

## CHINESE CONVERSION.

Argument at Anglican Conference on the Work in British Columbia.

The Task Undertaken Ahead of the Claims of a College in Japan.

As briefly reported by telegraph, the possibilities of Chinese work in British Columbia were the subject of an animated discussion at the Anglican synod in Montreal last week. The Women's Auxiliary had preferred a request to the board of management of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, asking that this body designate the object to which the next triennial thank offering of the society should be devoted. The latter, or rather a section of it, met and considered the request, finally agreeing to recommend the Women's Auxiliary to send the thank offering to the Chinese work in British Columbia.

When the general board of missions met in the afternoon (that is to say, all the members of the Synod sitting as the general board of the missionary society), exception was taken to the action of the board in the premises. It was held that the general society should have been consulted before any such action was taken by the board of management. A very considerable section was in favor of the money being given to complete the hospital at Nagano, in Japan, upon which a considerable sum had already been expended, and which was in an incomplete and useless state. This view was supported by the Rev. T. C. MacLennan, who moved an amendment looking to the recommendation to the Women's Auxiliary that the money should be given to the hospital, which was seconded by Bishop Hamilton. Fourteen hundred dollars had already been spent upon the hospital, and it was incomplete; the work which the hospital might do would be exceedingly valuable; why not send the money to finish what would be an enduring monument to the zeal and love of the women of the church?

On the other hand Bishop Baldwin, who confessed that he was the guilty party who at the meeting of the board of management had suggested the Chinese work in British Columbia, said that he had been to the Coast and had seen the condition of the Chinese in the territory. That condition was deplorable in the extreme. The Chinese were in a state of destitution, and he felt that it was his duty to help them. He moved that the money should be given to the Chinese work in British Columbia, which was seconded by the Rev. T. C. MacLennan.

Rev. Mr. Waller, just returned from Japan, supported the Japanese hospital, while he had hearty sympathy for the work among the Chinese, which work, however, needed immediate aid, whereas the money to be given to the Chinese work would be forthcoming for three years.

Justice Hanington favored the Nagano hospital, and gave it as his opinion that it was almost impossible to put quite impossible to evangelize the Chinese at least in Canada. The Chinese came to this country simply to make a living. They were not here to be converted. At death their souls returned to China. (Laughter.) On the other hand, there was an attraction to the work done by the church in Japan. That work should be strengthened.

Archdeacon Davis and Judge-Macdonald indignantly controverted the position of Justice Hanington that the Chinese could not be Christianized, arguing that this very statement was the most eloquent argument that could be adduced for the allotment of the money as had been originally designated. The Rev. W. G. Lyon, missionary to the S. P. G. Society, who was drowned while on his way to engage in ministerial work in the Klondike. It was decided that Mr. Lyon's place be filled as speedily as possible, and strenuous efforts be put forth to assist the Bishop of Selkirk in the Klondike.

Bishop Dart, of New Westminster, gave an account of the work in his own diocese, and said that with regard to the proposal to send a missionary to the Klondike, that the trustees had been carefully considered because the Klondike fever was dead, and people were coming out instead of going in. He referred to the progress that had been made in the country since he became head of the diocese in 1885, and said that the Anglican synod ought to be sending ministers to their own people, for experience and wisdom that it fully would, in the course of a few years, gear round the work of the synodical congregations. He asked all possible aid, and concluded by speaking to the work that was being done among the Indians.

Ingenuity Deserved Reward.—Says the Hornby correspondent of the Comox News: "We have been troubled here for some time by a number of scholars to the average of ten as required by law to maintain the school. The trustees accordingly hired Miss McKinnon, of Victoria, as teacher, who had in addition to the necessary qualifications a number of little brothers and sisters. So it was arranged to have Miss McKinnon's mother come with her little ones and re-enforce the school. Mrs. McKinnon thus takes the Westwood place."

## A "FARE" EXPEDIENT

Illustrating How Sympathy May Sometimes Be Entirely Wasted.

A clever Victoria woman, whose name is well known to the public, is responsible for some jokes and jokes directed at the jovial captain of a steamer plying between here and Vancouver, and at times carrying passengers. The laugh on the captain, he himself admits, is well merited, but as a joke of excellent cigars was one of the outcomes of the adventure he thought it well to tell the hilarious rallies of his friends. On a recent trip, the captain had his boat well out from Vancouver, when a lady passenger of youthful and charming appearance rushed from the cabin and in great agitation demanded the captain.

"Being hastily seconded to the bridge, where the boat's master was busy directing her course, she in excited manner requested the astounded captain to put about and take her back to Vancouver. "The boat left without my knowing it," she sweetly explained, "and you must go right away to frame my friend."

"But, my dear miss," exclaimed the captain, "I can't do anything like that; there was plenty of warning before the boat left."

"I never heard a thing," protested the young woman decisively.

"Well, I can't help it," pursued the captain in pitying tones, "I cannot turn back now."

"But you must," cried the alarmed young woman.

"Must nothing," returned the flustered captain endeavoring to steel himself against the sudden glare of the girl's soft brown eyes, "I can't, it would be impossible; it's downright impossible."

"Impossible, impossible," cried the young woman, with a suspicious gleam in her voice which caused the captain's heart to rise in his mouth and almost to choke him.

"Her softly voiced pleadings and pretty brown eyes beaming so eloquently upon him almost hypnotized the captain, and he found himself agreeing to the point of complying with her request. Recovering himself in time, however, he cleared a husky throat with an unnecessarily violent effort, and waved the young woman gently but firmly down the ladder.

She retired, half angry, half incensed, the captain's chair behind him, and the ominous tap, tap, tap of her dainty number three and a half boot rose to the ears of the captain and filled him with dire forebodings.

And it should have been a warning to the pursuer when he came around to collect fare, but it was not, and he was nearly annihilated in consequence.

"Fare, please," said he politely, with a faint gleam of hope in his eyes.

"Most about the boat," the pursuer jumped as if shot.

"Fare?" ejaculated the young woman in tones of deep surprise.

Why—the galvanized check and copper-wire nerve—"The pursuer stared at her.

"Miss?" he cried.

And the captain, who by this time had observed what was going on, came in on the scene.

"Hold on a minute, he cried, and beckoned the pursuer to him, when he explained the situation, and the captain, who was not far from the outraged young woman.

This calmed things until the boat had reached the Victoria wharf, and the passengers had begun crowding ashore, when the captain approached his fair, and injured passenger, doffing his cap politely.

"I'm very sorry, Miss, that you have been occasioned so much trouble," said the captain.

"Well, captain," was the reply, accompanied by an unexpected smile which almost dazzled the captain's eyes.

"I live in Victoria, and have been visiting in Vancouver. I discovered on coming home that I had lost my check and my money, and I was very much annoyed."

She floated away, disappeared down the stairs, and before the boat's master had returned to the things on board, she was lost in the crowd on the dock.

"Well," said the captain, as he pinched himself to ascertain if he were really awake, "well, I'll be switched."

FROM TESLIN LAKE.

Many Prospects in the Country.—Ashcroft and Edmonston Men Only.

New Arriving.

Having spent a number of months prospecting in the Teslin lake country, Mr. Sidney S. Norton returned yesterday from the country.

Mr. Norton, who is a member of the party who went up the Stikine with him last spring. He reports that the water in the river is now very low, and that the prospectors have some difficulty in getting down from the top of the mountain.

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## NORTHERN GOLD FIELD

Large Number of Men Return From the North on the Amur.

Stories of Men Who Have Hunted for Gold in the Far North.

Budget of Views From Cassiar, Alaska, Dawson, and the Yukon Valley.

Following closely on the Al-Ki, which brought over two hundred passengers from the north, the steamer Amur reached port yesterday morning with 105 passengers, including men from every section of the Yukon Valley, Northern British Columbia and Alaska.

A few brought out fairly large quantities of gold dust for late arrivals, but the majority were men who went in last spring, secured claims and were now down for their winter supplies, or men who had been in the north for some time and were now returning home.

There is no gold in the frozen north for them, and left before the winter came up the river on the second trip of the steamer Amur, and on the third trip of the steamer Amur.

Joseph Ladue has returned to Dawson, which city he founded. His company has all their properties, this coming winter.

CONFLICT OF AUTHORITY.

Does the Corporation Have to Meet All Bills of the School Trustees?

Mayor Redfern a few days ago notified the board of school trustees by letter that the council had no further funds for school purposes beyond the amount required for the payment of teachers' salaries up to the end of the year. This action of the corporation in declining to allow the school board to fall amount asked for by the school trustees, who will bring to a crisis a question that has long been in dispute between the two bodies.

At the beginning of the present year the school trustees sent a requisition to the council for \$52,000, the amount they estimated would be required for school purposes for the year. The council replied that they could not allow any more than \$10,000, which was the amount realized from the per capita tax and the special tax of two mills for school purposes.

The school board, however, refused to accept the council's offer, and demanded, irrespective of the amount, that the council should meet the school's needs. Mayor Redfern suggested that the question be referred to the Supreme court, and that if the decision went against the trustees, the council should pay the school's needs.

The school trustees, however, refused to accept the council's offer, and demanded, irrespective of the amount, that the council should meet the school's needs. Mayor Redfern suggested that the question be referred to the Supreme court, and that if the decision went against the trustees, the council should pay the school's needs.

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