"Canada A People's History: From Sea To Sea"

If We Are Rebels

- The HBC lease on the whole region of Rupert's Land is about to expire. The British would like
 <u>to take over the territory</u>. But, no one tells the 8000 French and English Metis or
 the Indian population what will happen to them.
- In 1868 Louis Riel arrives back in ______ River. The last time his family saw him, he was barely in his teens. Now he is a grown man of 24, bilingual, educated, worldly. He is expected to lead the family since his father is dead. But, provocative acts by the government of Canada soon throw Louis Riel into a much bigger role.
- For some time now, surveyors have been marking lots for future ______ by Easterners, though Canada has no authority here yet.
- On November 2nd 1869, Riel sets off with armed supporters. They have decided to seize the Hudson's Bay headquarters at Fort ______, the key to controlling the Red River region.
 Governor William Mactavish has no troops to challenge Riel. Instead, he watches helplessly from his study.

War Is Upon Us

- In ______, John A. Macdonald has heard about the trouble on the frontier. "These impulsive half-breeds have got spoiled and must be kept down by a strong hand until they are swamped by the influx of settlers."
- William McDougall does not yet have the authority to claim the land for Canada. But that doesn't stop him; he crosses the border and reads his ______ aloud though no one is there to listen.

- A growing number of Ontario settlers are ready to join an ______ on the Metis. John
 Christian Schultz has been stirring up the English population, especially a young hothead named
 Thomas Scott. There is a rumor of a price on Riel's head.
- But Riel takes matters into his own hands. In early December, he seizes Schultz and 56 of his followers and throws them in Fort Garry, ending any serious ______ for now.
- Louis Riel is soon named president and commander in chief. But, it is not just a military
 occupation, for several months he leads a ______ government with French and English
 members.
- Riel is now in a ______ position to deal with Ottawa on his own terms. But the path to
 negotiation is brutally interrupted by a fateful decision.

A Single Act Of Severity

- Inside Fort Garry the prisoners are taunting their Metis guards. The most violent among them is Thomas Scott, an Ontario Orangemen. He brags that he will personally ______ Riel if he ever gets out.
- Riel appoints a tribunal to try Scott for inciting violence against the Metis. ... The military tribunal convicts Scott. He is sentenced to ______.
- Word of the execution stirs passions in Ontario. There are calls for Riel to be ______. The
 Ontario government even puts a bounty out for his capture. Riel does not apologize for the
 actions taken.
- But as the tension escalates, secret diplomacy is also underway. A team of three negotiators arrives in Ottawa from Red River. Led by a soft-spoken country priest. Father Nol Ritchot is

deeply loyal to Riel. He goes armed with a list of demands for a new province they wish to call

The priest demands everything be put on the table and soon they are discussing full provincial status, responsible government for the citizens, provisions for separate schools for Catholics.
 Ritchot argues them into granting 1.4 million acres of land to the children of the ______.

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In May _______ their work is done and a new province is born. With the completion of the transfer, the young dominion of Canada has acquired a landmass of 2.3 million square miles, 30 times the size of Britain. And tucked in the corner of the vast territory a small province called Manitoba, with protections for French and Catholics and a people now known to the world as the Metis.