

United States, finally consented to let their people come to this continent. We know that the result of their coming to the United States has been the culture of the silk-worm in California, and to a very large extent the culture of the grape; the development of their great silver mines and the reclaiming of thousands of tons of gold quartz thrown away by the placer miners in the early history of California. Notwithstanding all that, there exists in the United States at the present time a strong antipathy to the Chinese—in portions of the United States, but not in all parts of the country. We had quoted here last session by a representative of British Columbia, the views of bankers, merchants, managers of large corporations and others, who have dealings with the Chinese, and all spoke of them in the most kindly terms, referring to their industry, their temperance, their abstemiousness, their closeness in making bargains and their faithful adherence to a bargain after it was made. It is a historical fact, beyond a question of doubt, and anyone who has paid attention to the great agitation in the United States up to 1863 will remember, that it was a question whether a sufficient number of men could be taken from the industrial population of the United States to build the great transcontinental railway, and the economists of the day sought Chinese labor and were able to appreciate the result of it, as we have been able to value it within the last few years in the construction of our own great transcontinental highway. A few months ago I happened to be in Washington, and met a very distinguished Chinaman there, who was master of all the principal European languages. He being a wealthy man, gave an entertainment in Washington, and what was the result? Nearly every man, woman and child in Washington went to his house. It was a large, fine structure, splendidly furnished. These uninvited guests ate and drank all they could and smashed his furniture. What must have been the opinion, entertained by that Chinese gentleman, of our boasted civilization? He not only spoke the English language fluently, but was familiar with French, German and Italian and was equal in culture and refinement

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to the highest graduates of our best colleges. What must have been his opinion of Christian civilization after his experience in Washington? Certainly it could not have been a high one. But while we are trying to exclude Chinese from our country what are the Governments of Germany and France doing at the present time? They are getting from China many young men to enter their colleges and are doing what they can to teach the Chinese language. They are also getting instructors from the various classes of the population in China to educate and instruct these young men with regard to the industries of China, with the view of entering into closer relations with those people—with a view to understanding the wants of that country and to learning very much that we might learn of the great industries of the Celestial Empire. That is what the people of France and Germany are doing, while we, on the contrary, shut those people out. I have never yet heard in any discussion of this question, on the floors of this Parliament or elsewhere, a single intelligent reason advanced why this young country should shut out these people but the single one that they interfere with white labor. How do they interfere with white labor? We have been told here, and it has not been disputed, that if you were to organize a regiment composed of English, Scotch, Irish, or Canadians, as we are proud to call ourselves, that no one will deny that they would be very much superior to the Chinese in physique and intelligence. We consider that we are greatly the superior of those people; then what are we afraid of? Are we to find fault with the Chinaman because of his industry, because of his frugality, because of his sending his savings home to his own country? Where is he going to send his savings? You will not allow him to invest them in this country.

HON. MR. MACDONALD—He cannot buy land.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—He is regarded and treated as an alien from the day he comes into the country, yet you find fault with him because he is not able to stand up and defend himself in the halls of Parliament, or take up the pen and