

cheap labor and domestic servants cheaply—for they would not employ Chinamen if they did not get service for the wages paid? I will not trespass longer on the patience of the House; but really, I think that we have listened long enough to this sort of thing from British Columbia. The more that come in the better, and we want them to come and stay; we will give them something to do. Let some of them come here. We want them in this country, we are expending millions to bring immigrants here. I do not know what sort of citizens these people from China make; but I think, judging from their past history, if they come here and become acclimatised and accustomed to our society, they will fall into our ways. They are an ingenious and imitative people; and I do not think that they will do us any harm.

Mr. GORDON. After the speech of my hon. friend from Victoria, I think that it is almost unnecessary for me to make any remarks on the important question before the House. I fully concur, Sir, in his statement with regard to the undesirability of Chinamen as residents, and their unsuitability to a country either like British Columbia or any other part of this Dominion. Now, Sir, there are more ways of looking at these people than as merely furnishing cheap labor; there are other duties appertaining to citizenship which every man is supposed to perform. In the State of California at the time that they took action in the matter, the Chinese were as one to six of the whole population of the State. In that State, as in every State that is well governed, if governed at all, a certain amount of taxation has to be raised in order to meet the ordinary requirements of the Government. But it was found that while the Chinese formed one-sixth of the whole population they contributed to the revenues of that State only one-four hundredth part of the ordinary taxation; and I am certain that what has been proved in California can be doubly proved by a proper investigation in British Columbia. In British Columbia, they form nearly one-half the whole population, and I do not believe they contribute any larger proportion to the revenue of that Province than to the revenues of California. Not only so, but, as in California, it is proved by the records of every court of that State that there is more money expended in the punishment of the Chinese as a class, than upon all the other people put together. They form a large proportion of the inmates of the penitentiaries, they swing from the rope oftener than other classes, and yet it is more difficult to convict them. Their system of connivance, at perjury and of combination, is such that the keenest policemen in the service are thwarted at every turn. I am not surprised at hearing an advocate of the Chinamen on the other side of the House. Like many other questions, this is one of which I am satisfied that the hon. gentleman is ignorant. He has not dwelt in their midst; he has not seen them as the people of British Columbia see them. If he were a resident of that Province he would know that during twenty years they have worn the same Chinese garb which they brought from China, made upon the same pattern—manufactured in China and imported from China. He would see that they wear the same pigtailed which they brought from China, and he would find within the shadows of our churches the lowest dens that humanity can contemplate. Would he like to see the same state of affairs in his own native town? And if he found it there and advocated such a state of affairs, would he ever be able to get a seat in this House? It is only by seeing it as it exists that any man can comprehend the condition in which those people live. I have some hesitation in feeling any repugnance to any portion of the human race; it is contrary to my natural feelings. But twenty years experience has led me to overcome my natural feelings in many respects. Their influence as a people upon British Columbia has been this: that

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while they fill the avenues of trade they are a bar to other immigrants. What class of labor can compete with the Chinese? How many men would you have in the North-West to-day if the immigrants going into that country were confronted by 20,000 or 30,000 Chinamen? What would be the value of real estate in Winnipeg to-day if that country were filled by Chinamen, even if they were employed in building the railway? You would have had the same depressed condition in that country as we have in British Columbia, notwithstanding the building of the railway. The hon. gentleman cannot resist the temptation of making a thrust at British Columbia on account of the immense expenditure which has been made in order to reach her shores. If that hon. gentleman has studied the history of the Canadian Pacific Railway since 1856 he would have come to the conclusion that that railway is not being built for British Columbia but for the consolidation of the Dominion of Canada. He would have learned that the system of canals by which our country is intersected was established for the same purpose, and that we are paying interest on debts which were incurred by the construction of the canals, and we will do so for a long time to come. The same may be said with regard to the Intercolonial and other Railways. Yet who would dare reproach Ontario, Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick, for these expenditures? These expenditures were incurred and wisely incurred; and the statesmen who inaugurated them have reason to feel proud that these expenditures were made in order to build up a great Dominion extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean? I cannot but feel that it is a dangerous thing to ask this House to exclude from our territories, which are to be consolidated and built up, any class of the human race; but in the present case, I feel no diffidence whatever in declaring it to be my conviction that it is to the interest of the Dominion of Canada as a whole, to the interests of her people and her institutions, that a class of people so low, so far down in the scale of civilization as the Chinese are, should be excluded, or at least partially excluded from our country. The reasons for which I wish exclusion I have already given to a certain extent. But there are other reasons. We find that they come in hordes—mostly single men—under some species of slavery which no ingenuity of man can find out unless by Chinamen themselves. Whenever a Chinaman takes advantage of the freedom which exists under the folds of the British flag, he is by some means put an end to; and I say it is past finding out what means they take to accomplish this purpose. It was the case in California that \$800 was offered for the destruction of one man who dared to go against the secret councils of the Chinese as they are organized in that State. The same state of things exists in British Columbia to-day. I read, to-day, a despatch from British Columbia in the *Toronto Mail*, stating that a Canadian had been beaten to death with shovels by the Chinamen employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway. As a general thing Canadians are not bad masters. They manage to govern those employed under them without being murdered; but in that case, as in every case where Chinamen get the power, they use it in the most diabolical manner. The character and habits of the women they bring to the country are so revolting that delicacy forbids any description of them before this House; and the dens which the Chinese inhabit with these women are such that no hon. gentleman could contemplate them. The lowest Indian that ever inhabited the Province of Ontario, were as much superior to them as the ordinary white population were superior to the Indians. I do not know that I can add anything further to the statements so exhaustively made by my hon. friend, except that the people of British Columbia look for relief to this Parliament, and to the right hon. gentleman at the head of the Government, who so wisely, several years ago, when he was Minister of Justice, pre-