

either upon his readers or upon the committee. No wonder that he left the room crest-fallen after so degrading an avowal.

That must be a bad cause indeed, which requires to be bolstered up by such means. It is evident that Sir George told the truth in his book, for his testimony there is corroborated by that of many unimpeachable witnesses, as also by the great desire of the Americans to get possession of these same sterile regions. Even if such corroboration were wanting, there is, in addition to the genuine testimony of Sir George Simpson, that of his brother Governor, Sir J. H. Pelly, who in the letter to Lord Glenelg already quoted, says of the country on the northern banks of the Columbia river, "In the neighbourhood they have large pasture and grain farms, affording most abundantly every species of agricultural produce, and maintaining large herds of stock of every description; these have been gradually established; and it is the intention of the Company still further, not only to augment and increase them, to establish an export trade in wool, tallow, hides and other agricultural produce, but to encourage the settlement of their retired servants and other emigrants under their protection. The soil, climate, and other circumstances of the country, are as much if not more adapted to agricultural pursuits than any other spot in America." Perhaps if Sir J. H. Pelly be called before the Committee, and referred to this letter, he also will eat his words, and declare that all is barren.

WHAT THE COMPANY HAS DONE FOR THE INDIANS.

When the "merchant adventurers" took possession of the Red man's land, there were upwards of fifty powerful races of Indians inhabiting their own vast hunting grounds, many of the tribes numbering ten thousand souls each, even at the beginning of the present century. They were free, prosperous, and happy, according to their wants and knowledge; savages and heathens, indeed, and ignorant of all that the white man calls civilization, but also endowed with all the virtues of the savage, and untainted with the white man's vices. Heathens and savages, for the most part, they still remain, but they are also vitiated and degraded slaves, and but a miserable and scattered remnant of what they were. Entire races of them have been swept away by drunkenness, by diseases