

in great numbers to our shores ; with this difference only that the responsibility would in that case be thrown on the steamships engaged in the traffic, there being no African civilized government with which to treat. Of course, the question has still to be settled whether a certain amount of Chinese labour is not still required for the development of British Columbia. That question has two sides, but as capitalists mainly are on one side and labour unions on the other, the government would probably have to yield to votes. The Unions look at the whole question purely from the narrowest Protectionist standpoint. They dread, not the vices but the virtues of the Chinese, especially their industry, sobriety and frugality, old fashioned virtues, but none the less important on that account in the formation of character. The reckless statements made regarding the vices of the Chinese have not been proved by competent authority. The last report of our own Minister of Justice shows that a smaller proportion of those resident in Canada are convicts than of the adherents of the Church of England, the Universalists, the Jews or the Roman Catholics, even though "Pagan Indians" and "infidels" are included in the same column with Chinamen. But the question, as has been indicated, has a far graver side than that simply of labour, and now that it is up for settlement it should be considered calmly, in the light of the true interests of the nation. Even if Chinese exclusion is desired, there is a right and a wrong way of seeking the end. Every nation must be treated with courtesy, and in dealing with no nation is scrupulous regard to good manners so indispensable as with China. In China, etiquette ranks with morality, and if "manners maketh the man," there is something to be said in favour of the classification. There can be little doubt that bad manners are a sign of barbarism and a bad heart.

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