

the England, but no arms given to them. The Rupert Indians offered at once to go and make war on the Newittees, to avenge the murder, but their offer was declined. At this juncture Mr. Beardmore returned from Victoria, and immediately volunteered to go in search of the murdered men. The Newittees would not go with him, but directed him to the spot. On his way there he sighted the England at anchor off Sucharto, ready to take away the miners. Mr. Beardmore found the bodies and reported the discovery to Dr. Helmckén, who brought them to Fort Rupert. Here they were buried in the fort garden with Christian rites. During this time there was not a word of complaint against the officers at the fort, or a suggestion that these men had been murdered on account of rewards having been offered for their apprehension, but some one, as it subsequently transpired, wrote to Governor Blanchard informing him that rewards had been offered to the Indians to take and bring back these men dead or alive. How such a report originated is uncertain, as the only reward offered, as has before been mentioned, was the one to be given to Old Whale for every one of the deserters who was returned safe and sound. It is, however, surmised that a young man named Muir, who knew a little of Canadian French, was responsible for the report. In speaking to the Indians Mr. Blenkinsop was obliged to employ the aid of an interpreter, and in doing so he spoke French, the interpreter's native tongue. The French term for *each man*, which is, of course, *par tete*, struck on this young man's ear, and he construed it, whether wilfully or not, to mean "per head—dead or alive." This mistranslation at last got abroad among the men and matters grew worse at the fort for a time. They at length, however, found out the mistake and, as the England had gone beyond reach, things finally settled down into a hum-drum monotonous routine.

A month or so after the departure of the England H. M. S. Dædalus arrived at Fort Rupert with Governor Blanchard on board. When the Governor was placed in possession of the true facts of the case it was decided that Dr. Helmcken should go and demand the surrender of the murderers, in the usual manner. The doctor accordingly set off with an interpreter and half a dozen Indians for Newittee. On entering the harbor he was met by four or five hundred Indians, painted black, and armed with muskets, spears, axes, and other weapons, and all making the usual hideous noise