

All appeals of the Metlakahtlans to the Dominion and Provincial Governments, have been treated with evasion or contempt. In contradiction to all precedents in British and American usage, and the repeated declarations of Earl Dufferin,—while Governor-General of Canada ;—the authorities have proclaimed, that the Indians of British Columbia, are, but beggars, and have no rights whatsoever to the land, and that all *their* land belongs to the Crown. Recently the government authorities have sent men-of-war, and taken active coercive measures, to enforce their decision to despoil the peaceful, and law-abiding, Metlakahtlans ; and in consequence of urging their rights by simple protests, without violence, several of the Metlakahtlans have been arrested, and conveyed like criminals, six hundred miles from their homes, and thrown into prison.

Despairing of justice in their own country, and preferring a peaceful solution of their grievances, rather than avenging themselves by warfare, they have unanimously empowered Mr. Duncan, to treat with the Government at Washington for homestead land in Alaska (the boundary of which is but thirty miles distant from their present abode) whence they may remove, and re-erect their build-