

(Translation.)

REPORT OF GABRIEL DUMONT ON THE BATTLE OF 24TH APRIL.

When we left this, we stopped near my place, to the rear. We said a decade of the rosary. Then we went on as far as Roger Goulet's.

There we killed a couple of cattle for food. After eating, we began to prepare to go to the enemy's camp. Mr. Champagne arrived. He said: "We must wait a little and see what is to be done." He reported police coming from the direction of Little Mountain, on the Fourche Road. There he asked us for thirty men to come here. He asked Mr. Riel if he would come with them. Mr. Riel consented, asking for forty men. Nearly all the people wanted to come away. In the end some fifty came. After eating at Roger Goulet's, we sent the Sioux out as scouts. We then went on to Tourond's Coulée. We halted on the other side of the coulée, upwards. I, myself, rode on further. I went out of the moonlight into a tuft of trees; I came back again, hearing nothing but the flute. When I got back to our people they were on their knees praying; I also knelt down. When they finished, our scouts had not come in. As it was nearly day I gave the order to leave the place; we set out, taking the road to the left in the groves of trees; we went as far as the first houses, McIntosh's. It was already day, and as I saw it was impossible to get at them during the night, I told our people my plan was to return. Then we returned back to a low spot. I then borrowed a horse in order to go with Napoleon Nault to see the enemy's camp and to try and induce them to follow us. We went to within about half a mile of the camp, which seemed to be disturbed. We came back then to our people. Then I ordered our people to start back again for Tourond's Coulée, saying: "We shall wait for them there." We killed an ox for breakfast, and got hay for our cattle. Before eating, we sent Mr. Gilbert Brelant to see if the enemy were coming. After we had eaten he came in. He said that the cavalry were coming on in front. We saddled twenty-seven horses. Then we went down the coulée and posted ourselves about half a mile from our people. There we waited some time. It was then between nine and ten in the morning. Sending out scouts on foot. Mr. Bte. Deschamps told us he saw a trooper passing alone and then some ten on the other side. Pierre Laverdure told us he had seen one also. We then mounted and prepared for a rush. While we were watching, one of them showed himself to me about 150 yards off. His horse turned sharp about and we rushed straight for him. Our men fired, as we started, two or three shots. I think they hit him at the first shot. He was no longer able to handle his horse; then I followed him and fired two shots at him. I turned then and made for the coulée towards our people. There we began exchanging shots with the enemy. We tied our horses lower down than the point where most of our people were. There we exchanged fire again for a short time. I then went to a little grove in order to fire at them again. The police then came down at once alongside a wood. I began to fire. There were four or five of us, we were nearly all scattered. I then went up the coulée and met some people coming down. They were nearly all Sioux. There I was told a Teton had been killed. I then went to the place where the bulk of our people were. I encouraged them, saying, "God is strong." Then I went to the place where the Teton had been killed. I asked him, "Are you dead?" He answered me: "No." I then went down the coulée passing near our people and encouraging them all the time, when I came near Maxime Lepine, he said he was troubled as to what he ought to do. I thought it was on account of the crucifix he had in his hands; I said to him: "Pray for the cause of our religion and for its glory." Just then I was told that Jerome Henry had been hit. Then some one called out to me that the police were going to charge; thereupon we made for a small hollow and drew back into shelter. There I remained a short time. Napoleon Nault called out to me: "Mr. Dumont, I think the Indians and the Sioux are going to run, you had better go and stop them." As I saw many of our people who were in good heart, I answered: "Yes, I'll follow them." When I got near the horses, I found a lot of the people there: Sioux, Crees and