to come over and hear his fellow-country men on the banks of the Saskatchewan But I think there is evidence to show that there were others than the halfbreeds mixed up with the matter. (Hear, hear.) Men who have escaped far too easilymen who were willing to go just so far as they dare go, but who remained in the background, and pushed on these unfortunate and untutored halfbreeds, hoping to make them the cats-paws, who were to pull the chestnuts out of the fire. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I find here evidence to prove that at that very date correspond ence was going on between the organiza tion, known as the Farmer's Union, and some of the whites in Prince Albert, which I think seems to indicate that they had some hand or part in this matter ;

and for my part I am prepared to believe -I don't know how it occurs to you—that the money which went to pay the expenses of these halfbreeds going to Montana came out of the pockets of some of the white rebels wno were then living in Prince Albert. (Loud cheers.) On the 18th of June, 1884, about the time these men had gone to Montana—Riel came over on the 8th of July—a letter was written by a man named Mack Howe to George Purvis, secretary of the Farmers' Union, from which I will read you some extracts: "Dear Sir,-I think there has not been

since the commencement of the agitation a better time to strike than the present. Everything seems ripe for it. I am certain seven-eighths of the people of Winnipeg are in our favor, and I am certain four or five hundred good men will accomplish our object without any difficulty whatever. The fact of the matter is this, we have nothing to resist us, the military here is nothing more than a pack of boys, and we have easy access o the store rooms. We had a small meeting to-night, and the parties present were unanimous f making a strike at once. I think that if we delay we will not only be losing ground, but the thing will never be accomplished. I would like to know the possible number of men who can be got from the country to assist the scheme I hope you will come to some definite conclusion at your council meeting.

I give you that as one piece of evidence in support of my view that behind the halfbreeds, egging them on and furnishing them with money, were some of

THE WHITE PEOPLE OF PRINCE ALBERT (11 ar, hear.) Why were they doing this, you may ask? Times were hard; it was one of the worst years that the traderand others in that locality had experienced, and they were anxious that the Government should give this scrip to the halfbreeds, and why? Where would this scrip have gone? Who would Who would have reaped a profit out of it? Who else but the traders and speculators of Prince Albert, and those were the men who were stirring up this demand for scrip so that they would make some money out of it, while the demand was being ostensibly in de in the interests of the halfbroods themselves. (Hear, hear and lend cheers.) But I will give you some more evidence, Jackson, the man who afterwards became Rie here retary, wrote a letter to Riel on that Rel came into the country on the ash of July, so that it was hardly possible that the plot was hatched subsequently to his actival in the North West. Here is an extract from this letter : Maclise wrote privately to Blake ask-

ing him not to stop at L. Clarke's, and Blake wrote back that his health would not permit him to visit the North-West this summer. Your vist may cause him to change his plans, but I can keep posted through Mactise, who has kept up a cor-tespondence with him since 1882. Fisher is my lientenant among the young men of the place, and keeps me posted as to the co emy's movements in that quarter. I think Deacon, who is a Methodist, has esen Mr. Parker, but Mr. Parker is too sound in principle to be lost to us. Mr. McWilliams, the Presbyterian minister, who has hitherto been a Liberal, stated tast night at supper table, that he has yet to learn what our grievances are."
I wish Mr. Bake would only read

this opinion by a Presbyterian clergyman, who was up there at the time, who saw what was going on, who belonged to Mr. Blake's own political persuasion, and who says "he has yet to learn what our grievance are." (Hear, hear ) The letter goes on :"It is the misfortune of clergymen that

they see only one ride of a man's character, and Mr. Sproul is a prominent pillar of the Presbyterian church; yet Mr. McWilliams is too good a man, I think, to be blinded for any length of time. I will leave him to form his opinion from events, and our petition may calighten him as to our grievances."

And so on. This long letter was written on the 25rd of July, 15 days after Riel came into the country—written by this man Jackson, who afterwards became Riel's secretary, plainly showing that at all events at that date, no matter what Rief's pretences were, no matter how fairly and plausibly he spoke, no master that he assumed to be heading a constitutional agitation, they had secretly and de iberately determined on open rebellion. (Hear, hear.) Now let me show you how the Government were misled with regard to the aspect of affirs at that time. had communications from a true friend of the half-breeds in the North West, Father Audre, who was there on the spot; he kept the Government informed from time to time on the nature and extent of the agitation, and I will read to you what Father Andre said with regard to Riel, and the manner in which he was conducting this agitation, when we now know that he was imposing on the good father, openly pretending to be a peaceable and public spirited man, while secretly he was plotting treason not merely against the crown, but what perhaps was in some re spects worse-plotting treason against the unfortunate half breeds, who were trusting him to the fullest extent. On the 7th

FATHER ANDRE WROTE TO THE GOVERNOR of the North-West Territories in the fol-

"Your Honor.—Your telegram affords me an opportunity to write you about an event of which you are sure to receive several different accounts, which will be colored according to the views and interests of the persons writing to you. I assure you I have no other de-sign in writing to you than to keep you informed about the true state of things. Riel and delegates have arrived from across the line. The news may surprise and alarm vou about the tranquility of the country, but you can set your mind quiet about that, and have no fear of any disturbance in the country. You know I am known to be a friend of Mr. Riel, and I look to the event of his arrival among us as a danger to the peace of our community, but now I do not entertain the least suspicion about Riel causing any trouble. He acts quietly and speaks wisely. From all the reports I heard about him, he blamed Charles Nolin for having refused to present your Honor with an address I enclose here the report of the delegates sent to Mr. Riel, and, too, the answer of Mr. Riel for his reasons accepting the request of the people of the Saskatchewan to come and see them in order to help them to obtain their rights from the Government. You will see that answer is suitable, and smells not of treason. These documents, of which I send you true copy, were handed to Louis Schmidt, as secre tary of the committee appointed to organize last spring a deputation to Mr. Riel. L. Schmidt has been kind enough to provide me with a copy of these documents, which are to be made known at the meeting to be held next Tuesday at the South Branch, among English halfbreeds. Mr. Riel is to come there. I think it is important that you

documents, which will show you Riel means no mischief. You will receive alarming reports about the danger in which the country is, in consequence of Riel's arrival. Do not believe a word. Those persons will be very glad that you should commit some rash act. They will send and advise you to have Riel arrested. For God's sake, never commit such an act, before you have good motives to justify such an act. A good many persons will urge you to send here 200 or 300 police-They will be glad to see the Government go to expenses, because that will be so much money put in their pockets. Nothing, so far, requires to send one more man to keep the peace of the country. The halfbreeds, English, as well as French, understand too well the foolishness, and the consequences of rising in a rebellion against the Government, and Riel seems really to act by good motives, and to have no bad design. A man will not bring his wife and children along with him, if he intended to raise a rebellion, and Mr. Riel has brought his wife and his little children with him, and that is the best proof that he has no bad intentions I write you in earnest and tell you my sanguine conviction, that there is no dan ger of any trouble if you but quiet Mr. Riel, but if you or any official interferes with him or try to have him arrested

there is almost a certainty of trouble, and halforeeds and Indians will join together so, as long as Mr. Riel conducts himself quietly, why trouble him and raise the anger of the people?

The same worthy priest, later on, on the 21st of July wrote another communication couched in still stronger terms. I

will read some portions of it to show what

Riel was doing and pretending to the

people on the Saskatchewan and more especially to this priest of his own Church.

"HONORABLE SIR,—Since my last letter to your honor nothing has happened to disturb my belief that Riel, in coming to this country, has not any bad design in view. He has acted and spoken in a quiet and sensible way every time he has had an opportunity of appealing before the public, and no one can point out any act or ord of his which is liable to create any disturbance in the country. All his endeavours, so far as I know, are to make the people understand that in answering to their call he has no other object than to help them by legitimate and peaceful means. Riel, he says himself, of 1869 and 1884 are quite two different men. We have now in the country a regular government which exists by authority of Her Majesty the Queen; in 1869 he made a stand against Canada, which wanted to take possession of the country without any previous agreement to secure the rights of the people of Manitoba and the North-West but to say the North-West is an integral part of Canada, and having the experience almost nine years spent in the States, he is able to assure his countrymen, the halfbreeds, they are better off on this side of the line, and does not wish them to become Americans. He has passed through a hard school in which he has learned a good many useful lessons, and the one he sets to heart is to remain quiet and to work for his fellow-countrymen by open and fair ways. Everywhere Riel goes he is creating the most favorable im pressions in his favor, and with the exception of ten or twelve prejudiced persons, he seems to be very popular, not only among t the French, but also amongst the English population.

Then Father Audre says in another part of his long letter :"To-day these men have failed, and have seen their expectation to see a riot fall down, and they are greatly disap pointed, and will try to represent things under a black cloud, not according to real facts, but according to their imagination: they will try to distort the simplest things, and will represent Riel as bound to disturb the peace of the country; but, fovernor, as an honest man, I tell you Riel has no other purpose than to help the people ia their difficulties. He strongly advocates peace and union among ill the several sections of the country. have not heard a hard word fall from his What are his purposes? They are a good many and require a long time if he wan ed to see them carried out. 1st. He wants the hal breeds to have a free grant to the land th wants to agitate to have the three districts of Saskatchewan, Alberta, Assinibois erected into provinces, or at least to have each district represented in Parliament : he wants to have the land laws amended to suit more the rapid settlement of the country. These, as far as I remember, were the leading points to which he addressed the people of Prince Albert last Saturday. I went to hear him and I may say that he speaks well and eloquently; he speaks fluently English, and his ex pressions are just and correct. He created a great sensation and was immmensely applauded all through his long address, and his opponents are obliged to credit him with much talents and a clever way to bring the people over to him. I could not help admiring him to see how situated as he was, he overcomes all the difficulties which surround him, and draws the sympathies of the assembly towards him. What would be the end of all this? The end will be that for a time we will have plenty talk, plenty meetings, plenty petitions, and after a time the excitement will get over and we will become calm as usual. and Riel who is our wonder to-day, will become a common mortal for us, and we will be as much advanced as we are to-day, nd these great reforms will become stale things, and the big men will go down. That, sir, is my impression of the present state of things. We wanted some What will be the result of all this? The thing to occupy us for awhile talking about him, and put an end to the talk about the crops, and the poor prospects before us to have a good one. Now, as far as my opinion is worth any-

thing, I advise strongly net Government to interfere with Riel as long as he keeps quiet. I cannot hide from you that his influence for good or evil is great among the halfbreeds, French as well as English; he has a great many advantages even among the white population, and the Inin the North-West will remain quiet as long as the halfbreeds will not set bad example to them. They all look on Riel as their leader, and the Government ought to act wisely not to create an out-break by any rash act of theirs. I am convinced there is not any danger of disturbance. The arrival of Riel has acted as a calm on all the agitated minds, and all his words are to advocate peace and good feeling among all the people in the

country.' These were the communications which this worthy gentleman in obedience to his duty to keep the Government informed of what was passing, wrote from time to time to Lieutenant Governor Dewdney, and by him communicated to the Government at Ottawa. After a little while the scene changes. Seven public meetings in all were held. At all these meetings Riel was the hero-wise and prudent of counsel, eloquent of tongue, recommending various reforms—the sensation of the hour. But no word of rebellion, no word of any unconstitutional methods, and they seem to have understood perfectly the difference between a constitutional agitation and open war-while all this time he was

SECRETLY DRILLING HIS MEN. and preparing for an outbreak. But Riel began to despair, and here let me read you a document, referring to demand the refusal of was the real cause of the outbreak. It is a letter which was sent to Major Crozier, of the Mounted Police by Inspector Howe, and was sent by Major Crozier to the Governor of the North-West. Mark you. this was in the month of December, 1884, and the outbreak occurred in the March

following:
"SIR,—I have the honor to report that should know these Mr. McDowell, member of the North emotion and a conviction which grined for the skill of General Middleton has was

West Council, returned yesterday from St. Laurent, to which place he went, accompanied by Pere Andre, at the request of Louis Riel, who wished to hold a conversation with him as member for the dis-

trict. "Riel stated that he was thinking shortly of returning to Montana if the Government would only give him the means to do so; he further stated that he wished representation made to the Government that f a certain sum was paid to him in cash (Mr. McDowell seems to think he would accept \$5,000) hs would at once leave the country. He says he has such influence with the half-breeds that any rights they think they have or claims upon the Gov ernment would be at once dropped by them if he advised them to do so.
"He says he is very poor and has actu-

ally nothing to live upon, and if he cannot procure means to leave the country as well as something to settle upon his wife and family, he will starve, which might make him desperate. As soon as the Government gives him

what he asks for, he will, he says, give up all connection with the other half-breeds, in fact throw them all over, and pledge himself not to return to this country.
"His influence among the halfbreeds i

very great he mays, and that they will obey him most implicitly in whatever policy he may assume, politically or other wise. He says he should like to see Sir John, but cannot procure the means to go to Ottawa,"

Now let us look at the character of the man-a man who in public was all for peace—wise, prudent, a leader of the people, disinterested, anxious to direct them, but who secretly was hatching treason against the Government, secretly was willing to betray the halfbreeds for a sum of money, to abandon their cause and throw them over for ever. Riel himself was the halfbreed grievance. (Hear, hear)
The claim to be settled was his claim; settle with Riel and the whole grievance was disposed of. (Hear, hear and cheers.) Now, was that man a lunatic? On the contrary was he not very shrewd and wise? Perhaps not a very noble character, perhaps not a man to be admired, when we see through and through his character, but looking at him as we now see him and know him, will any man pretend to say that Riel was a lunatic, or that he was not just as responsible for his acts as any man who is listening to me. hear.) Well, there is another interview with Nolin, a halfbreed like himself, but who declines, however, to go into rebellion as Riel desired, or to abandon the safe ground of constitutional agitation; and to Nolin and Father Andre made another proposition. First he said he wanted \$100,000; afterwards he would take \$35,000 and leave the country, and in so many words be said that if he got this money he would throw over the halfbreeds altogether. (Hear, hear.) Now I ask you if it is fair to charge on the Government the responsibility for the rebellion? Ought the Government, in the face of the language they had from Father Andre, to have arrested Riel-Father Andre who knew more than almost any man about his movements, who reported from time to

RIEL WAS ALL FOR PEACE, who wrote on a subsequent occasion that at a banquet which was held he proposed the health of Her Majesty the Queen, and who told the Government that if he were interfered with it would only lead to disturbance. The so-called halfbreed grievance was Riel himself, and I ask you could the Government be blamed under the circumstances? Riel says pay methis money and I will go to the United States, or to Quebec or any place else you please, and never came back again; he would advise his deluded followers to go to their homes and there would be no disturbance. I say that no reasonable man can accept the proposition which Mr. Blake endeavors to lay down as to Riel's not having been the cause of the outbreak, and that the Government were themselves responsible for it. Things went on from day to day, and at last we are told that Nolin, anxious to prevent any disturbance, suggested to Riel in council that before they broke out they should have a novenu, or nine days prayer. Riel objected very strongly to that, because he was afraid that the halfbreeds would again come under the influence of their priests whom respected and honored as spiritual guides and direc-He succeeded in keeping many their tors. away from the novena, and before the nine days had expired he had commenced the rebellion and had committed an act of treason. But to show you that even in September the bishops and

PRIESTS HAD BECOME SUSPICIOUS, let me read you an extract from a letter written on the 16th of that month and published in The Manitoba, giving an account of a meeting which was held at St. Laurent :-

The Manitoba is the organ of the population of French origin, not only of this province but also of the new provinces North-West, and we are always pleased to open our columns to friends of our cause and of our rights. Here is the last letter of our correspondent, dated the

16th September, 1884: "SIR,—I think I shall interest your readers by giving them a short report of the great meeting held at St. Laurent on the 5th September. This meeting was composed of French halfbreeds from all urrounding parishes, and had been called for the purpose of respectfully submitting to his lordship Mgr. Grandin and to the other members of the clergy of the Diocese of St. Albert, regret at not having their co-operation in the movement going on to-day to obtain from the Federal Government what the halfbreed population claims to be cutitled to. There was also present at the meeting His Lordship Mgr. Grandin, Bishop of St. Albert; Rev. Father Fourmond, of the St. Laurent Mission; Rev. Father Lecocq, of the Mission of Cumberland. Mr. Louis Riel was appointed president

of the meeting, the object of which relates to these two questions :- lst. Why do the clergy keep out of the movement going on to-day, and even seem hostile to it? 2nd. Are the claims of the halfpreeds upon the Government good, just and legitimate?

"Mr. Gabriel Dumont briefly stated the uncasiness felt by his compatriots at the abstention of the clergy from taking part in their deliberations. 'Our intentions,' he said, 'are wrongly interpreted or wrongly understood, and the abstention of the clergy from coming to our aid can only be injurious to us. Mr. Dumont, overcome by emotion, begged His Lordship to direct and enlighten them, adding that his voice, always respected as that of God, would be listened to wish the same

docility as in the past. "The venerable prelate deigned to reply mmediately that if, for some time, the relations between the clergy and the halfbreed population concerning the events which have arisen have seemed cool, indifferent even, still this reserve in no way proved a diminution of affection and charity, but was only the effect of absolute prudence, necessary under present circumstances, in view of the mystery with which the proceedings up to that day had been surrounded—mystery which not only left the clergy without sufficient light to pronounce intelligently, but also necessarily gave rise to serious suspicions, to fears and alarms really painful. Speak-ing plainly, added his Lordship, tell us what you want and we shall tell you what we think. If justice is on your side, we will help you with all our might, as we have always done in the His Grace was listened to with

respect and a religious attention.
"Mr. Charles Nolin spokenext, with an

him the most sympathetic attention. He said he bitterly deplored the painful abandonment in which the halfbreed population were left by those in whom they had always found devoted friends and fathers while such an important question for this population is agitated. They are all the more sensible of this abandonment, because they have an invincible faith in the rectitude of their instructions and in the justice of their cause. Mr. Nolin concluded by a statement of the principal points, showing the basis of their claims on the Federal Government. Our demands he said, must be made respectfully, no doubt, but they must also be made with earnestness, force and perseverance—no rebellion; this mode has never been seriously in the minds of anyone, because it would be a crime; we will

keep to legitimate means.
"His Lordship again declared his affection and devotion to the well-being of his flock on all occasions, when the rights of religion, of honor, and of justice were not compromised by their mode of action. Then there is a discussion upon certain local questions in regard to schools,

which is immaterial. Then: "'Mr. Riel, president of the meeting, spoke next. In order, he said, to com-pletely dissipate all misunderstanding, to take away all bad suspicion, and especially to show the value and importance of demands, I will give a statement of our principal claims.

"1. A sub division of the North-West Territories into provinces. "'2. For the settlers of the North-West

the same advantages as those granted in 1870 to the settlers of Manitoba. "'3. A grant of 240 acres of land to the halfbreeds who have not yet received that grant from the Government.

" '4. An immediate gratuitous grant by letters patent to the proprietors who oc-cupy them, of the lands of which they are in possession. "'5. The offer for sale by the Govern

ment of half a million acres of land, the products of this sale to be placed at interest and applied to the aid of halfbreeds in the establishment of hospitals, orphanages, schools, etc., or in supplying the poorer persons with ploughs or other agricultural mplements and in distributing seeds in the

spring.
....6. The reservation of aboutone hundred townships chosen in the swampy lands which are not likely to be settled for a long time. These lands are to be dis tributed to the halfbreed children of the eoming generation and during 120 years, each child to receive its share when it reaches the age of eighteen years.

"7. A subvention of at least one thou sand dollars to sustain an establishment of nuns in each place where a great number of halfbreed families are established.
"'8 An amelioration in the conditions of labor asked from the Indians, and a greater care of their persons, so as to pre-

vent their dying of hunger.

I point out to you that according to this their own clergy were suspicious even in September because of the mystery of their movements, that there was something underhand in their proceedings, and that the people complained of the withdrawal their confidence from them. Now I think I have established to you that while Riel was openly and ostensibly pretending to be in favor of constitutional agitation, he was really fomenting rebellion for the purpose of getting a chance of selling out, and making money at the expense of his halfbreed followers. (Cheers.) Now, I think, I may say with regard to this North-West question, that I have established what I set out to prove. I have, I think, shown you that the Government of this country were uet responsible for the rebellion. I think, I have shown you that if they erred, they erred in common with the Mackenzie Administration, which Mr. Blake supported, and which was represented in these transactions by Mr. David Mills, then Minister of the Interior. I think I have shown and that most of you will agree, that the Government acted on the whole wisely and well; and there is but one action on the part of the Government which—speaking for myself—I do not feel

they were on the eve of an outbreak, they

yielded-

IN THE HOPE OF AVERTING BLOODSHED so far as to order that commissioners should be sent to the North-West with a view of giving the halfbreeds their scrip. I think if any part of the action of the Government is worthy of condemnation that is the one which is least capable of support. (Hear, hear.) They had, I think, acted wisely in refusing to listen to these demands for scrip, but as Sir John Macdonald said on the floor of Parliament, "When we became convinced that a rebellion was being hatched, that those men were being drilled, that there was likely to be an outbreak, that blood was likely to be shed, we said, anything at all to avert the horrors of civil war, and he gave directions that an enumeration of the halibreeds should be made with a view to their receiving scrip as had the halfbreeds of Manitoba. That view was conveyed to Riel and Nolin, but it was deliberately withheld from the unfortunate halforeeds by the arch traitor, who feared that if this announcement was made to them it would dissipate the band he had so carefully collected and drilled: and these men, if they were to any extent actuated in going into the rebellion against the Government by a desire to obtain this scrip, went into the fight supposing that the scrip had still been denied them, I say that for my own part I would feel better able to stand up to-night and justify every act of the Government, if I had been able to tell you that the Government even at the eleventh hour had not yielded to these importunities even for the sake of peace-great and important as that object was. Some of you may perhaps differ from me and think that anything was better than war, but at any rate it did not avert the outbreak. I think the Government would have acted more wisely if they had searched deeper for the cause of the trouble. They knew what Riel's claim was, and they dare not have given him a single dollar. No Government dare repeat the old trick of buving off Riel, and there is not a man in Canada but would say that he would rather incur the risk of a rebellion with all its cost in blood and money, than have bought off Riel with \$5,000, or five thousand cents or five cents. (Loud cheers.) Now we come to the sequel of this unfortunate business Our people, as we know, rallied to the call with singular unanimity. Men of all classes and parties did all that could be expected of true patriots in that hour of trouble. Our gallant volunteers sprang to arms, and our Canadian militia was mobilized within a time, so limited, that to military men it seemed extraordinary. A commissariat was provided under circumstances of very great difficulty, so that in that respect our men did not suffer any hardship. But we know that on the long and in some respects terrible march to the North-West -partly in the cars with the thermometer twenty degrees below zero, and partly tramping through the slush and snow on the north of Lake Superior-we know our men endured great hardship and suffering;

HOW WELL OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS acquitted themselves: we know how long and gallantly they withstood at the deadly rifle pits of Batoche the steady fire of a concealed enemy; we know that the advance on Batoche was not so much due to

the North-West we know

we are proud of them for their conduct.

and we are proud of our country to know

that it can produce so noble a race of men.

made at the instigation of the men themselves (cheers) that as one particular battle of the Crimea was called the soldier's battle so our gallant volunteers said at Batoche that sooner than be peppered from day to day by the galling shot of a hidden foe we will take our lives in our hands, rush over the open plain and end the thing one way or the other-and they did so and you know the result. (Prolonged cheers). I will not dwell on the glory of that achieve ment. I have sometimes thought, and I still think, that although blood was spilt, and although tears were shed in many homes for the death and the wounds and the sufferings of our gallant volunteers, although large sums of money were expended in putting down that rebellion, yet; we are a greater people to day by reason of the fact that we have exhibited to the world the fact that Canada, small as she is, numbers among her children men as brave and as strong to defend their homes and resist encroachment on their rights, as the noble races from which they have

(Loud cheers.) And it may sprung. be perhaps that in the difficulty which is just now unfortunately arising with regard to our fisheries-it may be worth something in the preservation of peace for the Americans to remember that Canadians as they did in the days of Brock, so they did in the days of Riel—(cheers)—to remember that as they did then they are prepared to do now—(cheers)—to defend their hearths, their homes and their rights; that they are prepared to defend their fisheries—(prolonged cheers) -which are the property of Canada as much as are the cattle in her fields: and that if the Americans will not deal fairly and rightly by us, we at all events will not surrender without a struggle. (Loud cheers.) But

THE REBELLION HAVING BEEN PUT DOWN Riel was tried, and was there a man in all Canada who did not call out for his trial. I don't think there was a man, even in the Province of Quebec, who did not say that Riel should be tried—fairly tried, it is true—but that he should be tried and tried speedily. And who amongst us all called most loudly for his trial? Why, the very men who have now turned around and told us that Riel was justified in that rebellion; the very men who, like Mr. Anglin, are denouncing me in this country as the candidate of the Government who hanged Riel. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) These were the men who hounded on the Government to try Riel, to see that his trial was properly conducted on the part of the Crown, so that by no slip on the part of the Government could he escape the meshes of the law. The Globe accused the Government of having entered into a conspiracy for the acquittal of Riel. It demanded first the trial; next the sure conviction, and finally the speedy con-demnation and execution of Riel; The London Advertiser, The Hamilton Times, and all the Reform press, required at the hands of the Government that Riel when convicted should be hanged. His counsel at the trial set up the plea of insanity, but to that unfortunate man's credit, be it said, he stood up in the dock and said "I want no defence on the ground of insani; I am not an insane man; I onew what I was doing at the time, and I know what I am doing now," and now it is insinuated-and perhaps truly,

that he could have made A BETTER DEFENCE. for himself than his counsel made for him. Though it is true that they had a right to set up the plea of insanity, are we to suppose for one moment that the man who from July to March had been constantly meeting all those invilligent mon at these gatherings-men of all classes and nationalities—had passed among them as a man perfectly sane and in full possession of his reason, was yet all the time a jabbering lunatic Is it possible that these men who joined his standard and formed his council could be so deceived in him as to place themselves under the leadership of a lunctic Is it possible that the man who conceived these resolutions, who drew up these petitions-which by the way never were forthe same confidence in endorsing, and that is, that at the outbreak wards formed a council or provisional govof January, when they became convinced the greatest skill—as the military men tell from the intermation they received that us he did—is it possible for such a man to

have been insane? If so, why did we never hear the truth of it until his counsel went up to defend him?—(hear, hear) and when, having no other defense, they sought for some plea or excuse. Men of my profession you know are bound to do that. (Laughter and cheers.) If Riel had had a good meritorious defense you would never have heard a word about his insanity, but when a criminal is caught red-handed, when there is no possibility of proving an alibi, when you cannot set up a defence which the most sympathetic jury would accept, then set up the plea of insanity. plea was not set up in his case, but, fortunately, according to our law, the jury were the judges, and not the mad doctors, some of whom, if they had their way, would make us all out to be insane. jury who saw him in the dock during that long and careful trial, who noted his every act and motion, who watched every turn of his eye, who heard his eloquent address

-which, as I am told by Mr. Robinson and Mr. Osler, the counsel for the Crown. BROUGHT THE TEARS TO EVERY EYE in that court room-those jury men who were themselves overcome by emotion said that this man was not a lunatic, and they pronounced him to be sane. Not only so, but Mr. Blake himself read in the House of Commons a letter from one of those jurymen, showing that they were all of opinion that the man was perfectly sane. Now, why should not Riel have been hanged? Mr. Blake says he should not. The jury said he was not insane, the judges of the Supreme Court of Manitoba concurred in the finding : leave was given to this criminal—though denied to some others—to appeal to the Privy Council in England, but his lawyers never raised that question; they thought there was not material enough on which to raise Here was this man, who was not only a traitor to his country, but a double dyed traitor to the unfortunate halfbreeds whom he had incited to arms; who was willing to desert them for money, the man who incited the Indians to rise, the man who abjured his religion because he knew that if he did not hold himself out to the people as a prophet, they would remain under the guidance of their priests, who would have prevented the rebellion; the man who caused the slaughter of two priests of the religious order which had been established in that country. Will you tell me if there was one extenuating circumstance in the whole of his career, from July, 1884, down to the day of his execution; is there a single circumstance under which the Governor General could properly have exercised the elemency of the Crown in his favor? If there is I would like to hear it. If the man was insane he should not have been hanged; but with the evidence of our sonses, with the knowledge that there people had of him, who saw him and knew him, with

THE VERDICT OF THE JURY

and the confirmation of that verdict by the courts, the man must have an overweening belief in his own opinion who will say that all these people were wrong and that he-Edward Blake alone—was right. (Cheers.) The form of insanity which it is said he (Loud cheers.) And when they arrived at had is megalomania. Did you ever hear of it before? It seems to be a new form of insanity. I will give you a definition of it, and I think if you accept it I can prove to you that other people bosides Louis Riel are afflicted with megalomania. Here is what the doctors tell us it is, and

I hope at any rate you will not take me in. (Cheers and laughter.)

"What characterises this particular form of mental alienation is the exaggeration of the sentiment of personality. Expanse of passion, is one of the consequences of it. Megalomaniaes are happy, satisfied with themselves and speak without limit

of their own personality.' Why, when a man gets very conceited, he is afflicted with megalomania. (Hear, hear and laughter.) If a man thinks he knows more than all the world besidesbeware, he is a megalomaniac. (Loud laughter.) I think this would not bad name apply the people who believe in the insanity of Riel. (Hear, hear and laughter.) Should not those of the Reform party who are agreed on the insanity of Riel and the consequences of that belief as distinguished from those who think he was sane as any one in this hall, have a name of their own? Suppose we christen them megalomaniacs. (Laughter and cheers.) Why should the whole Reform party of this country be saddled with the responsibility of this wild action on the part of Mr. Blake? Let those who among them accept this doctrine of Mr. Blake's, accept this distinctive title; I have given it to them to night, and I trust they will

NOT BE ASHAMED

to wear it. But was there any cause for Mr. Blake accepting this view, do you think? Oh, no, no, no. The great and good Mr. Blake is always actuated by the highest and purest motives; he is the screne soul;" the man who never does or thinks wrong: he is always right, although he sometimes suppresses the record. No, Mr. Blake was conscientiously bound to follow his own convictions. He says, I have been Minister of Justice: I know the responsibilities of the position; I have mastered the rules for the guidance of governors in the exercise of the clemency of Crown, and knowing them, I say the Government is censurable. Well, we have the authority of Mr. Gladstone, as we have that of all the other public men of the Empire, that with regard to the administration of that law, it is not a fitting question to be treated as a party question; that all parties in England, as I hope all in Canada, are agreed as upholders of that law, and the responsi bility of every man in the country under that law. No, says Mr. Blake; I know differently, and so he prepares a speech to The speech was deliver at London. ambiguous in phrase—I will it was sentimental in tone. say but it professed to exhibit those god-like attributes which he always assumes to himself. "This matter," said he, "has to be decided by every man according to his conscience, and God forbid that I should make a platform out of the Regina scaffold; God forbid that I should attempt to capture the French vote by professing sympathy with their attitude on the Riel question. No; I am holier than thou, and I will go to Ottawa to decide on this question according to the dictates of my conscience." And the poor deluded crowd who listened to his words and applauded them, supposed that he would go to Ottawa and would accept the responsibility; that he would endorse the act of the Government in the execution of Riel. Well.

and he prepared a long speech before he knew a word of the evidence any more than he had known at London, that speech he cites the opinions of all the doctors in support
that this meg theory that this megalomaniac should not be hanged. According to the views of these doctors, whose opinions he read, there is hardly a man of sound mind in the country. We know that in mind in the country. We know that in the State of New York not long ago criminals of the deepest dye, who brought to trial, were proved by the evidence of these mad doctors to have what was called emotional insanity just at the time they committed the crime, though they were all right before, and are all right now, and the result was that many of them were allowed to get off scot free That was the view supported by Lawyer Blake, although he knew perfectly well that after years and years of dispute on this subject all the law authorities of the ealm have settled that the man who is responsible for his acts, who knows right from wrong, knows whether he has risen in rebellion against his country or not, is answerable for his acts before God and man. Here was a man who was said to labor under the delusion that he was the prophet of the North-West. Now, a delusion is something absurd-an idea which has no solid foundation, but which you cannot drive out of a man's mind no matter what you do or how you reason with him; bu the lunatic is willing to sell out his delusion for a consideration-(loud cheers)then the plea of insanity disappears at once. I venture to say on this public platform—and I hope my words may reach Mr. Blake—I venture to tell him and to tell you that when he concocted that speech, which was also carefully written out, when he sneaked down to Ottawa to ask Mr. Laurier's approval of that speech-

AND I SAY SNEAKED. because when a public man like the leader the Opposition goes openly to the Capital or anywhere else, it is not a matpublic press, but in this case no person heard of it; no newspaper record showed it. Mr. Blake says he took a cab from the station, and I have no doubt that he did, and that the windows of the cab were carefully drawn down. He says he went to his hotel, but I am told that he did not go to the hotel to which he usually goes at Ottawa. At any rate he met Mr. Laurier there; he had the speech all carefully written out for Mr. Laurier's approval. Why did he think it necessary to consult Mr. Laurier on the subject? Was it to find out to what extent the agitation had gone on in the Province of Quebec? Was it to learn whether this agitation which his lieutenant, Mr. Edgar, had gone to Manitoba to foster and encourage was likely to go on and spread so that it could be of service as a political weapon to be used at the coming elections? Was that the object of Mr. Blake's visit to Mr. Laurier, or was it just to get Mr. Laurier's approval of the English he used in the speech, or the good tasts with which he framed his sentences? Which was it? I leave it to you to say. (Loud cheers.) If you read the speech carefully as I have read it once or twice, you will see that he was very ingeniously paving his way. No man dared say at that time that Riel should not have been hanged; if he had said so be would have driven his party from him. So he said, we must go slow we must not turn the corner too quickly we must take them round in a gentle curve. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Now, the importance of the matter is this: in one sense I care not for Mr. Blake's motives. But I say that if his motives were good, then he has not the common sense fitting for a leader of this country,

THE COMMON SENSE to keep him from committing political blunders, and political blunders we know are crimes. But if he was worse than this; if he allowed his conduct to be in fluenced by the hope of capturing the French contingent, I ask are words strong enough in the English language—unless we borrow a few from Mr. Blake himself—in which to condemn the act? (Hear, hear.) The importance of the matter is this; They say this is a dead issue. They say that will not go; the law must take its course; the party which they allege was guilty of all these wrongs to the halfbreeds; the party which should themselves be tried the ranks of their own party and for treason, because of their neglect; these men are now seeking to divert pub-I wonder whether the description will ligattention from their own misdeeds, by him for this one of the number men of this ountry, holding up this question of the hanging of loaged applause.)

Riel as the question of the hour, while Mr. Blake pretends to say that it is a dead issue. Well, I wish I could agree dead issue. with him, but is he honest in telling us that when we see these people in Lower Canada, on this very issue, coming out from the ranks of their party and joining together in creating a new party, called the party of Nationalists-Nationalists not in the sense of being members of this Dominion, but Nationalists this Dominion, but of the Province of Quebec-Nationalists of the French race, and that to-day in that province the Rouge and the Bleu are slumbering together on the same couch— Mercier the advanced Rouge, and Trudel the Ultramontane Bleu, both supping to-gether out of the same dish. (Hear, hear and cheers.) What does that mean? What was the meaning of the revolution in Quebec the other day by which Mr. Meroier has come into power? Don't delude yourselves. There is no politics in that affair except this national question-

AVENGE THE BLOOD OF RIEL,

who they say was hanged by a Government whom they call his hangmen, and is not Mr. Blake in alliance with them. (Hear, hear and cheers.) Did not he bring Mr. Laurier up to this pro-vince like a tame bear during the local elections (hear, hear and cheers); didn't he lead him like a tame bear from platform to platform—the man who said "That had he been on the banks of the Saskatchewan he would have shouldered his musket and shot down our volunteers. (Prolonged cheers.) While Mr. Blake in the House of Commons was calling on the Government to put in the hands of our volunteers arms of the latest pattern, death dealing instruments of the greatest precision and effect, beside him, at the same desk, there sat the man who said that in that struggle he would have been on the other side, receiving the bullets from those death dealing weapons instead of on the side of our volunteers. He was brought up to Ontario for the purpose of rallying to the support of Mr. Blake the French people of this province. Men of Ontario, if you are not prepared to stand by the Government which permitted the law to take its course in the case of Riel-the Government did not hang Riel, because it was the law which hanged him-what safety remains for our young nationality? Was not the comlaint against Sir John that he was under French domination, that he was too subservient to the Bleus? Granted that he was, but he drew the line at this point, and because Mr. BLAKE STEPPED OVER THAT LINE

are you now prepared to accept the consequences of the bold stand which Sir John took? (Prolonged cheers.) Is their any reward for public men in this country who do their duty? Are the people so dead to patriotism, so warped by party feeling that they are not able to appreciate a noble act when done by a political op-ponent? Are the men of this country not prepared to say that had Sir John consulted merely party interests he would not have aroused this storm in Quebec; he would have given in to the men who have stood by him since 1854, who have never deserted him in all that time, trusting to get support also from a portion of the Upper Canadian people. But Sir John said that the North-West has been opened up at great expense to the Canadian eople : we have almost staked our national existence on the experiment of opening up and peopling that country. And unless the people of the North-West know that the arm of the law is strong enough to reach to the farthest corner of the Dominion, and grasp the criminal whoever, or wherever he may be, you cannot expect those who are there to remain, nor others to go into that country. And if you allow yourselves to be per-suaded that on other matters you should condemn the Government, while in Lower Canada they have but this one issue, mark my words, every man who casts has ballott in that way, will bit-terly regret it. (Prolonged cheers.) You cannot elevate the French nationality as you are asked to do. so as to make it

THE DESTROYER AND THE MAKER of governments, without finding in the long run, and before you are through with it, that you are paying very dearly for the experiment. (Hear, hear and cheers). And do you suppose that the majority which Mr. Blake expects to get from the Province of Quebec are going to support him without getting their quid pro quo, and a pretty solid one at that? Do you suppose that the men of Ontario are willing to submit for a long period to a condition of subjection to one race and I speak not of Ontario alone but of every man outside of the French nationality? And bear in mind I speak not to any, or of any religion or creed. My own conviction is that it is not religion which is at the bot-tom of this matter, but that it is a race feeling. (Hear, hear and cheers). is no feeling so strong—no feeling which all history proves to be so strong as the feeling of race. The unification of Italy in our own time, after a separation lasting for so many years, the solidifica-tion of the German Empire, and of the Russian peoples and are all examples which show the strength of this deep-seated racial feeling. And don't we find the French to-day, in the Province of Quebec, more French than they were when they were conquered by ter which escapes the observation of the | Wolfe on the Plains of Abraham? Do they mix with us, assimilate with us, intermarry with us; do they read our literature or learn our laws? No; everything with them is conducted on a French model, and while we may admire members of that race as individuals, yet as members of the body politic I say they are

THE GREAT DANGER TO OUR CONFEDERACY. And if Mr. Blake had for the time forgotten partyism, had he said when he came back refreshed from his visit to the Old Country, "I can back see what advantage I could gain as a party man by adopting this course, but as a statesman I know it would be ultimately a fatal and shortsighted policy, as a patriot I know it would be heralding the ruin of my country, and therefore I am bound in honor to come out openly and say that the Government who their duty are not to be condemned: I will endorse the common public sentiment of my countrymen; I will show on this occasion that I am for Canada, rather than my party, no matter what the con-sequences may be to me, no matter if it keeps me from public life for the rest of my days-had that been his course. I hesitate not to say that Edward Blake would have been the strongest man in the Dominion of Canada to-night. (Cheers.) No man could have withstood him if he had been willing on that oc-

TO SACRIFICE PARTY for the sake of his country. In the case of Sir John, we know that petition after petition from all classes and conditions of men was sent in to him, asking for the pardon of Riel, threatening the Govern-ment with the loss of the French Canadian support if he was not pardoned. while there was just one petition from the Province of Ontario asking for his execution. But Sir John was consistent to the last. He said, while the criminal shall have a fair trial, while he shall be allowed to appeal from court to court until he has exhausted the subtleties of the law, while he shall have, before his execution an investigation into his sanity, to see if he is in the same condition that he was in before the give Sir John a multitude of sins which they suppose him guilty of, and support this one deed. (Loud and