

RIEL AND THE REBELLION.

FULL REPORT OF MR. MCCARTHY'S SPEECH AT BARRIE.

An Able Exposition of the North-West Troubles—Blake's Suppression of Important Facts—Who was Responsible for the Outbreak?—The Missing Chapters of Mr. Blake's Story Supplied From the Official Document.

Special to THE STANDARD.

BARRIE, Feb. 4.—At the meeting held in the Town Hall here to-night,

Mr. McCarthy, who was received by the large audience with the greatest enthusiasm, referred briefly to the debt, the annual expenditure of the country, and other topics. He then proceeded to deal as follows with

THE NORTH-WEST QUESTION.

I shall now proceed to deal at some considerable length with what is known as the North-West question, and I shall do so from the standpoint which Mr. Blake has adopted in discussing that question. Perhaps you may ask me how I know what Mr. Blake has said on this subject, as I was unable to be present when he made his speech in this hall a short time ago. Let me say here that I regret very much that I had not the opportunity of appearing on this platform with my opponent in this contest, Mr. Anglin, and still more do I regret my inability to be present, when the great leader of the Opposition thought proper to come into this country. For some reason or another, it is not Mr. Blake's practice to meet his opponents on the public platform. (Hear, hear.) Great are his powers of sarcasm; mighty as he is as a debater, and great as he appears to be esteemed by some people in this country as an orator, he apparently is not possessed of that kind of courage which defies his foes—that kind of courage which prompts a desire to meet his opponents face to face. (Hear, hear and cheers.) Far rather would he tell his story behind their backs, or far rather would he endeavor to string words, endeavor to paint them in the darkest colors, and represent his own case in the brightest hues, when no one is present to oppose him. If an opportunity had been afforded me I should have been glad to attend his meeting, but at that time I was engaged in Mr. Blake's own constituency of West Durham, and endeavoring to induce a friend of mine to oppose him in that riding, and had I not succeeded in that endeavor I would have had to take the field against him myself. (Loud cheers.) I had promised my friends in West Durham to be present, and I was endeavoring to induce a friend of mine to oppose him in that riding, and had I not succeeded in that endeavor I would have had to take the field against him myself. (Loud cheers.) I had promised my friends in West Durham to be present, and I was endeavoring to induce a friend of mine to oppose him in that riding, and had I not succeeded in that endeavor I would have had to take the field against him myself. (Loud cheers.)

A GREAT MISTAKE.

On the part of the Government of the country thus to deal with the half-breeds. While we were all willing to give them land upon which they would settle, or give them anything which would be of service to them, we all felt—and I think when I have explained the matter you will agree with me—was right—that we were wise thing to do, and an experiment that ought not to be repeated. But naturally enough, the half-breeds of the North-West, those who were not in Manitoba, and who were not thus settled with, felt that if the half-breeds of Manitoba were to get this scrip, they would be on a par with the white settlers, and under the common principles of justice, they should be treated with like consideration. That, at all events, was the way they presented their case. I hope Mr. Blake does not mean all he says, but I see that he ends his speech in the fairest possible manner. Now, these demands Mr. Blake says, commenced some time in 1878, because up to that time the half-breeds had not been interfered with to any great extent; he says that as settlement began to force its way up beyond Manitoba, the Government began to demand that they should be treated on terms equally favorable with those which their brethren in Manitoba had received from the Government. Now my first quarrel with Mr. Blake's statement is at this point. And I think a public man of Mr. Blake's standing—one who prides himself upon his honor and integrity, and his truthfulness—such a man, I say, speaking behind the backs of his political opponents, charging them, as he has charged the Government with treason in this matter, boasting that he told them on the floor of Parliament that they ought to stand on their heads, and that he had in former times public men for much less serious offences than would be brought to the bar of the House of Lords as criminals, and prevented from ever afterwards serving the Crown. I say this, because I think that Mr. Blake should be honest with the audience he addresses (hear, hear); he should not tell them half the story; he should not tell them the whole story, leaving his hearers to draw their own conclusions from the facts fully presented before them. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) And you do not say that he has misstated anything that he has said, but there is another way than that of conveying a false impression.

SUPPRESSION OF PART OF A STORY.

It gives quite a different color to the portion that is told, and may lead to entirely different conclusions from those which would be arrived at if the whole facts were disclosed. I think that when Mr. Blake states at Lindsay, and I suppose he made the same statement here—that the Government of Sir John Macdonald was the only Government which was responsible in this matter he did not tell you the whole truth as he ought to have done. I say that when he comes to his indictment against the late change of Government which took place in October 1878; when he says that the Government which assumed the reins of power at that date are the parties who are wholly and solely responsible in connection with this question, he suppresses a very important fact, and that is, that the half-breeds claim, (hear, hear and cheers); and I shall be able to prove to you beyond fear of contradiction that during 1874, and more particularly in the early part of 1875, the same question of the half-breed claims was presented to the late Administration, and was decided by the late Administration, who formed a clear and distinctive policy with regard to that question. And the very policy which Mr. Blake is now denouncing as having been cruel and unjust to those unfortunate half-breeds, was the policy which the late Administration, who formed a clear and distinctive policy with regard to that question, deliberately laid down at the very time that Mr. Blake was supporting that Government in the House of Commons. (Loud cheers.) Now if I prove that to be true, I think I shall have established that Mr. Blake has not dealt fairly by the people of this country, when he has made these statements without making any reference whatever to the earlier history of these transactions. If you or the people of Canada generally are to be asked to say by your vote or by your ballot that Sir John's Administration is guilty of neglect in this matter, it is only fair play that you should know in what condition they found this question when they came into office. The Government of this country do not and should not attempt to conceal all that the preceding Government has done. Under our system an administration by one party may succeed an administration by the other party, but no matter what party may be in power they are bound so far as acts of administration are concerned, to continue the Acts which were found in existence when they came into office, and to discharge the duties which they should know in what condition they found this question when they came into office. The Government of this country do not and should not attempt to conceal all that the preceding Government has done. Under our system an administration by one party may succeed an administration by the other party, but no matter what party may be in power they are bound so far as acts of administration are concerned, to continue the Acts which were found in existence when they came into office, and to discharge the duties which they should know in what condition they found this question when they came into office.

A FEW EXTRACTS.

because it is important, not merely in the interests of your content in this constituency, but important in the interests of truth and justice—important to the interests of this Dominion that these changes should be fairly and fully dealt with; and I ask you to follow me step by step through the various stages of this question, this I endeavor to do, but I am not responsible, and to what extent each party was responsible in connection with it. Now, on 11th September, 1874, the half-breeds of Lake Qu'Appelle petitioned the Government, and among other things they asked:

1st. That the Government allow to the half-breeds the right of keeping the lands which they have taken, or which they may take along the River Qu'Appelle.

2nd. That the Roman Catholic mission may have the free and tranquil enjoyment of its possessions, and that in all the privileges and rights of the half-breeds." Mr. Morris, who was then Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories forwarded the petition to Ottawa, with the following recommendation:

"The requests of the Metis with regard to the lands occupied by them, and as to the Catholic mission, who have a church and residence there, seemed reasonable, and I felt at liberty to reply in a manner to relieve their minds of anxiety as to their holdings, having been authorized by a despatch from the Minister of the Interior to that effect. I have accordingly directed to Bishop Grandin with regard to the Metis in the Saskatchewan district. I trust that the tenor of my reply with regard to this and other questions, treated of in the address in question, will receive approval."

So we find the matter dealt with by Government of the day, and whether Mr. Morris would so approve or not, and in fact, this question, although arising in 1874 was not settled until Sir John Macdonald came into power again. (Cheers.) I pass on, meanwhile, to another petition presented on the 19th September, 1877, and I will show you what request was made, asking you at the same time to bear in mind that this was just about a year before the Mackenzie Government met its downfall at the polls. On that date at Blackfoot Crossing Governor Laird received the following petition from the half-breeds, headed by John Munroe, after speaking of their condition he says:

"HONORABLE SIR.—It is with sentiments of intermingled hope and fear that we, the undersigned, your petitioners, approach you to-day. It is to claim your kind sympathy and help in our present deplorable circumstances that we undertake to present you this paper, and to that end we beg to say that we are, without which we humbly pray your Excellency would give the kindest consideration. Before the year of the smallpox, 1870, memorable for its disastrous effects on the native population of this country, we, your petitioners, although not rich, were, however, happy in our own land. We had small homes of our own near Edmonton, and cultivated the soil more or less. Hunting was plentiful, and we were encouraged by the Hudson Bay Company to follow it as much as possible, because their only interest in the country was to supply us with the only merchants amongst us, and this unique interest prevented them from giving any encouragement to the husbandmen, and consequently from bringing farming implements for sale, except very few, which were sold at such an enormous price that the poor man could not think of buying them. This was our only encouragement to farming was given by the ministers of the different denominations in our country, and their means also were limited. It was by their advice and assistance that we took to farming as such as our poverty would allow us. Our little gardens, our few hives, and the produce of our hunt supplied us with plenty, and we were happy. But the year 1870 came—that year so terrible to remember, in which the dire malady decimated the white population, and following Mr. Blake was famine. This combination of our misfortune, and the closing of our homes, and compelling us to lead an entirely nomadic life, as the Indians on the plains. Since that time we have had nothing to depend upon, but our guns. The game we kill feeds ourselves, and our families, and the fur we gather are our only means of support. We do not know, and God knows, we do not see how we are to rise above our present condition. It is on this account, hon. sir, that we now appeal to the charity you bear towards all your subjects. We hail your arrival as the opening of a new and better era in our history. We humbly approach you to-day, and beg you to help us, and to employ us in farming implements, and to see to begin with. We want to settle, and till the land, but we have no capital—nothing at all to start with."

No answer was vouchsafed to that humble petition, couched, as you perceive, in the most respectful and feeling terms. The Government of Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Mills being Minister of the Interior,

DID NOT THINK IT WAS WORTH WHILE to reply to that petition, although Governor Laird had recommended it to the consideration of the Government in very strong terms. Mr. Laird's representation on that petition is in the following words:

"This petition sets forth the destitute condition of these half-breeds, and prays that the Government receive some assistance from the Government in procuring agricultural implements and seed to enable them to commence farming. Their case is deserving of favorable consideration, inasmuch as though they have a large admixture of Indian blood, and have been living in a great measure like Indians, yet they are not Indians, and are entitled to Indian treaties. I at least deem it my duty to bring their petition under the notice of the honorable the Privy Council, as it appears to me that if any help is afforded them, it can only come through the Dominion Parliament."

The petition forwarded with that recommendation, but no reply was vouchsafed to it. I come now to the earlier part of the following year, and strangely enough the next petition presented was one in which Gabriel Dumont, who was Riel's first lieutenant in the rebellion which subsequently took place, was the leading petitioner. It says:

"That there be granted to each half-breed head of a family, and to the children who have not participated in the distribution of scrip and lands in the Province of Manitoba, a like amount of scrip and like land grants as in Manitoba; and that the sudden transition from their nomadic life, necessitated by the rapid disappearance of the buffalo, and the ordinance respecting hunting, of the North-West Council, have brought your petitioners to their last resources, and force them to apply to the Federal Government for assistance in procuring implements and seed grain, the assistance having been granted to certain foreign immigrants in the Province of Manitoba. Those instruments, besides being excessively scarce, are only sold here at prices so exorbitant that it is impossible for your petitioners to procure them, and the Government were unable to grant this help, many of your petitioners, however willing they might be to devote themselves to farming, would be compelled to take themselves to the prairies, at the risk of infringing the ordinance providing for the protection of the buffalo, and to hunt for food, since that time during which hunting was permitted to be so short and the buffalo now so scarce to enable them to lay in a sufficient supply and provide for their own needs and those of their families during the rest of the year."

Every half-breed language, but Mr. Blake did not tell you about that petition; he

and wayward profligate—(laughter), regarding the whole child with a feeling of horror. (Loud cheers.) Owing to the difficulties which arose at that period, culminating in the first Riel rebellion, a compromise was made with the half-breeds. They claimed that they were in a certain sense aborigines, and though not of the same race as the Indians, the Hudson's Bay Company, and although the Imperial Government had transferred it to Canada on payment of £300,000 sterling, they claimed that their particular rights ought to be respected and specially dealt with by the people of Canada. It was at that period, however, that we concluded that right for the sake of peace. We had said to the half-breeds of the North-West, whatever lands you have that you have settled upon; whatever lands Gabriel Dumont or any other half-breed has settled upon and made his home upon, shall be their own private and particular property; and as to that question there never was any claim or any dispute. Their claim was made with regard to what they called their territorial rights—rights not as to this lot or that, but rights which they claimed as the earlier inhabitants of the North-West; and now, when the price of scrip is set apart 1,400,000 acres of land for the half-breeds in the Province of Manitoba. Shortly afterwards this land was thus disposed of to them. They got what is called scrip, which entitled the holder or transferee of it to go to the Government land office and say, we have selected this particular lot of land—the price of which is so much, be it one dollar an acre or more—and we pay you that price by delivering up this scrip. The half-breeds of Manitoba got this scrip, but it did them but very little good. The Sir Richard Cartwright, the M. C. Camerons, and other leading settlers of that Province, West bought the scrip from the half-breeds for a mere song, and turned it into Government in payment of lands which they had selected. The people of Canada had to acknowledge the amount of the scrip, but the half-breed, half-breed here, for those benefits which he intended, sacrificed it for a mere trifle—sometimes it went into the hands of the trader in payment for a dress or necklace for the half-breed's wife, or rings for his own fingers—or bells for his toes—for anything I know. But by the common agreement of all who know anything about this matter of scrip, it is admitted that it was

and that they would get it. They were free men, standing on an equality with other settlers in the North-West instead of more dependants on a paternal Government. (Hear, hear and cheers.) I mean to say that the half-breeds had the same right to the land as the white settlers, and that the Government had no right to take it away from them. (Hear, hear and cheers.) At any rate, it does not lie in the mouth of Mr. Blake, or Mr. Mills, or of those who support the Government of whom they were members, to say that the policy adopted was an unwise policy because it was their own policy—(hear, hear)—granted at a much earlier period, formed before the half-breeds were so well attached to the methods of settlement and civilization as they are now. (Hear, hear and cheers.) Now, that was the great grievance of the North-West half-breed—that he did not get scrip; that he was not treated like his fellows in the Province of Manitoba. But I will not say that, because I do not want to imitate Mr. Blake if I did not tell you that there were other grievances, and these other grievances I shall explain to you. Another grievance was as to the manner of

SURVEYING THEIR LANDS.

You are aware that in the North-West the lands are surveyed in square blocks of forty chains each way, and that they are sold in quarter sections of 100 acres each. The half-breeds had been accustomed to the Indian mode of settlement along the banks of the rivers, on lots with the narrow frontage of ten chains each, and running back from the river fronts for a distance of two miles, just as the people of Quebec have their farms to-day; and they requested the Government to let them have this mode of settlement, that they would not be forced to take up square sections or quarter sections, but narrow lots stretching back from the river banks, according to the system to which they had been accustomed. Perhaps it may be said that that was a small matter after all, but I think we would all have regretted to find the Government of this country refusing a simple request of this kind. In the early days of the North-West surveys the policy of surveying these lots in that way was distinctly laid down in the Act of Parliament, and the half-breeds had settled before the surveyors had gone in to survey the country the land and lay out the lots according to the wishes of the half-breeds, and in the manner that his race had been accustomed to. (Hear, hear and cheers.) It was when the surveyors went in the general method of survey, and it would be found in the end, the better way was to be followed—the system which we had imported from the Western States of surveying in miles square. Now I don't think there are many of you who would not be glad to see the half-breeds have their own way in this matter. (Hear, hear and cheers.) However, difficulties occurred. Now let me draw your attention for a moment to the condition of things in the actual seat of the rebellion—because there are half-breeds scattered over the North-West in many places—at Regina, at Qu'Appelle, at Fort Carlton, at Prince Albert, at the Hills, at Prince Albert and other places. You must not let any man abuse your ears by summing up together the grievances or complaints of all the half-breeds of the North-West, because we have to deal only with those who were in the rebellion, and the half-breeds of the South Branch of the Saskatchewan in the neighborhood of Duck Lake. Now let us refer to the conditions of things in that locality. Of the half-breeds who broke out and took part in the rebellion there were found to be about 350, and of these there were I have said of two of their grievances. First, as to the scrip; secondly, as to the manner of survey; but there was a third—and that was the small payment which had to be made, in common with the other settlers, for the wood which they took off of lands adjoining their lots—land upon which they did not settle themselves. As I have said

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In rebellion and joined Riel; and I propose to deal with the case of those who were in the rebellion, and their position according to their rights and their position at the time the outbreak occurred. First let me tell you how many of these men were entitled to scrip, in any view you may take of the policy of giving them scrip at all. It is found on examination that of the 350 there were 150, according to the face of the earth in the space of a year or two. Buffalo skins to-day are rarer articles than the skins of the polar bear, and most of us remember the time when they were both plentiful and cheap. What were the people to do? There was but one thing to be done, and that was to settle on the land. Either that or they were to be treated as Indians and placed on the reserve, and they were afflicted civilized to scorn the idea of being treated in that way. Then, if they were to settle on land, the question was, how many acres would they need? It was a gift of 160 acres sufficient for them or not? Do you think they could use more than that if they had it? I don't think any person will say that 160 acres for each man of them was not all that they would possibly require, and those 160 acres were saved for every man of them, and that was the age of 18 years. (Cheers.) This was simply endorsing the policy of the Mackenzie Administration who said that the half-breeds were there with superior advantages to the new immigrants coming into the country, as they knew better the sweet spots of the North-West, and as a matter of fact, they were the best of the best of the country. And although if it could have been properly done I for one would have been willing to see them provided with

SEED GRAIN AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

we know very well that the white men who went up there, some of them perhaps quite as poor as the half-breeds, ignorant of the country and unaccustomed to its climate would have felt very strange indeed to see that such donations of seed, grain and agricultural implements were made to the half-breeds, but were refused to them. The half-breeds finally settled down on lands; they flocked to the best spots in the whole country—along the banks of the Saskatchewan, the most fertile of the North-West, as I am told; full of fish, and its fertile banks clothed with verdure—here for many miles downward from Prince Albert and in others of the finest portions of the country the half-breeds gradually settled.

THE GOVERNMENT SAID, WE SEE THEY GRADUALLY ACCUSTOMING THEMSELVES TO AGRICULTURAL PURSUITS AS HABITS; THEY ARE PARTIALLY ENGAGED TO WEIGHTING AND PARTLY ENGAGED IN CULTIVATING THE SOIL—AND YOU HAVE ONLY TO READ THE REPORTS OF SOME OF THESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, SHOWING THAT AN MANY OF THESE HALF-BREEDS HAD BEEN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF 1870 TO 1880, CREATED BY THEIR OWN INDUSTRY IN THE FOUR YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE REBELLION, TO FORM SOME IDEA OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH THESE PEOPLE HAD SETTLED DOWN TO THE ALTERED CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY. WE ARE ANY OF YOU WHO POLICY TO LEAVE THESE PEOPLE SOMEWHAT TO THEIR OWN RESOURCES TO MAKE THEM FEEL THAT THEY WERE FREE MEN, STANDING ON AN EQUALITY WITH OTHER SETTLERS IN THE NORTH-WEST INSTEAD OF MORE DEPENDANTS ON A PATERNAL GOVERNMENT—(hear, hear)—TO MAKE THEM FEEL THAT THEY HAD THE PRIVILEGE LIKE OTHERS OF TAKING UP LAND IN THE NORTH-WEST, SETTLING ON IT AND MAKING HOMES FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. I THINK THE SOBER COMMON SENSE OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY WILL ENDORSE THAT POLICY AS BEING AFTER ALL A WISER AND BETTER POLICY THAN THAT WHICH WAS ADOPTED WHICH SURROUNDED THE QUESTION, THAT WE HAD ADOPTED A POLICY WHICH WAS UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNED BY ALL THOSE WHO HAD THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR KNOWING THE CIRCUMSTANCES. (Hear, hear and cheers.)

AT ANY RATE, IT DOES NOT LIE IN THE MOUTH OF MR. BLAKE, OR MR. MILLS, OR OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF WHOM THEY WERE MEMBERS, TO SAY THAT THE POLICY ADOPTED WAS AN UNWISE POLICY BECAUSE IT WAS THEIR OWN POLICY—(hear, hear)—GRANTED AT A MUCH EARLIER PERIOD, FORMED BEFORE THE HALF-BREDS WERE SO WELL ATTACHED TO THE METHODS OF SETTLEMENT AND CIVILIZATION AS THEY ARE NOW. (Hear, hear and cheers.)

NOW, THAT WAS THE GREAT GRIEVANCE OF THE NORTH-WEST HALF-BREED—THAT HE DID NOT GET SCRIP; THAT HE WAS NOT TREATED LIKE HIS FELLOWS IN THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA. BUT I WILL NOT SAY THAT, BECAUSE I DO NOT WANT TO IMITATE MR. BLAKE IF I DID NOT TELL YOU THAT THERE WERE OTHER GRIEVANCES, AND THESE OTHER GRIEVANCES I SHALL EXPLAIN TO YOU. ANOTHER GRIEVANCE WAS AS TO THE MANNER OF

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THE GOVERNMENT SAID, WE SEE THEY GRADUALLY ACCUSTOMING THEMSELVES TO AGRICULTURAL PURSUITS AS HABITS; THEY ARE PARTIALLY ENGAGED TO WEIGHTING AND PARTLY ENGAGED IN CULTIVATING THE SOIL—AND YOU HAVE ONLY TO READ THE REPORTS OF SOME OF THESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, SHOWING THAT AN MANY OF THESE HALF-BREDS HAD BEEN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF 1870 TO 1880, CREATED BY THEIR OWN INDUSTRY IN THE FOUR YEARS PREVIOUS TO THE REBELLION, TO FORM SOME IDEA OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH THESE PEOPLE HAD SETTLED DOWN TO THE ALTERED CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTRY. WE ARE ANY OF YOU WHO POLICY TO LEAVE THESE PEOPLE SOMEWHAT TO THEIR OWN RESOURCES TO MAKE THEM FEEL THAT THEY WERE FREE MEN, STANDING ON AN EQUALITY WITH OTHER SETTLERS IN THE NORTH-WEST INSTEAD OF MORE DEPENDANTS ON A PATERNAL GOVERNMENT—(hear, hear)—TO MAKE THEM FEEL THAT THEY HAD THE PRIVILEGE LIKE OTHERS OF TAKING UP LAND IN THE NORTH-WEST, SETTLING ON IT AND MAKING HOMES FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. I THINK THE SOBER COMMON SENSE OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY WILL ENDORSE THAT POLICY AS BEING AFTER ALL A WISER AND BETTER POLICY THAN THAT WHICH WAS ADOPTED WHICH SURROUNDED THE QUESTION, THAT WE HAD ADOPTED A POLICY WHICH WAS UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNED BY ALL THOSE WHO HAD THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES FOR KNOWING THE CIRCUMSTANCES. (Hear, hear and cheers.)

AT ANY RATE, IT DOES NOT LIE IN THE MOUTH OF MR. BLAKE, OR MR. MILLS, OR OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF WHOM THEY WERE MEMBERS, TO SAY THAT THE POLICY ADOPTED WAS AN UNWISE POLICY BECAUSE IT WAS THEIR OWN POLICY—(hear, hear)—GRANTED AT A MUCH EARLIER PERIOD, FORMED BEFORE THE HALF-BREDS WERE SO WELL ATTACHED TO THE METHODS OF SETTLEMENT AND CIVILIZATION AS THEY ARE NOW. (Hear, hear and cheers.)

NOW, THAT WAS THE GREAT GRIEVANCE OF THE NORTH-WEST HALF-BREED—THAT HE DID NOT GET SCRIP; THAT HE WAS NOT TREATED LIKE HIS FELLOWS IN THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA. BUT I WILL NOT SAY THAT, BECAUSE I DO NOT WANT TO IMITATE MR. BLAKE IF I DID NOT TELL YOU THAT THERE WERE OTHER GRIEVANCES, AND THESE OTHER GRIEVANCES I SHALL EXPLAIN TO YOU. ANOTHER GRIEVANCE WAS AS TO THE MANNER OF

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and that they would get it. They were free men, standing on an equality with other settlers in the North-West instead of more dependants on a paternal Government. (Hear, hear and cheers.) I mean to say that the half-breeds had the same right to the land as the white settlers, and that the Government had no right to take it away from them. (Hear, hear and cheers.) At any rate, it does not lie in the mouth of Mr. Blake, or Mr. Mills, or of those who support the Government of whom they were members, to say that the policy adopted was an unwise policy because it was their own policy—(hear, hear)—granted at a much earlier period, formed before the half-breeds were so well attached to the methods of settlement and civilization as they are now. (Hear, hear and cheers.) Now, that was the great grievance of the North-West half-breed—that he did not get scrip; that he was not treated like his fellows in the Province of Manitoba. But I will not say that, because I do not want to imitate Mr. Blake if I did not tell you that there were other grievances, and these other grievances I shall explain to you. Another grievance was as to the manner of