

already on the arrival of this first batch, the poor creatures were hissed at and stoned by the shoemakers of the town in which they were engaged to work. The protection which capitalists can secure through the agency of the tariff the labourers will seek through intimidation and perhaps murder; and they will no doubt justify their conduct on the plea that this wholesale system of importing foreign workmen under long indentures is, if not a virtual return to slavery, at least an invasion of the freedom of labour. Such are the common fruits of Trades' Unions, which are mere protectionist societies among labourers, and of protectionist tariffs, which are mere conspiracies among capitalists. If the Chinese imported in defiance of every consideration for the interests of "native industry" will only open the eyes of the American people to the gross folly of the bolstered-up, plunder-all-round system they sustain in the name of protection to native industry, they will at least have done one good turn to those with whom they have temporarily cast their lot.

By all accounts the Chinese are not in much danger of falling into the idleness and degradation which have overtaken so many of the emancipated negroes. They work in squads, and live in community under a well organized system of discipline. The overcrowded population in their own country, variously estimated at from three hundred to five hundred millions, has necessitated habits of industry and economy in order to maintain existence; and their aptitude for exact and quick work is universally known. It is estimated that there are already about 100,000 of them in California and the neighbouring territories of the United States. There are two firms regularly engaged in the trade of importing Chinese into San Francisco, as yet the only market for this particular ware; and in spite of the opposition of the classes with whom the Chinese compete in the labour market, the trade is getting brisker than ever as the demand for such economical and docile "helps" increases. The invasion of the New England workshops by the Chinese marks an era in the history of Chinese immigration, and if the experiment now being tried at the shoe factory in North Adams prove to be profitable, the natural enterprise of American capitalists will soon lead them to fill their workshops and factories with Chinese. As the Chinese themselves become more familiar with the success of their brethren among the outside barbarians, their reluctance to emigrate will disappear, and with the immense population from which to draw, it would not be wonderful were the Chinese in America, a few years hence, to be counted by millions instead of thousands. In this prospect there is a new social problem in store for the solution of the American people, if not the portent of a complete revolution in the industrial trade of the continent.

THE NEW NATURALIZATION TREATY.

The following is the text of the Naturalization treaty signed in London, May 13, 1870, between Earl Clarendon on the part of the Queen, and Mr. Motley on the part of the United States, together with the letter of the President transmitting it to the Senate. The treaty is now before the Senate for action:

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

I have the satisfaction of transmitting to the Senate for consideration, with a view to its ratification, a convention between the United States and Her Britannic Majesty, relative to naturalization, signed in London on the 13th inst. The convention is substantially the same as the protocol on the subject, signed by Mr. Reverdy Johnson and Lord Stanley on the 9th October, 1868, and approved by the Senate on the 13th of April, 1869. If the instrument should go into effect, it will relieve both countries from a grievance which has hitherto been a cause of frequent annoyance, and sometimes of dangerous irritation. A copy of Mr. Motley's despatch on the subject and of the Act of Parliament of May 12, 1870, are also transmitted.

THE TREATY.

The President of the United States of America, and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being desirous to regulate the citizenship of citizens of the United States of America, who have emigrated, or may emigrate, from the United States of America to the British Dominions, and of British subjects who have emigrated, or who may emigrate from the British Dominions to the United States of America, have resolved to conclude a convention for that purpose, and have named as their plenipotentiaries the following persons: The President of the United States of America, John Lothrop Motley, Esq., envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States, Her Britannic Majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs; who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:

ARTICLE 1.—Citizens of the United States of America, who have become, or shall become, and are naturalized according to the law within British Dominion as subjects, shall be subject to the provisions of Article 2, and shall be held by the United States to be in all respects, and for all purposes, British subjects, and shall be treated as such by the United States. Reciprocally, British subjects who have become, or who shall become, and are naturalized according to law within the United States of America, as citizens thereof, shall be subject to the provisions of Article 2, be held by Great Britain to be in all respects, and for all purposes, citizens of the United States, and shall be treated as such by Great Britain.

ART. 2.—Such citizens of the United States as aforesaid who have become and are naturalized within the Dominions of Her Britannic Majesty as British subjects shall be at liberty to re-

nounce their naturalization, to resume their nationality as citizens of the United States, provided that such renunciation be publicly declared within two years after the exchange of the ratification of the present convention. Such British subjects aforesaid, who have become and are naturalized as citizens within the United States, shall be at liberty to renounce their naturalization, and to resume their British nationality, provided that such renunciation be publicly declared within two years after 12th of May, 1870. The manner in which this renunciation may be made and publicly declared shall be agreed upon by the governments of the respective countries.

ART. 3.—If any such citizen of the United States, as aforesaid, naturalized within the Dominions of Her Britannic Majesty, should renew his residence in the United States, the United States Government may, on his own application, and on such condition as that government may think fit to impose, re-admit him to the character and privileges of a citizen of the United States, and Great Britain shall not in that case claim him as a British subject on account of his former naturalization. In the same manner, if any British subject, as aforesaid, naturalized in the United States, should renew his residence within the Dominions of Her Britannic Majesty, Her Majesty's Government may, on his own application, and on such conditions as that government may deem proper to impose, re-admit him to the character and privileges of a British subject, and the United States shall not claim him as a citizen of the United States on account of his former naturalization.

ART. 4.—The present convention shall be ratified by the President of the United States, by and with the consent of the Senate thereof, and by Her Britannic Majesty's consent, and the ratification shall be exchanged at London, as soon as may be, within twelve months from the date hereof.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto their respective seals. Done at London, the 13th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy.

JOHN LOTHROP MOTLEY,
CLARENDON.

THE SAGUENAY FIRE.

On the 19th ult. the fire broke out which afterwards ravaged the whole of the Saguenay district. It appears that some settlers had been burning the tree-stumps upon their land, and the wind being high the flames were communicated to the adjoining forests. Unfortunately no rain had fallen for some time, the grass was dry and readily carried on the fire, and no water being at hand to extinguish the flames, the whole country was soon in a blaze. So quickly did the fire spread over the district that the inhabitants had barely time to save their lives, and many of them met with the narrowest escapes from death. Over 500 miles of country were devastated by this terrible fire, and over 500 families were left destitute. M. de La Bruère, who was appointed by the Quebec Government to visit the Saguenay with a view to ascertaining the extent of damage caused by the fire, gives the following account of the desolation and misery he met on every side:—

"Accompanied by the Revd. Mr. Constantine, Parish Priest of St. Jerome, I visited the following burnt localities, viz:—Chicoutimi, N. D. de Laterrière, Kinogami, St. Jérôme, Metabetchouan, Pointe-aux-Trembles, in Charlevoix, and Pointe Bleue in Roberval. Desolation and ruin prevailed all over. Buildings of every description and cattle, and seed, and bush, have nearly all disappeared; but sadder still to relate, seven persons perished in the flames, and many others were badly burnt. The settlers for the most part escaped death by burying themselves under earth, or by taking refuge on the lakes and rivers. On my way I met families in tears, half-naked, and anxiously expecting provisions, wherewith to guard against starvation. I visited the vault wherein four men who had resorted thereto were burnt alive. Their calcined bones were withdrawn, and a bucket held them all. I was stopped several times on my way, to visit the sick and the wounded, and gave them every consolation which it was in my power to give with the assurance of timely help. Many are the sad and heart-rending scenes I have been told of, and which I could relate; but I will only tell of what I have witnessed. I may, however, testify to the correctness of the reports made public in the papers—nay, far from being exaggerated, such reports, in my opinion, do not reach reality itself. The extent of country so laid waste by the fire begins at the River Mistassimi, at the head of Lake St. John, and reaches as far as Ha! Ha! Bay, a distance of 105 miles. The number of families throughout this district, who have lost everything, and who are considered to be ruined, may be put down as follows:

From Mistassimi to Metabetchouan.....	150
(There are only 54 habitations remaining in those missions.)	
In the parish of St. Jerome, comprising the townships of Metabetchouan and Caron.....	120
(There remain only 20 buildings in said parish.)	
In Hebertville, township Labarre.....	50
In Kinogami.....	4
In Jonquiere.....	45
In the parishes of St. Ann and St. Fulgence, townships Simard, Tremblay and Harvey.....	47
In Chicoutimi.....	49
In N. D. de Laterrière.....	18
In St. Alphonse, township Bagot.....	72

Total number of ruined families..... 555
Besides that number, 146 families have lost either houses or other buildings. Two churches, with timber required for the building of a third one, as well as several mills, have been burnt. I will relate but one fact only, to give you an idea of the greatness of the disaster caused by the fire: The double Range of St. Bonaventure, running through the parish of St. Jerome, was built on both sides; well, all that can be seen yet standing throughout an extent of nine miles, is two baking-ovens. So as to distribute the goods in the best order possible, the county has been divided into two sections—Chicoutimi and Hebertville—each section having its own committee headed by the Parish-priest.

The Committee of Chicoutimi has charge of Chicoutimi, St. Anne, St. Fulgence, St. Dominique de Jonquiere, Kinogami, N. D. de Laterrière and St. Alphonse. That of Hebertville controls the parishes of Hebertville, St. Jerome, Grand Mont, Pointe-aux-Trembles, Roberval, Ashuapinouchouan and Rivière a L'Ours.

The provision sent have been distributed in the following manner: 60 barrels of flour, and 2 barrels of pork handed to

the Chicoutimi Committee; 450 barrels of flour and 8 barrels of pork to the Hebertville Committee.

The turnip seed, iron traces and sheep skins will also be forwarded to Hebertville, Chicoutimi being able to supply itself with such goods.

The 150 barrels of flour given by the citizens of Quebec, will remain on hand at Chicoutimi, pending unforeseen wants.

It is arranged between the parish priests to minister the goods to the most needful.

You had verbally instructed me to devote the balance of the Government grant to the purchase of seeds; but I received the assurance that such seeds might be had either in those localities, or through the liberality as well as the charity of the parishes bordering on the St. Lawrence; therefore, I deemed it advisable to yield to the earnest request of the members of the Committee who intended to have said balance, say \$185, employed for the purpose of conveying the goods from Chicoutimi to Hebertville, and to that end, I handed part of the money to Revd. Mr. Villeneuve, Parish Priest of Hebertville, and part to the Revd. Mr. Racine, Parish Priest of Chicoutimi. Allow me, Mr. Commissioner, to urge upon the Government the necessity of their sending fresh supplies to those afflicted people who look up unceasingly to them, and in whom they place all their trust. They are very grateful to the Government for the grant of \$3,000; but it is necessary to give an additional grant, especially when it is taken into account that a population of 4,500 souls have been left houseless and craving. In order to rebuild, they need some lumber, iron, nails, and above all, stoves, the want of which will be keenly felt at the approach of the Fall. Thus, should a new grant be effected, I take the liberty of suggesting that part of that aid do consist in money, which will be remitted to the Committee, so as to enable them to procure the necessary materials for rebuilding. I cannot refrain from expressing my full admiration for the conduct of the clergy and of the citizens generally of those devastated localities; their zeal knows no bounds. Those who had been spared were fain to share with their unfortunate neighbors linen, provisions, grain, money, &c., &c. Notwithstanding the assistance so eagerly and so promptly given them by the Government, many people would have died from starvation at Lake St. John, were it not for the charity of the people of Hebertville and Chicoutimi. In addition to their gifts, the citizens of Chicoutimi opened out a subscription list, where I have seen names put down for amounts ranging from \$100 to \$150. One firm alone has gifted the Parish Priest of St. Jerome with 500 logs, to assist in the rebuilding of the church. The Parishes on both sides of the St. Lawrence hasten to forward relief, and as we were leaving the port of Chicoutimi, a schooner loaded at Kamouraska, was on the point of sailing in."

These, however, were not the only subscriptions raised for the relief of the sufferers. Both in Montreal and Quebec, and in all, or nearly all the towns of the province, contributions were made, and it is hoped that before the fall all who were thrown out of house and home will be relieved.

Some incidents narrated by Rev. Mr. Constantine will give an idea of what has taken place. Mr. Parent, father of the Assistant Secretary of State, saved his family, eleven in number, on a tree floating by the shores of the Lake, at Pointe Bleue. For four hours he kept dashing water on them, and they frequently had to plunge into the water to save themselves from burning. Mr. Parent's land is cleared to the depth of nearly a mile, yet in spite of this and although he had six men in his service he could neither save house, barns nor household effects. An illustration depicting the scene on Mr. Parent's property is given on another page. Job Bilodeau, of Pointe-aux-Trembles in the township of Metabetchouan, who was scorched by the fire, rolled for some time in the wet pigsty, but as that got dry he ran through the fire to a well at some distance, into which he went and remained several hours while the boards covering the well were burning over his head. He had frequently to plunge over his head to extinguish the flakes of fire falling on him. His sister-in-law who is very infirm and unable to walk, dragged herself a distance of a mile and a half to the foot of a rock, whose summit was covered with flames, and where she passed the night with a child that accompanied her. She rejoined her family next morning. The wife of Mr. Xavier Desbiens, who had been brought to bed on the morning of the fire, was put into a quilt with her child and carried on her husband's shoulder into a swamp, in which she passed the night. It froze hard through the night, and it is somewhat singular that she is now as well as if she had remained in bed. Other escapes, some almost miraculous, are related. At Pointe-aux-Trembles, however, five persons lost their lives in the flames: Ose Fortin and his son, Narcisse Morin and his son, and Charles Lavoie. Four of these were burned in a cellar in which they had taken refuge,—the last named was burned in his stable, into which he had gone to save his horse. Four children of Charles Cauchon, of St. Jerome, received serious burns, and one has since died. It has been said that a whole family is missing, and up to the last accounts had not been heard of. At the time of the fire there were several families at the Hudson Bay post of Metabetchouan who could not put off to the lake, it was blowing so hard with a high sea running. In addition to this there was a large supply of gunpowder for distribution among the Indians, and for three hours these people remained there in expectation every moment of the gunpowder exploding. Fortunately the post escaped. Besides the houses almost all the fences have been burned, and the crops, and to shelter themselves the poor people have had to build bark huts, and even to dig holes in banks. There is urgent want of assistance of all kinds of food, seed grain, and timber for houses, as the people are in the greatest destitution.

DICKENS'S HOME.

Gad's Hill, where Dickens died, is a pleasant country place in Kent. When in London he lived mostly at the Garrick Club, where he filled as large a place as John Dryden used to fill at Will's coffee-house. His town apartments were comfortably fitted up, on the second floor of the house in Wellington Street, Strand, the lower part of which was occupied by the business offices of "All the Year Round." He was never presented at court; but not long ago, since his last return from the United States, the Queen invited him to come and see her, and he spent a day with her at Windsor Castle. He might be seen at dinner, more frequently than anywhere else, at Verry's restaurant in the upper part of Regent Street, where, often with Wilkie Collins, he sat at a little table in the corner, reserved for him by the landlord. He was given to hospitality, and was in life, as in his books, one of the most generous of men.