

[Thomas R. E. McInnes, copy of L. W. Crippen dispatch to Times of London]

A WARNING to London Times 26.10.1901
about Gen. a dispatch to the Times of London
15.10.1901

The present Japanese attitude to regard to Asiatic investigation cases (late speaking) necessary. Talk about racial stocks and racial antagonisms, philosophical dissertations on the differences between races and President, judicial meetings up of the governments for and against "racial" laws on the Pacific coast - all this is very well, but the danger has become too much, the peril too real for anything but facts. I will admit that I am writing this while I am in a position of extreme indignation. I hope that the trouble (it was very sad) to find out what conditions and conditions should have found out months ago. I have learned something of what the Asiatics are thinking and saying and writing about the treatment to which they are being subjected. The knowledge is startling. Most of the intelligent people of the Pacific Coast, when they desire to justify the anti-Asiatic agitation, declare that they want the coast to remain a white man's country for their children and their children's children. But what is the real reason why they are preparing for these Asiatics, not for the British Empire, and for the world?

It is a legacy of hate. At a time when Japan has taken a place among the great powers, when China is beginning to realize her strength, when there is increasing unrest in India, the white inhabitants of British Columbia and of California are spreading the Asiatic, peacefully and individually, in a manner that may lead in the not distant future to a terrible reckoning. Now the Japanese regard the loyalty which their countrymen have suffered have not to the United States as known, but not enough attention has been paid to the attack in India and in China of the treatment to which Asiatics and Chinese have been and are being subjected.

All, of course, to the ultimate analysis, depends on the treatment of the individual. There is a typical case. Martin Singh served the thirteen and a half years in the Indian Army. He has the highest and soundest morals. He killed one British soldier before the passage of the "Red Act," he arrived with his papers all in order, and on landing with some other Indian he was held in the detention pen. Then, on being admitted by the Indian Commissioner's office, he was arrested by the Provincial officials, shown before a magistrate, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 or to undergo a year's imprisonment. He went to prison with the same feelings as the other Indian who was released as a reward for his loyalty. That is to say, if the Province wins his appeal he will again be arrested and have to serve his sentence. In the meanwhile he is kept under supervision. Martin Singh has one brother who served in the army, and who was released on full pension. His brothers have served five and six years respectively in a Cook regiment, and a fourth brother has served four years in a cavalry regiment. What sort of letters does one expect from such a family? To those brothers, and what is likely to be the effect of the letters on the treatment of the Asiatics' comparison? None but, as I mentioned before, formerly a teacher in a Hindu school, is now in the detention shed here. He was told that of his countrymen, on the Atlantic Continent, a few of the best people were found to be suffering from tuberculosis, while the others did not possess the disease. These were deported on the Express of Japan, which sailed last Wednesday. The others are in the detention shed. About half of them were not allowed to embark on the first steamer from Hong Kong after arriving there from Calcutta, and had to wait in Hong Kong for a month.

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