

105 Extract
Copy of a translation made by G. D. Kumar of ~~xxxxxx~~ an article in a newspaper called the "Loyal Gazette" published in the Punjab, India, and furnished to the News Advertiser of Vancouver

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AN UGLY ATTACK ON THE LOYALTY OF THE SIKHS.

Since the Sikhs lost their ruling power after the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, in Punjab, India, who was called the loin of the Five Rivers. Now? we do not want to discuss here in this paper, but we cannot help remarking that the whole Sikh Community in India have been faithful, loyal and self-sacrificing in the cause of maintaining the British Raj in the land of the Five Rivers, called Punjab, and we can prove this very fact by the speeches made at various times by the then Viceroy and the Governor Generals in India, the real representatives of his Majesty, the King George, and the late Queen Victoria and King Edward the VII.

In spite of all this loyalty and devotion, to the British Raj in India, the Sikh community as a whole never expected anything in return, as they ~~thought~~ thought they were bound by their religion to be faithful and loyal to the Crown, yet we think it was also the duty of the Government, to safeguard the interests of those, from whom the British Government received a valuable service at the time of the Mutiny.

There are thousands of our countrymen, educated and uneducated who cannot get work sufficient to earn their living at home and live peacefully in their family, hence they are compelled to leave their motherland, and other relatives, in search of their livelihood, and go over in foreign land under the British flag, yet they suffer there on account of colour prejudice. In Canada they are not allowed to become the citizens of the country, though they are British subjects, of the same King George, who is the King of the Dominion of Canada, and to whom they also pay the taxes as the Canadian does, yet they are not entitled to vote in the Provincial, nor in the Municipality. Not only this, they are not allowed to bring their families in Canada, and thus they are suffering a good deal at the hands of the Immigration Officials and they are forebearing these difficulties with calm and quiet attitude, no doubt they are representing their grievances to the British sense of justice and fair play.

Lately one M. P. Mr Stevens of Vancouver, B. C. has given a speech which has pierced into the hearts of the whole community of the Sikhs, not only in Canada, but also in India. Here we dare to reproduce a few lines of his speech published in the Daily News Advertiser of Vancouver, B. C. not with the object to put salt on the wounds of the hearts of the Sikh community in India, but only to show our readers to make an idea what he has said against the Sikhs sitting thousands of miles away in foreign land, far away from home.

This shows clearly how blindly Mr Stevens has attacked the loyalty of the Sikhs as a whole towards the British Raj. We think Mr Stevens has not read the History of India under the British rule, otherwise he would not have dared to tell such a black lie against the whole Sikh community in India. We repeatedly say that the Sikhs in India did help the British Raj at the time of Mutiny of 1857, not because they were afraid of Mohomedans being in minority in numerical strength rather they did at the repeated request of the British Military Officers in India, and we can no doubt prove these facts by producing the original letters written by Lord Canning and Sir Henry Lawrence then British Officers and representatives of the British Crown in India, to the address of the Sikh Rulers and Officials which were ofcourse written in the attitude of friendliness with the humblest possible spirit, not only this, rather we can prove

that one British Officer named Cooper Singh, as it was usual with the British Officer to adopt the word Singh after his name to look like a Sikh name, as it is even now in the Regiments of Sikhs, many British Officers wear turban, head gear, and dress themselves alike in the Regiment they are attached, and this very turban is the laughing stone in ~~India~~ Canada, offered Rupees 500 to the Sikh Temple at Amritsar as an offering of the sweet meat to be distributed there, as a token for the services rendered by the Sikhs at the time of the Mutiny, when it was all over. Besides this there are many other reasons which can prove that the Sikhs stood for the sake of the British Government in India and it is through their self sacrifice, loyalty and faithfulness that the British are yet able to govern India peacefully. Then is not a shameful act for a Member of Parliament of the ~~the~~ House of Commons, in the Dominion of Canada, to stand up, and preach among the labourers there to get the nomination as M. P. that the Sikhs were afraid of Mohomedans rule in India so they sided with the British to save their own life and property. We think it is an ugly attack, a serious one, to say so against the loyalty of the Sikhs to please the labourers of Vancouver, and try to get rid of the Sikhs from Canada and thus seek re-nomination and get rich himself.

Oh! Selfish interests in the Politics make a good man blind and shameless. Here we may add for the information of the ~~Canadian~~ Canadian labourers that Mr Stevens is the person who sold his real estate property to the Sikhs in Canada, and got himself enriched, so you may be aware of the facts lest he may also deceive you and get rich at the expense of yours.

R 67, 621, Vol 201, File 332, Vol 5.

To accompany H. 7 5 July 1912,

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