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CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY,

Hotel Vancouver,
Vancouver, B.C.

Hotel System

14. J. B. Harkin, Private Secretary to the Minister of the Interior
to W. W. Cory, Deputy Minister of the Interior

Vancouver, Dec., 11th., 1908.

Private

Dear Cory,

In the course of my Hindoo work I have come across a matter which seems to me to be of considerable importance with respect to Imperial interests in India. You will remember that a Hindoo leader named Taraknath Dass was formerly employed as interpreter in the U.S. Immigration Service here and that was also the publisher of "Free Hindustan". This man is a fanatic on the subject of physical force for freeing India from British domination. He is now residing in U.S. I have learned that last spring he became a student in Norwich University, Northfield, Vt. This is a highclass military Institute. It produced Dewey, Clarke (Oregon discoverer) and other prominent Americans. It provides a high class military training. Its graduates, I believe, can get through Annapolis or West Point in at least a year less than the regular course. The University teaches all classes of military work, including the handling of artillery and the chemistry and the manufacture of high explosives.

here

Dass is recognized as a dangerous man, and he doubtless has but one object in attending this School. The head of the Militia Intelligence Branch here had a talk with me yesterday and I told of Dass. I had purposed bringing the Dass information to your attention upon my

return

return to Ottawa but this officer has urged me to write at once.

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It seems to me that the Canadian or Imperial Governments should take action at once. The University is State-endowed and Americans here say that Dass would be promptly fired if it was known that his object is to prepare himself to cause trouble in India. If a good man were sent to Northfield he could, no doubt, secure a lot of information from and about Dass. I believe that a connection would be established between him and the man who is causing all the trouble here. I think you should have this matter brought to the attention of the proper authorities at once.

Yours,

'Sd' H.