

"The righteousness and piety of the Christian brothers Lawrence helped to win the hearts of these people, and regiment after regiment of Sikhs was raised to help the British in India and they sealed the walls of Delhi and won that day.

"Now, as to the movement of the Sikhs into Canada:—The first Sikhs who came were the troopers who came over from the celebration of Queen Victoria's jubilee at London. They passed through this country; they saw this wonderful Dominion, and when they went home they spoke of the prairies which were just like the plains of the Punjab. Some enterprising men wanted to come to Canada. They are not like other people in India,—their idea of God is different from that of the Hindu people. They started to come over here. In 1905 a few came over; in 1906 a few more; in 1907 and 1908 a further number; but in 1909 all immigration from India was stopped. . . . They have adapted themselves to their new surroundings,—how well they have done is expressed by Colonel Davidson, of Davidson and MacRae—one of the biggest employers of labor there,—who says that these Sikhs are the most efficient men he has. He employs three hundred and fifty men at New Westminster, B.C. When they came they were unskilled; now they are getting responsible positions. . . . These are the people who have upheld the Union Jack, the flag which stands for equality and justice to all the races in the wide-flung domain of the British Empire. They are a people who are law-abiding and loyal; and their loyalty is not lip-loyalty, but is proven on the battlefield by their willing sacrifice. Bear with me, gentlemen, when I say that a people who have been so loyal as the Sikhs might surely expect some deed of gratefulness from the other side. Other Orientals get better treatment. . . .

"To show that there is so manifest a link between the Sikhs and the rest of the British Empire, let me read from this book I have in my hand what the author, Bhagat Lakshman Singh, writing of the life and work of Guru Govind Singh,—the tenth and last Guru of the Sikhs,—says in telling the story of the Durbar held at Delhi in honor of the coronation of King Edward VII., in January, 1903. He quotes an extract from the report of the celebrations published in the *Times of India*, Bombay, saying:

"To-day was the birthday of Govind Singh, an anniversary held sacred by all Sikhs. . . . Thousands of Sikhs from all over Northern India were there, drawn together by a common motive. It was one of the most dramatic events of these eventful gatherings. For this Durbar makes the final fulfilment of the prophecy. Here in Imperial Delhi the monarch of the 'White race from over the Sea' has just proclaimed his right to rule over a vaster empire than the Moguls ever knew. By the aid of the gallant Sikhs the prediction has been fulfilled to the letter. It was a sight worth seeing,—that of the Sikhs flocking to do homage to the King-Emperor upon the very spot where their leader laid down his life for his faith. It was something that a patriotic Englishman, remembering how completely the vision of the Guru had been realized, could not contemplate without a thrill of pride. When you thought of the martyred ascetic, of his vision of the White Race from over the ocean, of the gallant Sikhs fighting for Great Britain in the streets of Delhi, and, last and strangest of all, of the Sikhs themselves saluting their sacred book that morning with the British National Anthem, you felt that here was a moving picture, which, could they but see it, might well give pause to the enemies of England.'

"Well, gentlemen, these are the people who ask for justice at your hands. They are a people, who, as I have said, have shown time and again, not once but