obtained their scrip in Manitoba, four did not prove their claims, and eight received their scrip from the commission. Of 115 settlers at Fort Qu'Appelle who petitioned, 57 had received scrip in Manitoba, 14 did not prove their claims, and 44 received their scrip from the commission. In September, 1882, Gabriel Dumont and 45 mostly French half-breeds, settled on the west bank of the Saskatchewan, in the Prince Albert district, petitioned the Government, and of those 36 had obtained scrip in Manitoba and 10 did not prove their claims. From St. Louis de

Langevin a petition was presented, signed by 32 half-breeds, and of these 24 had obtained their scrip in Manitoba and eight did not prove their claims. Another petition from Fort Qu'Appelle bore 44 signatures, and of these persons 30 had obtained scrip in Manitoba, three did not prove their claims, and eleven obtained scrip from the commission. The rising, it will be remembered, was confined to the half-breeds of St. Laurent and St. Louis de Langevin, of whom 78 had petitioned the Government for scrip under the Act of 1879, and of these no less than 60 had obtained their scrip in Manitoba, and were entitled to nothing, and could legally receive no other treatment than that accorded other settlers in the North-West.

#### THE HALF-BREED CLAIMS.

The *Globe's* "own correspondent" at Kingston has had an interview with Dr. Lavell, and reports a conversation with him as to his interview with Riel. The rebel leader is described as making this remarkable declaration among others:—

"He, as a leader of the Metis, wanted the North-West for his people. He said, 'The Government have not treated us well; not this present one, but all of them.'"

This was Riel's constant claim: not that the present Administration had wronged the Metis, but that the Dominion authorities without exception had done so ever since acquiring the country from the Hudson Bay Company. And the wrong complained of was that Canada had dared to settle the country instead of leaving to the half-breeds and Indians the whole of the land, his share of which he offered to sell out for \$35,000, leaving his brethren in the lurch to push their several claims as best they could."

The debate went on from day to day till it ended with the sitting on March 24, when the Government was sustained by the magnificent majority of 94.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE VOTE.

By Provinces this majority was made up as follows:—

	Majority for Government.
Ontario.....	47
Quebec.....	8
Nova Scotia.....	13
New Brunswick.....	13
Prince Edward Island.....	3
British Columbia.....	6
Manitoba.....	4

By nationality the vote of Wednesday stands as follows:—

	For the Government.
English Conservatives.....	96
French Conservatives.....	26
English Liberals.....	24
Total.....	146

The vote against the Government stands as follows:—

English Liberals.....	24
French Liberals.....	11
French Conservatives.....	17
Total.....	52

Taking the French vote by itself it stood as follows:—

follows:—

French-speaking representatives voting against the Government.....	28
French-speaking voting for the Government.....	26

Majority against the Government..... 2  
As to creed it may be said every Irish Catholic and every Scotch Catholic but one in the House supported the Government.

Mr. Landry's motion was one expressing regret that the death sentence had been carried out in Riel's case. And the fact that the Government were supported by the largest majority they ever received upon a test question, will, we trust, induce those who created such an excitement a few months ago, to hereafter hold their peace.

#### YAKIMA RESERVATION, WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Wilber Spencer, a young Indian, educated on the Yakima reservation, Washington Territory, and at present clerk of the Indian court, writes as follows:—

"Civilization on the Yakima reservation is going down. There is now not exceeding fifty Indians, who are doing good work in the way of civilization, and continuing the great work, started by the Rev. James H. Wilber, our former agent. Horse racing, gambling, drumming, and Indian dancing, has been revived since he left, and has broken down the good work he started. General Milroy, our next agent to Wilber, did some good work teaching the Indians to take claims, and do like whites. An Indian came into my room, and I asked him some questions about their doings, in the old Indian ways, and of those Indians that are doing good work, and make living like white folks, and why they do not all do like white folks, instead of going around begging and starving? He said, that their way was agreed to with the Great Father at Washington, more than the others who are following the rules of civilization. There have been no houses built here since Agent Wilbur left us. The Indians liked him. He showed them how to build houses and barns, and helped them himself with hammer and nails. He would go out into the field and show them how to plow, by holding the plow himself. He would go to the saw mill and show them how to saw logs, by holding the lever and sawing the log for them. He showed them how to feed and take care of their cattle. When he was in his office, he welcomed all Indians who came to see him. He did not sleep in day time, or lock himself up, as our agent does now; or speak rough and act high-toned towards the Indians, or refuse to an Indian, unless he is good-looking fellow. This agent stays a few hours in the office and then he goes to his room, and none dares to go to see him. He talks about law and punishing Indians who are guilty, but never does it. Kotihen, who is a chief drummer, says this agent just suits him. I hope this agent (Mr. Byrnes) will stop all this bad business, and lead us in good education and civilization. *The Council Fire.*

A rich silver find is reported from Dakota.