

remove this inequality, and, as Rudyard Kipling stated in his Ottawa speech, they no longer have the same exalted idea of us that we have of ourselves. The most convenient vacant spots for these people are on the Pacific slope of the American continent, and while these spots remain vacant, inrushes of orientals can naturally be expected.

One has only to learn of the way in which the people of China live to be convinced that the desire of these people to secure more land, is a natural one. Malthus, on population, speaking of China:

The whole surface of the empire, is with trifling exceptions, dedicated to the production of food for man alone. There is no meadow, and very little pasture; neither are the fields cultivated in oats, beans or turnips, for the support of cattle of any kind. Little land is taken up for roads, which are few and narrow, the chief communication being by water. There are no commons or lands suffered to lie waste by the neglect or the caprice or for the sport of great proprietors. No arable land lies fallow. The soil under a hot and fertilizing sun, yields annually, in most instances, double crops.

Notwithstanding that the great majority of the people live under such frugal conditions, the prodigious number of them occasions a great deal of misery, and the same authority quotes the following:—

The country, however extensive and fertile it may be, is not sufficient to support its inhabitants. Four times as much territory would be necessary to place them at their ease. In Canton alone there is, without exaggeration, more than a million souls, and in a town three or four leagues distant, a still greater number. But what is this to the whole empire, which contains fifteen great provinces all equally peopled? A third part of this infinite population would hardly find sufficient rice to support itself properly. It is well known that extreme misery impels people to the most dreadful excesses. It cannot be said in China, as in Europe, that the poor are idle, and might gain a subsistence if they would work. The labours and efforts of these poor people are beyond conception. A Chinese will pass whole days in digging the earth, sometimes up to his knees in water, and in the evening is happy to eat a little spoonful of rice, and to drink insipid water in which it was boiled. This is all that they have in general.

What is true of China is true to a less extent of Japan and other Asiatic countries. France always maintained a proper proportion of people to its area. Poverty is scarcely known there, and people generally are able to live comfortably, and save for a rainy day. If we take France as maintaining a proper density of population and compare it to China and Japan, we find that there are millions upon millions of people in these countries without room to live. Is it any wonder then that at the investigation recently held by Mr. Mackenzie King, in

Vancouver, a Chinese contractor and employer of labour, who is thoroughly acquainted with conditions in his own country, should have made a statement to the effect that if the \$500 head tax were removed half the people of China would come to this country of their own accord looking for work.

But there are poor people in countries outside of China and Japan. Great Britain is not without her poor, largely because the area is limited, and a portion of the land is in the hands of individual owners, who do not cultivate it. As one writer puts it:

But in London there is no escape. Base, brutalizing poverty sweeps along Park Lane, and gazes with sorrowful, hungry, cowardly eyes, at the palaces of South African millionaires. It crowds the June morning parade of smart ladies in Bond street. It touts for cabs or needlessly sweeps crossings in front of the restaurants. It fills the Strand with drunkards and Piccadilly with prostitutes. It is to be seen in the squares of the fashionable neighbourhoods where its presentment is drunken women asleep with their babies in their arms. England may be the richest country in the world, but London is a swamp of dreadful poverty. In degree, the provincial cities are as bad. Who that has ever seen them can forget the palpable miseries of the poor of Edinburgh and Glasgow and Dublin? There is little choice between Manchester, the home of Richard Cobden, and Birmingham, the home of Joseph Chamberlain.

So that while we have a large amount of sympathy for the yellow race, it should not be sufficiently expansive to crowd out that sympathy we ought to have for the people of our own race blood.

British Columbia entered confederation some thirty-six years ago. It is easily the richest province in the Dominion of Canada. The opportunities for peopling it were many, and it offered every possible attraction to the settler. But British Columbia seldom received any encouragement from the government or parliament of Canada, and imperial statesmen refused to appreciate its importance as a factor in the building up of the empire. The requests of its mere handful of people were generally treated with contempt. In the general scramble for appropriations, some wise and some otherwise, that were made since confederation, and are still being made, there was nothing left for poor British Columbia, after the fellows with more votes got what they wanted. Secession was threatened in the early days, because the then government refused to carry out the terms of union, and finally, when the Canadian Pacific Railway was built, the eastern people said, now those British Columbians should be satisfied for all time to come, and this federal government took the position that the people of British Columbia could not expect any more when a railway was built for them. But the construction of the Cana-