

speedy vengeance would be visited upon them—a dead body be discovered and be called a 'Chinese mystery,' or a corpse picked up floating in the river and a coroner's verdict of 'found drowned,' and in a few days all would be forgotten. There remains, however, a yet worse phase of Chinese slavery, viz., the introduction from China of young female natives who are brought here and sold for the most base and degraded purposes—purposes with regard to which it were best to be silent, if such silence would not be worse than folly—it would be even criminal."

That is the statement made by the leading paper of that Province, and I am satisfied the only remedy for the evil is to pass a law for the exclusion or restriction, at least of the Chinese from that Province. They are a dangerous class of people. I desire to refer to an incident which occurred last fall. When the labourers had been discharged from the railway work on the main line, the Chinese gathered at a certain place on Fraser River, where a white man, who had had charge of a gang of Chinese, lived in a cabin by the road side, and during the night this man was shot and left with his throat cut. It was supposed he had money in the cabin. No white man was there, and of course suspicion fell on the Chinese. About the same time a similar occurrence happened lower down the Fraser, where another white man was murdered at a place where there were only Chinese in the vicinity. It appears that this man had tendered for a piece of work which the Chinese wanted to get, and in fact the white man secured it, but lost his life; and, by the way, I wish to inform the hon. members from Quebec that he was a native of that Province. These two men, there can be no doubt, were murdered by the Chinese; but those people are so crafty and clever that it is almost impossible for the authorities to secure their conviction. In nine cases out of ten they avoid the law. They have laws and tribunals of their own, and if it is necessary to put one of their own people out of existence, they select the man, the hour, and the place, and the deed is committed. All that is known is that some man is dead; but as to the individual who committed the deed, that is never known to the authorities. The Chinese are, as I have said, a dangerous class, and of course the more numerous they become, the greater the danger to the white people, especially to those on the mainland, many of whom are farmers residing in isolated places. They are a dangerous class to be present in the Province in crowds and gangs of thousands. Not only are the Chinese injuring the white people, but they are demoralizing the Indians of the Province. I ask the House to support the motion and I am sure that such action will be supported, if not unanimously, by a majority of the people, who, if they possessed the knowledge of hon. members on this question, would certainly favour a restrictive measure.

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, in seconding the motion of my hon. friend from Victoria, I shall endeavour to be as brief as possible. The question of restricting Chinese immigration has been before this House at various times and ably dealt with by different members from British Columbia. I can, therefore, only reaffirm the statements I had the honour to make last year, and confirm the position taken in hostility to Chinese as a class by members from that Province in the preceding Parliaments. I will not again trouble the House with a description of their habits and modes of life nor why I deem them an undesirable class with which to colonize our own country. It ought to be sufficient for hon. gentlemen to know that the Legislature and people of British Columbia have been protesting against their unlimited admission to our territory, not only by unanimous resolutions of our House of Assembly but by Minutes of Council, and petitions from the people. It is not like a question involving the alienation of our public lands, which might cause a division amongst members from that Province. It is a question that affects every portion of the province prejudicially and must ultimately extend its evils to other Provinces. Sir, when reading those resolutions of our Legislative Assembly

Mr. SHAKESPEARE.

last Saturday afternoon, my eye fell upon a telegraphic despatch in the *Montreal Herald*, that for a moment inspired me with hope for the success of our efforts this season. The despatch was as follows:—

"London, March 14.—The Canadian Government has objected to some emigrants recently sent out by Tuke's Committee, and has notified the English Government that many of them are unsuited for colonial life."

Sir, the first thought that occurred to me was whether Mr. Tuke, which has the sound of a celestial name, might not be Ah Tuke or Kiwong Tuke, or some other Chinese dignitary who had been acting as immigration agent for Mr. Onderdonk, and I thought perhaps the Government were beginning to repent them of the sympathy they had been extending to that disinterested gentleman in his laudable efforts to flood our country with Mongolians. But, Sir, my hopes were soon dispelled when I observed that the telegram was dated, London instead of Hong Kong. It then occurred to me, Sir, that Mr. Tuke must be an Englishman and that our Government had objected to some particular class of immigrants from the United Kingdom. Can it be possible that there are to be found anywhere in Great Britain any class of people equal in degradation to the slaves and criminals of China that are now and have been permitted free entry into our Province. Sir, while permitting one and protesting against the other is casting a slur on our kindred that should not be passed over. Mr. Speaker, there is also another phase of the question which has not before been referred to in this House. As you are aware, our international boundary extends from the Strait of Canso, in the east, to the Strait of Georgia, in the west—along that extended frontier we are on terms of most cordial friendship with our great neighbours to the south of us. Our sympathies are the same, our objects, the development of our respective countries are the same, and we reciprocally recognize our respective Constitutions and our political autonomies built upon them. Along this extended border, Sir, there is peace and good will which I hope may never be disturbed. This Chinese question alone on our western border may cause ill-feeling. Hon. gentlemen are aware that the United States passed a law prohibiting the immigration of Chinese into any part of their States or Territories, and the fact of Chinese having free admission to British Columbia, and their being smuggled across our boundary into their territory, did cause some friction among their people last summer, and will continue to do so until we adopt a law similar to theirs. It, Sir, would be impossible for any territorial Government to keep a sufficient police force to guard our international boundary to exclude that class of people, more especially if we continue to admit them. I most earnestly call the attention of the Government to this phase of the question, in the hope that they will not permit the continuance of a system that will assuredly engender bitterness where friendship now so happily exists. It being now nearly six o'clock, I will only say, in conclusion, that I hope the Government will allow this question to come to a vote by allowing it to come up on Monday next. We wish to hear this Parliament of Canada speak on a matter of the first importance to British Columbia, and as the right hon. the Premier said last year, of subsequent importance to the other Provinces.

Mr. BAKER. As it is close to six o'clock, and as I desire to make a few remarks on this question, which is of so much interest to our Province, and as I will occupy at least fifteen or twenty minutes, I beg, with the permission of the House, to move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

It being Six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.