

other missionaries who require to have this privilege. There is the Bishop of Caledonia, at Metlakathla. He is obliged to keep supplies for the Indians. If they cannot get them on the reserve they will run off every time they want a yard of cotton, or a pound of food, and get demoralized. This trading privilege is for the purpose benefiting the Indians, of keeping them on the reserves. There are several places, like the Queen Charlotte Islands, where steamers go only once a month. I daresay the information the hon. gentleman had was altogether about Mr. Duncan, because he had a quarrel with the Government, and he was the most successful missionary that we ever had in our country. All the profits he derived from the trade were spent in purchasing medicine, erecting buildings, establishing industries and generally improving the condition of the Indians. He built a saw-mill, established a canning factory and other industries to teach the Indians habits of industry. If the Government wish to deprive the Indians of the benefit of that, I have nothing more to say; I merely point out the facts.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I need not tell my hon. friend that there is a great difference of opinion as to Mr. Duncan's merits and the advantage to the country of Mr. Duncan's work, but I do not propose to enter into that now. I do not know anything about it myself; my hon. friend does. Mr. Duncan was no doubt a man of very great force of character, because he had as strong friends as he had bitter enemies—men who praised his work as strongly as others depreciated it. It seems to me that the statement of my hon. friend as to what Mr. Duncan did is sufficient to justify the prohibition in this Bill. It seems inconsistent with the idea of a clergyman that he should have saw-mills and stores and carry on the trade of building houses, and doing all these things that my hon. friend spoke of. These are functions which really seem to me to belong to an entirely different class of people from the ministers of any church.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—The Government are now walking in Mr. Duncan's footsteps. They are now establishing industrial schools, as Mr. Duncan recommended them to do. He did this to teach the Indians how to earn their living.

The Indians are taught to pray for their daily bread; they should also be taught how to earn it. Mr. Duncan taught them blacksmithing, carpentering and other useful pursuits. Mr. Duncan came to Ottawa here and had an interview with a high functionary who had never seen him before. After Mr. Duncan had stated his policy for the Indians he was told that he was a dictator. Mr. Duncan said: "If you think I am not doing my duty to the Indians, I am prepared to go. Say the word, and I will leave the country and never return again." This high functionary said: "No; you are just the man we want. You must not go; we will make you an Indian Agent in British Columbia," but it never went beyond that. It just shows what kind of a man Mr. Duncan is. I think it will be a great mistake if this trading privilege is taken away from the Indians and the missionaries.

HON. MR. OGILVIE—I do not know what the effect of the privilege may be in British Columbia, but I know something about it in the North-West Territories. I know that four years ago it excited a great deal of very hard feeling there. Several missionaries who had been blamed for trading said they were perfectly innocent of the charge. It went so far that, to my personal knowledge, two of the missionaries in the North-West Territories were blamed for selling goods that had been sent out from England as donations for the poor Indians. Two of these missionaries told me that they would be very glad indeed if all the missionaries were prevented from trading at all, for then they would not be blamed when they were innocent of wrong-doing. I heard a good deal of what was said about the subject there, and many persons expressed the opinion that the missionaries were not so innocent as they professed to be. While Mr. Duncan deserves credit for his exertions on behalf of the Indians, I think if he can run a large business, like a saw-mill and the other industries mentioned, he had better attend to it, and let somebody else attend to the missionary business. So far as the North-West Territories are concerned, the trading privilege has proved an injury rather than a benefit to the country.

HON. MR. McINNIS (B.C.)—I am very sorry indeed that I have to differ from my