

" Let me add, that in giving you this assurance with promptitude I feel myself  
" 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 Revd. Sir,

" Yours truly,

" (Signed,) A. G. ARCHIBALD,

" Lieutenant Governor.

" Revd. *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 Excel-  
" lency 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 that 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.

That from the same evidence, it further appears that Sir *J. A. Macdonald*, then First Minister of Canada and Minister of Justice, in Dec. 1871, after the Fenian Raid was over, entered into negotiations, through Archbishop *Taché*, with the said *L. Riel*, for his retirement from the Province of *Manitoba* for the space of a year, and for his maintenance during this expatriation out of the public funds of *Canada*, and in order to induce him so to retire, pointed out to the Archbishop that the proposed step would improve the chances of obtaining the amnesty from Her Majesty's Government, and stated that he would exert his personal influence to procure action in the matter by Her Majesty's Government, and that he would so far make *Riel's*