
THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONER GRAY'S REPORT.

RESPECTING

CHINESE IMMIGRATION

— IS —

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

To His Excellency the Governor-General, in Council:

The Commissioners appointed to enquire into and report upon the "subject of Chinese immigration, its trade relations, as well as the social and moral objections taken to the influx of the Chinese people into Canada," having during the progress of the work found that it would conduce to a more exhaustive examination and study of the subject to divide their report, I have the honor to transmit my observations upon that branch which fell more particularly to myself.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAMILTON GRAY,

Commissioner.

OTTAWA, February 21st, 1885.

ERRATA.

- 31—"equally."
- 45—(erase) "cash."
- 45—"their."
- 48—(erase) "recommended by Chinese."
- 60—add "opposite Colonel Bees' evidence, page 20,
see also Dr. Stout's evidence, 311,"—in
in marginal note.
- 66—add opposite 23rd line, "see also Dr. Stout's
evidence, 310."
- 70—"labor," not laborer.
- 83—Text, 24th line, "is," not his.
- 84—"62 and 63," not 33.
- 96—"Hertzell."

THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONER GRAY'S REPORT.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

CHAPTER I.

MATERIAL AND PECUNIARY ASPECT.

We must now come to the evidence gathered in British Columbia, and with reference to this evidence there are two aspects in which it is to be regarded.

1st. Material and Pecuniary.

2nd. Moral and Social.

Aspects 1st and 2nd.

It is set forth in the Petition from the Legislature of British Columbia which originated this Commission, that the Chinese "class of the population of the Province has been a continual source of expense—especially in matters connected with the administration of justice." "In the evasion of taxation. In leaving their sick and destitute to perish and being in every walk of life an expensive and objectionable class of inhabitants" and "by their presence materially affecting the immigration of a white population."

Statements in Petition.

These are most material and important allegations and if established would fairly demand from the Dominion Parliament, within whose jurisdiction this question comes—the most drastic legislation.

It cannot be presumed that the Legislature of British Columbia as representing its people, made these allegations, without having enquired into the facts, and obtained sufficient proof to warrant these assertions, to the satisfaction of ordinarily intelligent men; nay more, when these facts are stated to a Parliament composed of men representing the various interests of many divergent Provinces which would be affected by the Legislation asked to be adopted, it was incumbent on the Legislature of British Columbia to lay before that Parliament and its members sufficient evidence to warrant a departure from the ordinary policy of the Dominion, and to enable its members to defend before their several constituencies a line of action, which however asserted to be beneficial to British Columbia would be inconsistent with that policy and might injuriously affect the welfare of the whole Dominion. It cannot be admitted that so little knowledge of Constitutional Government there prevails as to suppose, that the mere statement of the Representatives in Parliament from that Province, would justify the passing of measures affecting the whole Dominion, and apparently in contravention of the Treaties of the Empire, when the numerical proportion of that representation was simply as 6 to 205. It was not therefore unreasonable to ask for proof. The Legislature of British Columbia not having laid such proof before the Parliament, the Commission was issued to obtain it.

Presumptions.

Parliament.

Policy.

Assumption.

Numerical proportion.

It must therefore be assumed that sitting by virtue of the Royal Authority in British Columbia, and having invited this evidence from the Legislature and people of the Province, all the proof that could be obtained was brought before the Commission.

Extent of proof.

It is that proof so produced which it is now proposed to analyse, as bearing upon the statements made in the petition of the Legislature of British Columbia.

Analysis of B. C. proof.

Return from Collector of Customs at Victoria, B. C.

We find from a Return made by the collector of Customs at Victoria under requisition from the Commission, dated 11th of August 1884: that for ten years commencing with the year ending 30th June, 1874, and terminating 30th June, 1884, there was a marked increase in the value and amount of duty on goods imported from China into the Province, and entered for consumption. Previous to 1874, no returns are given.

That increase is thus shown:—

Provincial trade with China.	Year	Value	Duty rec'd
	1874	\$ 6,064	\$ 174.47
	1875	1,277	194.60
	1876	5,481	1,904.85
	1877	20,711	8,392.48
	1878	81,345	22,940.23
	1879	121,976	30,410.78
	1880	44,936	14,186.25
	1881	127,852	39,204.48
	1882	240,170	78,433.65
	1883	326,239	104,738.66
	1884	393,728	111,300.15
		\$1,369,779	\$411,970.60

Importations by Chinese firms.

This Return embraces the imports from China entered for consumption generally, and the duties paid by importers generally. A second Return shows of these total amounts what proportions were entered and duties paid on, directly by the Chinese firms or traders themselves. Taking the fiscal years terminating in June, 1883 and 1884 as the latest illustrations:

Duties paid 1883, 11.1-5 per cent.

In the fiscal year from July 1st, 1882, to June 30th, 1883, the amount of duty so paid by the Chinese firms was \$87,459, out of a total revenue of \$798,604.67, or at the rate of 11 1-5 per cent.

1884, 12-54 per cent.

In the year from the 1st July, 1883, to 30th June, 1884, the amount of duty so paid was \$99,779.75, out of a total revenue of \$790,676, or at the rate of 12-54 per cent.

Current year, 25 per cent.

The monthly return for the first month of the present fiscal year, from the 1st of July, 1884, to the 1st of August, shows amount of duty so paid by the Chinese firms, \$19,319.71, out of a total of \$77,208, or at the rate of 25 per cent.

Resume.

Thus we find that, during the last ten years, the Chinese trade in British Columbia has contributed to the general revenue of the Dominion the sum of \$411,970.60, or nearly half a million, and of that amount in the last two years the trade has so increased that the duties paid by the Chinese importers alone have amounted to \$187,238, or at the rate of nearly 12 per cent. of the total revenue collected from Customs in the Province, and, assuming the return given by the Collector for the month of July, 1884, as an average for the fiscal year terminating on 30th June, 1885, the total amount paid by the Chinese importers alone for the current fiscal year would be \$231,836.52, or at the rate of 25 per cent. assuming the total increase of revenue to be in relative proportion.

Prospective returns for current fiscal year.

Later returns from the Collector for the months of August and September, 1884, give for the former \$9,267.08, for the latter 9,753.91, or for the first quarter of the current fiscal year, \$38,340.62, or at the rate of \$153,362.48 for the year.

Total arrival of passengers for eight years.

From the same Collector we have returns of the number of passengers entering the port of Victoria during the last eight years. (It may here be stated that up to this time the great bulk of arrivals has been at that

port.) Of those passengers coming from the ports on Puget Sound and San Francisco we have, during the four fiscal years 1881, 1882, 1883 and 1884, a total of white passengers of 27,256, and of Chinese from the same ports and also direct from China a total of 15,701.—An examination in detail of these returns will show that of the Chinese so coming into the Province more than half came in the years 1882 and 1883, when the demand for labor for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway was at its height.

White 27,256.
Of Chinese immigration 15,701.

The total number of Chinese arrivals for the five preceding years: 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879 and 1880, only amounted to 2,326, making the entire number for the eight years 18,027. It will be observed no memorandum of returning or out-going passengers, white or Chinese, is given; and no death-rate of the Chinese in the province.

From the Collector of Inland Revenue we have the following Excise revenue returns:

1st. Statement of excise revenue received from European cigar manufacturers for the fiscal year commencing 1st July 1883 and ending 30th June 1884, and for the three months commencing 1st July and ending 30th September 1884.

Received from 1st July 1883	} duty on cigars... \$ 5,682.70	} licences..... 300.00
ending 30th June 1884.		
	\$ 5,982.70	
Three months ending 30th	} duty on cigars.... \$ 1,252.12	} licences..... 300.00
September 1884.		
	\$ 1,552.12	

Victoria, October 14th, 1884.

2nd. Statement of revenue collected from Chinese manufacturers in British Columbia for the fiscal year ending the 30th June 1884, and for three months ending the 30th September 1884.

Fiscal year ending 30th	} duty on cigars..... \$ 1,581.75	} licences 150.00
June 1884.		
	\$ 1,731.75	
Three months ending 30th	} duty on cigars..... \$ 520.53	} licences..... 150.00
September 1884.		
	\$ 679.53	

Victoria, B.C., October 14th, 1884.

These returns suggest two points hereafter for consideration.

1st. The question of benefit or burden as bearing upon the general revenue and trade of the Dominion. Questions.

2nd. Whether if Chinese immigration into British Columbia and Canada be an evil, it is an evil normal, or exceptional only, dependent upon circumstances; in one case requiring stringent legislation to correct it, in the other correcting itself by the exhaustion of the causes which created it. Whether normal or exceptional.

In answer to a request from the Commission to the Provincial Government of British Columbia for a return of the Provincial taxes paid by the Chinese throughout the province, a return was made only of the taxes paid in the city of Victoria, and the Victoria and Esquimalt districts for the two years from the 1st January, 1882, to 31st December, 1882, from Payment of Provincial Taxation by Chinese.

fairly be equally distributed among the different classes, Chinese, Indians and whites.

The amounts so given in detail as far as an analysis of this report will permit, as specially incurred in prosecutions against the Chinese are \$686.65; in prosecutions against the Indians \$575; and in prosecution against white men \$922.85,

Expenses of prosecutions.

As bearing on this same branch of the question we have a return from the superintendent of police of the city of Victoria of the number of cases, whites, Indians and Chinese, before the police court for five and a half years from January 1st, 1879 to June 30th 1884, as follows:

Police reports as to relative numbers.

Year.	Whites.	Indians.	Chinese.
1879.....	291	255	75
1880.....	295	233	69
1881.....	354	194	24
1882.....	375	211	53
1883.....	394	217	43
1884.....	305	153	32
	2,014	1,263	296

(Note: In the enumeration of whites are included all others than Chinese and Indians).

Also a return from the Warden of the Penitentiary at New Westminster of the number of convicts sentenced by the Supreme Court from the 1st January, 1880, to the 30th June, 1884, 3 1/2 years, classified according to race, from which it appears that out of 125 convicts during that period 40 were Chinese.

Penitentiary returns.

These reports do not, therefore, indicate that the Chinese as a class are any greater burden upon the administration of justice than the other classes of the community, or that the expenses relative thereto caused by their presence in the Province are out of proportion to the taxes they pay as compared with such other classes.

Result.

As bearing on this same point, the material or pecuniary aspect of the question, we must now examine a very carefully prepared document submitted on behalf of the Chinese merchants carrying on business in British Columbia, in answer to the enquiries made to them by the Commissioners, a mode of obtaining information recommended by Mr. De Cosmos, member of Parliament from British Columbia, as Chairman of a Committee of the House of Commons appointed in 1879 to inquire into this subject, the Report of which Committee with the evidence taken before it will be hereinafter more particularly referred to.

Report of Chinese merchants.

This document was prepared and is signed by "Huang Sic Chen," a Chinese gentleman sent on from San Francisco by the Chinese Consulate to communicate with his countrymen and lay their case before the Commissioners.

It will be found in full in the Appendix.

Of it, it is proposed to examine at present only those parts bearing on this material aspect, leaving for further consideration its other parts bearing on the social and moral aspect.

It displays an order and methodical arrangement not unworthy of our higher civilization, and supplies much of the information hoped for and expected from the local authorities in British Columbia.

Apart from its credibility which the examination induces, it may be observed that according to the information obtained by the Commissioners from the banking institutions and leading business firms in San Francisco and Victoria, the higher classes of the Chinese are remarkable

Reputation in financial dealings at banking institutions in San Francisco and Victoria.

See Brook's Ev.
in San Francisco,
p. 31 and 32.

for probity and accuracy in all business transactions, and the dealings of their mercantile firms are carried on with strict honor and integrity. In San Francisco, where all payments by and at the banks are made in gold, they are found to be most reliable.

Contracts.

Among the laboring or working classes, while they will haggle on the terms of a contract, yet when a contract is closed, it is always carried out strictly according to the terms agreed upon, and payment on performance exacted to the uttermost farthing. At the same time all payments demanded from the Chinese to which they have not previously given their assent, whether in the shape of taxation provincial, municipal or otherwise, or contributions for any purpose, will be resisted by every means, artifice and device, whether truthful or untruthful, which their ingenuity can suggest, or which in their belief or expectation will enable them to avoid the payment of such demand. The ruling idea of their transactions, seems to be faith in an agreement only, or in a voluntary contribution.

Taxation or non-voluntary payment.

Ruling idea.

Numbers and occupations of Chinese in the Province.

This report gives the total numbers of Chinese in the Province at the time of its transmission, (September 1884) including men, women and children 10,550. The Collector of customs assumed the number to be about 13,000, while the general opinion as expressed places it at 15,000. It will be remembered that by the Returns of the Collector of Customs, the incoming numbers during the eight years were about 18,000, fluctuating from small numbers during the first five years, to large numbers during the last three years, but from no authority, either Dominion, Provincial or municipal in British Columbia, has any return been attainable of the outgoing numbers or the death rate during these eight years. The outgoing numbers during the first five years previous to the active commencement of the railway works, and during the last three with the death rate, may perhaps approximately account for the difference between the Chinese return, the estimate of the collector, and the general public estimate of the numbers at present in the Province.

The Report so presented on behalf of the Chinese merchants gives the numbers and occupations in detail, at all the cities, towns, and centres of business in the Province, commencing with Victoria and going on through New-Westminster, Nanaimo, the coal and mining-districts, the farming and canning districts, and wherever so far as known the Chinese are to be found:

Chinese registration system.

It evinces a system of registration among themselves and a facility for obtaining information much to be commended.

Laborers.

An analysis of these figures shows the total adult male population, to be about 9,870, and of this number about 7,200 to be engaged, as railroad, milling, mining, farming, and canning laborers throughout the Province, in no way except in one instance where in the City of Victoria 130 are employed as boot-makers, interfering with skilled labor, the employment of mechanics, or special industrial pursuits.

Non-interference with skilled labor.

Other employments.

How far these several industries, milling, mining, canning, and railroad construction could have been carried on without this source of labor supply, will hereafter be considered. The remaining 2,670, are classified as finding employment as cooks, servants, washing men, merchants, store employees &c., and also in other personal avocations, among their own country-men, barbers, doctors, butchers, &c.

Financial statement.

A still more important element in this Report is the financial statement of their position.

Trade.

From this it appears that the total amount of business done by the Chinese merchants in British Columbia annually is about \$1,320,000, and

the duties paid to the Dominion authorities for Customs and internal revenue amount to \$152,300, namely, \$150,000 duties, and \$2,300, Inland revenue. The amount of \$150,000, exceeds that given by the Collector of Customs for the past fiscal year, but would be within the amount for the current fiscal year, taking the first months payment as an average : or closely coinciding with it, taking the quarter. That the trade done by them with China, Japan and the United States amounts to \$500,000, while that with the white merchants in British Columbia alone amounts to \$400,000. That the approximate amount paid for freightage and drayage comes to \$26,000. And for road tolls in the interior of British Columbia to \$13,000. That the value of real estate owned by the Chinese throughout British Columbia is estimated by them at \$100,000. That at the city of Victoria alone the payment of postage and telegraphing is \$3,000, exclusive of such payments elsewhere in the Province. That the sums paid in salaries and expenditures of living by the Chinese merchants amount to \$171,000 yearly.

Revenue.
Expenditures in the Province.

Road tolls.

With reference to the City of Victoria alone, it is stated that the rents paid by the Chinese to the white owners of property amount annually to \$27,000 : for rents on 730 acres of cultivated ground and charcoal places in the vicinity to \$6,180, (or a total of \$33,180) for gas, \$1,770 ; for premiums of insurance on buildings and merchandise, \$2,560 ; for interest to white people on borrowed cash \$8,400, or a total of \$45,910, for rents, interest, gas, and insurance.

Rents in the City of Victoria.

Rents in vicinity.

To the City of Victoria in its municipal or corporate capacity.

For trade licenses.....	\$7,560
Assessment on Real Estate.....	500
To city revenue and taxes.....	1,100
For water rates.....	4,440
Or a total of.....	\$13,600

Municipal taxes.

The value of brick and frame buildings owned by the Chinese in Victoria is estimated at \$81,000, of which \$70,000, has been expended in the last fourteen months.

Value of brick and frame buildings.

In this return of the amount paid for city taxes a marked discrepancy will be observed between it and that given at page (7) by Mr. Russell the treasurer for the city of Victoria.

The attention of both parties was immediately called by the commissioners by letter of 26th September to this difference, and an explanation requested. A reply from the secretary of the Chinese merchants, Huan Sic Chen, under date of 14th of October was received on the 24th and is as follows :—

Difference between returns.

“ IMPERIAL CHINESE CONSULATE GENERAL.”

“ SAN FRANCISCO, October 14th, 1884.”

“ To N. FLOOD DAVIS, Esq.,
“ Chinese Commission, Ottawa.”

“ SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of September 26th, in which you desire me to explain certain discrepancies as between my statement and that of Mr. Russell, collector of taxes at Victoria, B. C.

Explanation by Chinese Secretary.

“ In reply, I beg to state that in obtaining the facts set forth in my report to you I visited each firm and compiled the items from the books of the Chinese firms. But, I presume, the difference of the amounts of taxes as given by the collector is this ; that during this

“ year, since April and May (1884), there have been ten new firms established in Victoria, and the amounts of taxes paid for their new licenses have been entered in their books as accounts for the year 1884. That my report embraced payments made up to August, 1884, while that of the collector was for the year 1883.

11 opium licenses at \$500 each, 12 spirit licenses at \$50 each, \$6100.

“ I beg also to call the attention of the Commission that at the time when I compiled the items, I found that there were issued to the Chinese firms for the year 1884, eleven opium licenses at \$500 each, and twelve spirit licenses at \$50 each, which amounts would give a difference of \$6,100.

“ All the items set forth in my report were shown from the books, vouchers, and receipts of the firms. When you will see the returns of the collector for the year 1884, there can be no question that my statements are verified.

“ I trust, however, that the discrepancies between my report and that of the collector are owing to the different dates -- 1883 and 1884.”

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUANG SIC CHEN,
Secretary.

No explanation by City Treasurer of Victoria.

No reply has been received from Mr. Russell.

Nature and character of importations.

To this same return are added two other important statements, in relation to trade.

First, of the nature of the goods imported by the Chinese merchants from China, Japan, and the United States.

Second, of the nature of the goods purchased by Chinese merchants in British Columbia and sold to the Chinese in the province.

1st. Rice, tea, oil, liquors, tobacco, dry goods, chinaware, drugs, silk goods, paper ware, books and stationery, matting, clothes, shoes opium, Joss paper and sticks.

2nd. Cloth goods, woolen, linen, cloth caps, boots, stockings, furs, kerosine oil, candles, matches, papers, soaps, tobacco, cigars, sugar, flour, rice, sweet meats, salt, pigs, lard, beef, butter, fish, fowls, wines, ducks, nails, tools, plates, horses, carriages, waggons, watches, rope, tennis, lamps, fuels, coal, hard and iron ware, glass and crockery, wooden ware, &c.

Same as ordinary consumption by others.

Thus with one single exception of the Joss paper and Joss sticks, we find the goods imported by them and bought by them from the British Columbia merchants are the ordinary goods used and consumed by the people of all classes and countries resident in the province without distinction increasing the demand and supply in proportion to their numbers, swelling the ordinary volume of trade without reference to race, or place of manufacture, and contributing so far as an increase of trade goes to the general advancement and business of the country and of the city of Victoria in particular.

As bearing on this point, it is well to note the co-relevant testimony given in San Francisco, by the Chinese consul, Huang Tsun Hsien, page 40.

“Q. What proportion of the food and clothing of the Chinese in this city comes from China?—A. Ninety per cent. of the material (clothing) worn by the Chinese is of American manufacture. No food, except a few of choice eatables are imported. Rice was largely imported last year over 41,000,000 pounds which paid a duty of 2½ cents per pound. It is charged that the Chinese work cheap, because they live upon rice. Let me call your attention to the fact that rice costs by the quantity \$6 per 100 pounds, while flour from wheat is only \$2.50 per 100 pounds.”

There is also another statement prepared, it must be assumed to meet the charge, that the Chinese carry the earnings of their labor in large amounts to their own country. It gives the per contra of the account, showing the individual Chinese laborer's annual expenses as against his profits. This is with reference to the laborer alone. Placing his earnings at \$25 per month, or \$300 a year, it deducts his expenses at \$257, and leaves an annual gain to him of \$45.

Withdrawal of earnings from the Province.

The British Columbia statement in detail will be found in the Appendix. See Brooks testimony at San Francisco, page 29, where this annual gain as remitted to China is estimated at \$30.

There are one or two principles involved in the consideration of this part of the question. First, if a man earns his money honestly he has a right to carry it where he pleases. Secondly, it must be presumed that his labor has benefited the country to the extent of his service, or he would not have been paid. He leaves his labor and he takes his earnings. Thirdly, in this respect the Chinese do not differ from the rest of the trading portion of mankind. Half the merchants in Victoria look forward to taking their earnings as soon as they deem they have realized sufficient to the old country to live on.

Principles.

It is a common custom with the English speaking race wherever they go as business men. In China they do exactly what the Chinaman is accused of doing in British Columbia. It is their predominant idea, and it is only when by their treatment in the foreign country, becoming naturalized and acquiring the local right to intervene in its management, their accumulation of property which will be benefited by their remaining, their own personal self interest, and their being put on an equality in every respect as to legal rights with the most favored in the land, that English residents entirely abandon the idea of leaving.

Common custom.

By Provincial Legislation in British Columbia and the general hostility evinced towards them, the Chinese are practically prohibited from becoming attached to the country. They are made, so far as Provincial Legislation can go, perpetual aliens, and with the Indians are by positive terms denied the political and municipal franchises attached to property and person, conceded to other British subjects, born or naturalized, when of sufficient age to exercise them.

Exclusion.

Of these men doing business in the Province to \$1,300,000 a year, contributing largely to the Dominion revenue, permitted by Dominion legislation to be naturalized and become British subjects, not one however respectable in character, well informed, or law abiding, however contributing to the public and municipal revenues by payment of Dominion, Provincial and Local taxation, is permitted to take any part in the consideration of the public welfare. It is but human nature under the circumstances to take their earnings from the place. What Englishmen do it hardly becomes Englishmen to object to in others. There is no estimate however of the actual amount in gold the Chinese really take out of the country, nor any approximation made thereto.

Their own views on this point may be gathered from the answer of Huang Tsun Hsien, page 41.

Q. Have you any further information to impart? - A. I would like to say this. That it is charged that the Chinese do not emigrate to foreign countries to remain, but only to earn a sum of money and return to their homes in China. It is only about thirty years since our people commenced emigrating to other lands. A large number have gone to the Straits Settlements, Manilla, Cochin-China and the West India Islands, and are permanently settled there with their families. In Cuba, fully seventy-

five per cent. have married native women, and adopted those Islands as their future homes. Many of those living in the Sandwich Islands have done the same. This of course depends wholly upon their treatment in any country they emigrate to. As a matter of fact they do not assimilate as readily as the German, Irish, English and other European immigrants who come here, as their civilization is so widely different from that of China. There is quite a large number of foreigners in China, but few of whom have brought their families, and the number is very small indeed who have adopted that country as their future home. You must recollect that the Chinese immigrants coming to this country are denied all the rights and privileges extended to others in the way of citizenship; the laws compel them to remain aliens. I know a great many Chinese will be glad to remain here permanently with their families, if they are allowed to be naturalized and can enjoy privileges and rights."

Charges of desertion of sick not sustained.

In this same phase of the question comes the statement "that their sick and destitute are left to perish uncared for and in every walk of life they prove themselves to be an expensive and objectionable class of inhabitants."

Attorney General.

This statement must have been put into the Petition through inadvertence. In the course of the enquiry—not only was no proof given that any expense had ever been incurred by the Province or the City of Victoria, City of New-Westminster or any of the Municipalities, for sick and destitute Chinese,—but the Attorney General in his examination in answer to a direct enquiry to that effect said "we have not had to

Mr. Robert Ward.

support Chinese emigrants" and Mr. Robert Ward one of the leading merchants of Victoria to whom most of the ships bringing Chinese Immigrants were consigned, states in answer to the question put to him on that point: "the majority of emigrants from China consists of laborers from 18 to 40 years of age," in 1882 my firm had between 5,000 and 6,000 Chinese emigrants consigned to them from Hong Kong; these men were under engagement to the contractor of the Pacific Railroad and arrived in ten different vessels, each ship carried one or more surgeons as required by the Government regulations in Hong Kong and these surgeons each reported to me favorably on the health of these passengers. Probably not over eight men out of the numbers I have given died at sea, the men were landed on arrival and at once dispatched to the interior to the different parts of railroad construction."

Health on arrival.

Unsustained charge.

In answer to the direct enquiry: "Have you any system of public fund relief, and do they often become a burden on that fund or upon the private charity of white citizens?" the answer was: "None excepting benevolent societies, and I have never heard of a Chinese resident having received relief from any of such societies." The Attorney-General mentioned but one instance where a charge had been made, namely, of the abandonment of the sick and destitute, but in that case it was shown that the charge had been investigated in the Supreme Court, was not sustained, and the defendant had been immediately acquitted by the jury.

But this phase of the case cannot be dismissed without a reference to the extent of the Imperial and Canadian trade with China. Its magnitude far exceeds the contemplation of the promoters of this movement, and must have escaped their consideration. An American writer, in 1877, in contrasting the trade of his own country with China with that of Great Britain, makes the following observations:

English trade.

"England has the largest share of the trade of China; she took the lead when the country was opened to commerce, and has managed to maintain it. The entrances and clearance of British steamers at Sanghai

for a recent year were 1,029, and of American ships for the same period 821. Of sailing vessels there were 414 British entrances against 211 American. The total of steamers and sailing vessels were 1,443 British, and 1,032 American, the former with an aggregate of 1,087,605 tons, and the latter with 697,283 tons. The average tonnage perhaps is greater for British than for American commerce, as one can readily perceive by analysis of the above figures. For the year under consideration (for freight imports at Shanghai other than specie) Great Britain is put down for 20,790,000 taels, India for 16,613,000, Singapore and the Straits for 518,000, Australia for 488,000."

A tael is worth \$1.33 $\frac{1}{2}$, therefore by the simple process of adding one-third we have the actual amount in dollars as follows:—

Great Britain	20,790,000	+	6,930,000	=	\$27,720,000
India.....	16,613,000	+	5,537,666	=	22,150,666
Singapore.....	518,000	+	172,666	=	690,666
Australia.....	488,000	+	162,666	=	650,666
Total.....					\$51,211,998

For Great Britain and three of her possessions \$51,211,998 at one port alone in China in one year. Canadian trade with China.

The Canadian trade with China and Japan, as returned by the Commissioner of Customs, shows a striking increase, having nearly quadrupled itself in five years. It is as follows:—

Statement of the value of goods imported from and exported to China and Japan by the Dominion of Canada during each year from 1879 to 1884, inclusive:

CHINA AND JAPAN

Year.	Imported.	Exported.	Total aggregate trade.
1879.....	\$ 448,962	\$ 50,551	\$ 505,513
1880.....	893,911	37,546	931,457
1881.....	1,410,973	19,761	1,430,734
1882.....	1,529,042	106,675	1,635,717
1883.....	1,645,254	105,388	1,750,642
1884.....	1,909,562	60,970	1,970,541

J. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Customs.

Customs Department, Ottawa, Oct. 25, 1884.

Thus we see that the aggregate of Canadian trade with China and Japan for the year 1884 alone amounted to \$1,970,541, of which \$1,848,587 paid duty to the Dominion revenue and contributed to the finances of Canada—being upon tea, rice, etc., necessaries of life which could not be raised or grown in Canada.

All of these statistics will have to be regarded as bearing upon the general propositions hereinafter to be laid down.

CHAPTER II.

DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Industries developed.

With reference to the influence of their presence on the development of the Province it may safely be said that there are several industries that would not have succeeded—perhaps it might be said undertaken—if it had not been for the opportunity of obtaining their labor.

Salmon canneries.

The value of the canned salmon put up for exportation and consumption in British Columbia amounted in

Value.

1879 to.....	\$ 395,882.54
1880 to... ..	450,781.52
1881 to.....	1,142,288.00
1882 to.....	1,458,982.00

These returns are severally taken from the Canadian Almanack for the years 1881, 1882, 1883 and 1884. Mr. Anderson, the Official Inspector of Fisheries for British Columbia, in his return to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries dated 11th January, 1882 (page 20), gives the yield and value somewhat differently, namely, for

1880.....	\$ 713,335.32
1881.....	1,454,321.26
1882, in his report dated 20th February, 1883.	1,402,835.50
1883, report dated 15th Feb. 1884.....	1,079,606.00

The falling off in the last year being due to a periodical fluctuation every five years of the number of the salmon entering the Fraser River, or, as he expresses it, "a purely natural and explicable cause."

But even at the lowest of these statements the industry is most important, and it may safely be affirmed could not have been prosecuted without the aid of Chinese labor, as shown in the testimony of several of the leading firms carrying on that business on the Fraser River.

The Commissioners would here observe that they have not deemed it necessary to make extracts from the evidence taken before themselves in British Columbia, as copiously as they will be found in the following chapter to have been made from the evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1879—the former being printed in full in this report and submitted with it can be referred to with much greater facility than the latter, which is only to be found in the Sessional papers of the House five years ago, and therefore not so readily at the command of the public or those now interested in this question.

Vegetable gardening.

Vegetable Gardening is another industry which also may be said to owe its existence in British Columbia, in a great extent—to them—and of which they now practically have the control.—The profits from it up to this period have not been sufficient to operate as inducement to white labor—with the present number of the white population—and the more productive pursuits that are open to that class.—At the same time it is shown in the evidence—that even as to that industry—if content with reasonable and moderate profits, it could be successfully carried on by the whites, and from the known preference which exists throughout the whole Province in favor of white labor and the products from it, and the dislike against the Chinese and their modes of cultivation—the Chinese themselves could soon be driven from the field.

It admits of no question that without their labor, the construction and

completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway would have been indefinitely postponed.

Canadian Pacific Railway.

What effect the construction of this Road will have upon the immediate further development and settlement of the Province may be judged from its effect upon the Northwest Territories, and will hereafter be referred to.

It has been strongly urged however, that white immigration has been deterred from coming into the Province from a disinclination, to compete with Chinese labor.

Effect upon white immigration.

The evidence shows that this has not been so to any material extent, if at all. Other causes have been mainly instrumental to that end.

Causes.

1st. The very great expense of reaching British Columbia from the great sources of labor supply.

Expense.

2nd. That in coming to British Columbia from Europe, the British Isles, and the Eastern parts of America, emigrants had to pass principally through the United States, where greater inducements and better prospects were held out to them to remain, and where the field of labor was quite as large and quite as productive.

Detering inducements.

3rd. That from about 1864, after the first collapse, as it might be termed, of the great Mining expectations formed of British Columbia, and the consequent departure of large numbers who had come into the Province in 1858, up to and until about 1877, people abroad, and people in the Province had very little confidence in its future. There was a long period of depression, of little enterprise, and great shrinkage of values, its history was a succession of disappointments, and very many left it to better themselves elsewhere. The lands for settlement, both on the Island and the Mainland, were locked up by the twenty mile belt concession to the Dominion Government, granted as a consideration or inducement for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, of which the construction itself up to 1877 or 1878, was most uncertain and a source of continued conflict between the Dominion and Provincial Governments. When properly analyzed and understood, it will be found that these several causes had more to do with preventing white settlers coming into the country, than any fear or dislike of the Chinese, to which might be added the fact, that of the resources of British Columbia very little was known abroad, or even in Canada, of which it forms an important part.

Uncertainty as to future of B. C. up to 1877-78.

Chinese competition inoperative as a preventive.

This conclusion is materially strengthened by the fact that immigrants are now coming into the Province in large numbers though the Chinese are there in greater numbers than ever before, and engaged in almost all the pursuits requiring manual and unskilled labor.

A return from the immigrant agent at New Westminster, under date of the 18th August, 1884, states:—“The number of immigrants settled on the mainland since the opening of the railway belt in June, 1883, a little over twelve months, is 3,795 persons. Out of this number, 3,295 have settled in the New Westminster district; 590 have settled chiefly in Shuswap, Okanagan, Spilmacheen and Kamloops country.” He further remarks that “they are all a very desirous class of settlers, and with considerable means.”

Emigrants in one District in one year between June 1883 and June 1884. 3795.

It may be well questioned whether a single industrious *bona fide* intending white settler was ever prevented from coming to British Columbia from fear of Chinese competition alone: some other cause prevented; and, as was well known and repeatedly and publicly stated, the inability of obtaining proper land for settlement, or even information as to when or where it could be obtained, was, up to 1883, the principal

and main reason. The dislike of Chinese competition is an objection of later growth, and pertains more to the class of daily laborers than agricultural settlers.

Coal Mining.

Of the other great source of productive industry of the Province, coal mining, a return from the collector of customs dated 5th November, 1884, shows that for the three preceding financial years, the quantity and value exported was as follows:—

Year ending 30th June,	Tons	Value
1882	210,556	\$713,147
1883	193,485	674,208
1884	218,856	766,018
	622,897	\$2,153,373

The bearing the presence of the Chinese has hitherto had upon this particular industry, may be gathered from the observations of the managers of two great companies, the Vancouver and the Wellington.

Robins Vancouver Coal Co.

In answers to enquiries as to the effect of their presence when first they came into the Province, and its subsequent development, Mr. ROBINS, Superintendent of the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company (limited) says:—

Chinese welcome.

"When the Chinese first came to this province they no doubt supplied what we then felt, and their coming was encouraged and welcomed, especially I may add by the Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company (limited), which I represent; but the laboring population were always strongly averse to their introduction. At the time of their coming here my company had been suffering from a strike of the white laborers, and we accepted the Chinese as a weapon with which to settle the dispute. With a little more trouble we might, I think, have obtained Indians to answer our purpose equally well."

Not withdrawn.

"The encouragement given to the Chinese by employers of labor has not been withdrawn up to the present time, whilst the anti-Chinese feeling seems to have grown stronger every year."

Development.

"The presence of the Chinese has no doubt contributed, to the development of the Province."

Good wages for white labor.

"White people can now find remunerative employment. In fact, wages are high enough to attract the best class of white labor. Of nearly 400 white laborers employed by my company not one earns less than \$2 a day."

Numbers.

And in a subsequent statement he says his company employs over 390 white miners and laborers, and about 150 Chinese. The latter earn from \$1 to \$1.25 per day.

Dunsmuir Wellington coal mines.

Mr. Dunsmuir, the proprietor of the Wellington mines, to similar enquiries, speaking after a residence of thirty-two years, says: "he now has in his employ 700 or 800 whites and Chinese—the former do the skilled labor, the latter the manual work. The condition of the labor market before the Chinese began to arrive in this Province was that few laborers were required of any kind, as very little work was being prosecuted either upon this Island or upon the Mainland. The limited amount of work was, at one time, performed by Indians, who, with few exceptions, could not be depended upon for more than a month at a time. White labor was tried under ground and at a high rate of wages, but it was difficult to obtain that labor. Their places to-day, to a great extent, are filled by Chinese. Domestic servants in those days were not much needed, and there was very little demand for ordinary white labor."

Chinese had contributed to development of country.

"The immigration of Chinese has, I consider, materially aided the general development of the country, from the fact that they have assisted in

pushing to completion the public works undertaken, and could always be depended upon as a labor power. They have, moreover, pitched into that kind of work which from its arduous nature and humble character, has deterred the proportion of incoming white men from accepting willingly in a new country where they immediately expected to better their position, or step into a better place than the one they had just left."

"I do not think the gradual influx of Chinese has retarded the incoming of white labor, as I find few of those new white arrivals willing to undertake the work performed by them in other countries, but declined here and given to Chinese laborers."

White immigration not retarded.

"Had it not been for the available Chinese labor the same progress and development in this Province could not have been made, and their presence has therefore stimulated investments of capital in many directions, and made it more remunerative undoubtedly for the reasons given."

Presence of Chinese stimulated in-flow of capital.

"And I may say that, were it not for Chinese labor, the business I am engaged in specially, coal-mining, would be seriously retarded and curtailed, and it would be impossible to sell this product and compete favorably in the market of San Francisco with vessels from other ports which carry coal as ballast. It may be stated in this connection that San Francisco is, in fact, the only important market for coals from the mines of this Province at present."

But for Chinese coal-mining would be seriously retarded.

"They have assisted, so far, by performing labor in coal mines which others refused to perform, at wages that made such mining pay. Without them this department of the mining industry would have had slower and less important development in this province, and the export trade of this product would have been infinitely less, because it would have been impossible but for their labor to compete in this respect in foreign markets."

Extent to which Chinese contributed to development of mining.

As to the future, these two great employers of labor differ, Mr. Robins says :

"Their presence here is far less necessary than it has been in years past, white labor being more abundant since the opening of railways has brought the East and West into closer communication."

Chinese no longer so necessary as formerly.

"If the Chinese were to leave the Province in a body no doubt much inconvenience would be caused to every person employing them ; but, if they were to leave gradually as they have come into the Province, I do not think any inconvenience would be experienced."

No inconvenience would be experienced if Chinese were to leave gradually.

"In my opinion it is not necessary to retain Chinese in the Province, but their removal should not be sudden."

"A free immigration of white people of the laboring class would enable us to do without the Chinese element altogether."

With a free immigration of white labor Chinese could be dispensed with. A poll-tax of \$50 on each Chinese immigrant.

"A poll-tax of, say \$50, to be levied on every Chinese immigrant, would be the best solution of the difficulty. A lower tax I do not think, would be effective."

"A combined effort on the part of the people of this Province and its legislature to encourage white immigration and discourage the employment of Chinese effectually would furnish a supply of white labor, exclude Chinese immigration and at the same time develop the natural resources of the colony as speedily and safely as they are now being developed."

"I have only one observation to make in addition. I have noticed that where Chinese labor is easily procured white youths from fifteen years of age and upwards do not find such ready employment as elsewhere, and consequently are not so well trained in habits of industry. The manual (unskilled) labor that their fathers followed is looked upon as only fit for an inferior race and there is growing up amongst us a class of idlers who will not conduce to the well-being of the state."

Where Chinese labor easily procured young lads do not find employment.

As to the future, Mr. Dunsmuir says :

Agitation against Chinese political.

" I consider the agitation against the Chinese as largely political, for I have heard no argument against them as yet which convinces me that they are a drawback to this Province or to this part of the Dominion. I consider their presence as beneficial to the progress and development of the country, as an important factor in the labor market ; and I am satisfied, so far as my personal experience goes, that the Province generally is not unfavorably influenced by Chinese labor, race prejudices to the contrary notwithstanding. I do not believe that any class of our people assisting to develop this Province are suffering from the competition of these people. White men decline to do the work given to the Chinese, and could not live in this country at the present prices of products on the wages paid the Chinamen. Some of the trades, such as shoemakers, tailors, cigar-makers, etc., are affected by Chinese labor and are compelled to manufacture goods at a low figure, the ordinary workman, agriculturist, etc., is, however, benefited by the competition. If the mine-owners were compelled to pay the wages now asked and obtained by white laborers, (supposing they would consent to do the manual labor for which the Chinese receive much smaller pay,) they, the mine-owners, could not compete in the markets now open to them, especially San Francisco, the principal market for British Columbia coal, where, other foreign coal product is carried as ballast.

Exclusion of Chinese would retard public works.

" I believe the exclusion of Chinese would retard the construction of public works and increase the cost of them very materially both as regards those under way and those contemplated.

No legislative measures necessary.

" In regard to legislation I do not think any measures of a prohibitive nature are required at this early day, nor do I believe that legislation should take place either to restrict or regulate the incoming of Chinese, for the simple reason that they will not arrive in larger numbers than the requirements of the labor market demand.

Excluding Chinese imperils our chances of controlling the Asiatic trade as well as jeopardizes Provincial enterprises.

" I may state that it is my belief that the grand plan of opening up and controlling the Asiatic trade by a Canadian railway from Ocean to Ocean would be seriously affected, if not actually defeated, by legislating the Chinese out of the country at this time. In addition to jeopardising provincial enterprises, now in successful operation, other portions of our Dominion, expecting benefits and profits from transcontinental traffic over the Canadian Pacific Railway, tapping Oriental trade, would of course share in any evil effects resulting from injudicious or preventive legislation.

If Chinaman had votes the agitation would cease. Exclusion would kill the Asiatic trade

" If it were possible for Parliament to bring a bill in speedily to give the Chinaman the franchise there would be less anti-Chinese agitation and, I think legislation excluding the Chinese would kill the prospect of an Asiatic trade with Canada."

The views of these two gentlemen on the other points of this enquiry are equally valuable, but do not immediately bear on the subject of this chapter.

Observations.

Bearing on the past development, as to these three sources of industry the Salmon Canneries, railroad construction, and coal mining, accumulating and distributing wealth, and advancing the country in all its material aspects, aggregating collectively an addition of many millions to the trade of the Province, the testimony is clear and indisputable, that they would not have succeeded without the aid of Chinese labor. If, with reference to domestic service, we examine the statements of those who are not employers of labor on a large scale, but simply contributors to the general welfare by expenditures and industries in the ordinary avocation

of life, thereby disseminating the means of livelihood and aiding in the development of the country, (individually, perhaps to a small degree, but in the aggregate to a very large degree) we find observation after observation that they could not have remained in the country without that source of supply. Whatever the future may require, it is vain to contend that British Columbia would at this day, be in the position to command that future as she now has a prospect of doing, had she not had the opportunity of Chinese labor, and availed herself of it.

CHAPTER 3.

SOCIAL AND MORAL ASPECTS.

Whatever may be the results of the material or pecuniary aspect of this question, it must be admitted, that if its moral and social aspect be of such a character as to pollute the social atmosphere,—to degrade and demoralize the people,—and to introduce vice and disease, then whatever may be the consequence, the prevention of the latter is of more importance than the gain by the former.

Importance of considering the social and moral aspect.

The influences which destroy the healthy tone of a community are more subtle in their nature, more tardy and more insidious in their approach, than the causes which lead to business and commercial prosperity.

The evidence therefore taken on this point in British Columbia as well as in San Francisco and elsewhere, where opportunity of more lengthened experience, and observation on a greater scale was afforded, should be impartially as well as thoroughly examined, not to sustain a foregone conclusion either for or against the question, but to arrive at a truthful solution.

The promoters of the movement against the Chinese have repeatedly asserted that sufficient evidence has already been laid before Parliament to warrant prohibitive Legislation, covering the main objections to such immigration. These objections may be classified as follows:—

1st. The absorption of employment to the exclusion of white labor, and consequent retardation of the settlements of the country.

Objections.

2nd. Absorption of domestic service and immorality engendered thereby.

3rd. Personal uncleanness and filthy habits of the Chinese, diseases, leprosy and crowding of habitations.

4th. Opium smoking, prostitution, slavery and immorality.

5th. Secret organizations, want of truth, evasion of taxation and expense to the administration of justice.

6th. Non-identify with the people of the country and withdrawal of capital resulting from their labor.

The evidence laid before Parliament will be found in the report of the Select Committee on Chinese Labor and Immigration to the House of Commons on the 14th of May, 1879, published in Vol. XIII. of the Journals, Appendix No. 4.

Evidence before Parliament, 1879.

There are four conclusions stated in that report:

1st. If more evidence is wanted than that accompanying the report it should be taken in British Columbia.

Report of Committee of House of Commons.

2nd. That the report of the Joint Committee of the Congress of the United States and of the Senate Committee of the State of California on Chinese Labor and Immigration, contain much evidence showing the undesirableness of encouraging Chinese labor and immigration.

3rd. That, from the evidence taken before the Select Committee, they believe that Chinese immigration ought not to be encouraged.

Chinese immigration not to be encouraged.

4th. That, from the evidence taken before the Committee, they are of opinion that Chinese labor ought not to be employed on Dominion public works.

Before this Committee, of which Mr. De Cosmos, one of the members from British Columbia, was chairman (as before mentioned), the following persons only were examined:—

- Mr. Bunster, M.P., from British Columbia.
- Mr. Thompson, M.P., " " "
- Dr. McInnes, M.P., " " "
- Senator McDonald, " " "
- F. J. Barnard, M.P., " " "
- Mr. Dewdney, M.P., " " "
- Senator Cornwall, " " "

Tests of value of Evidence.

These gentlemen, with the chairman representing the Province and having a personal and practical knowledge of the subject on which they were examined, as bearing upon all parts of the Province, must be credited with having given testimony in accordance with their convictions. We quote from this evidence the language of the witnesses, as given before the Committee, that a judgment may be formed not through any suggested medium, or to any particularly suggested end, but that each reader may judge for himself. There is also another reason. In all judicial enquiries the evidence of the witnesses, where there is conflicting testimony, should be given in their own words and language, in order that its value may be best estimated. In cases of such conflict the test of value varies. If the question be of fact, the test is veracity coupled with opportunity, accuracy of observation and memory. If it be of opinion, the test is competency coupled with knowledge, education and experience. In both absence or presence of motive or interests. These rules are simple, they are clear.

Mr. BUNSTER says:—

"The tendency of the presence of the Chinese in the country is to exclude servant girls from employment; and the great cause of this exclusion lies in the fact that the white servant girls feel that it degrades them, and as a consequence they will not come to the country and compete with and work on the same terms as the Chinamen.

Manufacturers against.

"The feeling of the masses of the people in British Columbia is strongly against Chinese. I now refer to the people that manufacture, and the people who are trying to build up the country, and the merchants and others, aside from what I call the snob aristocracy. These people are all against the Chinese, with that exception. There are a few would-be aristocrats who like to put on frills, and they are fond of having Chinese servants. They think that it is something grand, and something away up. They do not care about employing a Sewash, though these, who are Indians, are equally as good servants as are the Chinese, in my opinion.

"Near Nanaimo somewhere about 300 Chinamen were employed around or about the mines.

Mining superficial.

"The Chinese do not go down underneath the ground. They are afraid to go down below the surface of the earth, and they work altogether on the top. They screen coal and do such like work, and they shift cars about.

Farmers against.

"The farmers are not favorable to the Chinese. They are considered down on these people. They say that the Chinese interfere with them a

great deal in the way of getting groceries before they get their crops in. Formerly the white farmers were able to bring a few vegetables to market and to take home in exchange some groceries, which were very acceptable to their families, but now the Chinese have done away with all that kind of business."

"Q. Would it be good policy on the part of the Government in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway to prohibit the employment of Chinese labor on it?—A. It would be the best kind of policy that the Government could pursue in regard to this work, and for this reason: if they employ white laborers on the road, a great many of the white laborers will remain in the country. They will take up a tract of land and locate upon it, and if these men had families either here in Canada, or in Ireland, or anywhere else, it would induce them to bring their families out to this country, when they would become customers of the Government by buying goods, which being dutiable, at the Custom house would lead to the payment of revenues."

Exclusion of Chinese labor, on C. P. R. construction.

"Q. "Could sufficient white labor be obtained for the purpose of building this road in the province of British Columbia?—A. Yes; any quantity of white labor, if the road was built, would swarm into the Province from the State of California and from Europe. At the present time there are not sufficient works going on on the Pacific coast, to employ all the available white labor. At the present time there is no inducement for a white man to go out there and take his family out, or to go out there and take others out."

Sufficiency obtainable.

"Q. "Suppose that the Government advertised for tenders for the construction of one hundred miles of that line of railway, and if in the covenant of the contract the contractor was compelled not to employ Chinese laborers, what would you suppose would be the difference in the tender, would this qualification make any difference in your opinion?—A. I do not believe that this circumstance would make a difference of \$1. I think that contractors have found that white labor is preferable to Chinese labor. I have heard contractors, who used white labor in Southern California, say that it proved cheaper than Chinese labor."

Would not add to expense.

"A great many improvements have been made in the machinery which is used on farms, and there are so many young farmers growing up that this really gives us a surplus of white labor on the Pacific coast, in certain parts. There would be no difficulty whatever experienced in procuring a sufficiency of white labor; as I said before, I am satisfied that it would make no difference whatever in the cost of the Canadian Pacific railway if the Dominion Government advertised for tenders for the construction of one hundred miles of the Pacific railroad, and stipulated in the contract that no Chinamen should be employed in building the road."

Mr. Thompson, (Cariboo), says: "Q. In what respect are their presence in any country an injury to it?—A. This is the case, because they are a separate race from the whites. They do not amalgamate with the whites, nor do they adopt our customs. They live among themselves. They have their own religion and also they have secret societies, by means of which to a very great extent, they are governed. They contribute very little to the wealth of the country, and to a certain extent, they impoverish it by competing with white men who, if they settled permanently in the country, would improve it."

Objectionable. No amalgamation.

Competition with white labor.

Take no part in politics.

Q. "Do you think that the Chinese are calculated to make good citizens, and to take part in the affairs of the country?—A. I have never known any of them to do so, so far. I do not believe that in any part of the Pacific coast the Chinese population takes any interest in politics; in fact they are excluded from taking any part in political matters by law."

Exclusion by law.

Mining claims.

Q. "Well, in the mining districts do they take up claims that have been abandoned, or do they take up claims from the Government like other citizens and work them?—A. They take up claims in the ordinary way; they take up claims that have been abandoned; they buy claims from other miners, and they work at the mines for wages."

Objectionable reduce wages.

Q. "In what way are they objectionable?—A. Well, they reduce the rate of wages to a certain extent; and they very often prevent white people from getting employment."

Useful in poor diggings.

Q. "In what way are they useful?—A. In some sections you require them, but as a general thing I consider that the white miners would much prefer to have them out of the country altogether. I say that in some sections where there are poor diggings, which will not justify their owners in employing white labor, they are useful."

Q. Do you employ any of them, Mr. Thompson?—A. I have employed them; that is, companies in which I am interested employed them.

Trust worthy.

Q. Are the Chinese a trustworthy and reliable class of people?—A. If you watch them they do very well.

Stealing.

Q. They require watching, do they?—A. Yes; they will steal anything they can lay their hands on if they get a favorable opportunity for doing so. Of course, there are white men who will steal, too, but the Chinaman can never be trusted to work by himself in any place where there is coarse gold that can be picked up.

Witness's experience limited to mining districts.

Q. "You limit that practice to the mining districts; I refer to the habits of stealing which you attribute to them?—A. Well, I have no experience anywhere else in this regard."

Female white labor.

Q. "In what way are they prohibited from becoming citizens?—A. They are prohibited from becoming voters."

Q. "Can you explain to the committee how it is that male Chinese are employed in British Columbia in preference to female white labor, or why it is that female white labor is not employed there in this capacity?—A. I think that there is a great scarcity of female white labor in the Province."

Getting married.

Q. Do you not naturally suppose that the high rate of wages that is given to the Chinese for domestic work, which females naturally do, would induce a large immigration of white women to the province?—A. The female servants that come to British Columbia have a habit of getting married after they have been in service for a month or two; and as a consequence they leave their employers.

White labor cost twice as much per man.

Q. "What is your idea as to the cost of white labor on public works, in comparison with the figure at which Chinese labor could be obtained for this purpose?—A. I should think that white labor would probably cost twice as much as Chinese labor per man."

Q. "It would then cost the Government twice as much to construct public works with white labor as it would with the aid of Chinese labor?" Cost.
 —A. That would be the case if as many whites were required. It is generally considered that three Chinamen are equal to two white men; I think that is about the average."

Q. "Is there any prospect of the Chinese becoming permanent settlers of their settling upon land and of making their homes permanent in this country?" No prospect of their becoming permanent settlers.
 —A. I do not think that they would do so. They would probably settle for a short time in the country, until they could make some money and then return with their gains to China from whence they came."

Q. "Senator Cornwall says the Chinese do not like liquor?" Use brandy
 —A. I know that in the mines, where a number of Chinamen are working together on their own account, when they make any sort of decent wages they usually have a regular supply of brandy."

Q. "Do they buy French or Chinese brandy?" French brandy.
 —A. They get French brandy if they can procure it. I have seen them going to a store frequently with their pass-book and obtain a gallon, or two gallons of brandy, and take it away to their claims; but at the same time, I do not think they are in the habit of drinking to excess, except on the occasion of the celebration of the new year, when they generally have a little spree."

Q. "You do not see many of them in a state of intoxication?" Seldom intoxicated.
 —A. No, not often; I have seen some of them a little the worse of liquor, however."

Q. "Are the Chinese cleanly in their habits?" Not cleanly in habits.
 —A. By no means, though I rather think that as a general thing they are cleanly in their persons. They wash a good deal, and I believe, change their clothes frequently, but their houses are by no means cleanly. In some cases, their rooms themselves may be clean, but their appurtenances are filthy. I have known them to keep hogs in their own houses.

"They generally keep themselves pretty clean. They have barbers to shave their heads and faces - their heads up to where the queue commences - but they have no idea of cleanliness around their houses. Even if their houses are cleanly in the inside, outside they are filthy." Cleanly in person.
Outside of houses filthy.

Q. How do the Chinese compare with the whites in point of intelligence?" Intelligence.
 —A. Well, that depends of what you call intelligence. If by that term you mean smartness in the way of roguery, I think that they can hold their own with any class.

Q. The Chinese are quick in that way?" Quick.
 —A. Quick! I should think they were.

Q. In point of education how do they compare with the whites?" Education.
 —A. I should say that every one of them whom I have seen can write his name.

Q. They can read and write their own language I suppose?" Yes
 —A. Yes they can read and write their own language.

Q. As a rule this is the case?" Yes.
 —A. Yes.

In trade honorable and straightforward.

Q. Are they honorable in their dealings with the white people?—A. As a general think in the way of trade they are. The Chinese store-keepers are generally very straightforward, at least, when you do business with them you can depend on getting what you agree for.

As witnesses not reliable.

Q. As witnesses are they reliable?—A. No they are not; it is just the contrary.

Not many Chinese female.

Q. Are there many Chinese females in the Province of British Columbia, in proportion of the number of males?—A. There are not many Chinese women in the Province in proportion of the males.

Prostitutes.

Q. What is the general character of the Chinese women who do live in the Province of British Columbia?—A. Well, they are nearly all of the lowest class of prostitutes, though some of the Chinese traders have their wives with them. There is a trader in my district who, I believe, has three wives. He is a rich trader. I know that when this proposed tax of \$40 a head was spoken of, he said it would come pretty hard on him as he would have to pay for his three wives.

Three wives.

Advisable to check immigration.

I think it would be advisable to check the immigration of Chinese to the Province of British Columbia, if that is possible.

Better for government to pay white men 50 per cent more.

This question has been brought under discussion a good deal; that is, as to whether it would be better for the Government of Canada to pay white men higher wages, or to employ Chinamen in the building of public works at a less rate of wages. My opinion is, that it would be better to pay white men at least 50 per cent more than Chinamen; even if they had to employ the white labor at a higher rate; this would be advisable, because the amount that would be contributed to the revenue of the country by white men would be so much larger than the sum which would be so contributed by Chinamen.

Chinese as market gardeners, driven out by Italians.

There is one thing which I may mention to the Committee; there has been a great deal said about the superiority of the Chinese over the whites as market gardeners. I believe, that they are very industrious indeed but when I was in the city of San Francisco, I was told that the Italians were there driving the Chinese out of the business of market gardening.

Reason why.

Q. Was this result being brought about by the superiority of the Italians over the Chinese in this respect, or by combination?—A. It was brought about by their hard work, and by the attention which they give to this same branch of agriculture which has been pursued by the Chinese. Such was the case to a great extent about the city of San Francisco.

English market

Q. What advantage would a Chinaman have over a practical English market gardener who understood his business professionally and thoroughly. Would not the English gardener under such circumstances do as well as the Chinaman?—A. A Chinaman will work over ground which another man—a white man—would hardly think of touching. The Chinamen work so patiently and hard, they labor from early in the morning until late at night, and are content with such small returns that white men do not like to compete with them in this particular.

Chinese hard labor.

Italians.

Q. They sell the products of their labor at a cheaper rate than white men will, I presume?—A. Yes, they sell their vegetables cheaper, of course; as I was saying, in San Francisco the Italians have there gone into the market gardening business latterly, and are driving the Chinese

out. Of course, the people prefer to purchase their vegetables from the Italians, when they can get these things at a reasonable rate. Whites have preference when reasonable.

Q. Are the Chinamen, generally speaking, a sober people?—A. They are generally sober. They do drink liquors, as I say, but it is very rarely that you see them intoxicated. If they do get intoxicated, they have sense enough to stay in the house. Chinese sober.

DR. McINNIS, says:—I reside in the city of New Westminster, on the mainland of British Columbia. We have here, I suppose, about 300 permanent Chinese settlers, and during the salmon fishing season we have from 1,200 to 1,500. They are used here largely in making fish cans, and in various ways in connection with the salmon canneries. New Westminster. Salmon canneries.

Q. Where do they come from?—A. From various parts; from Oregon, Washington territory and California. I believe some come from Victoria, too. Whence from.

Q. How long do they remain with you in your fishing season?—A. They generally remain two or three months. We have, besides, always from 200 to 300 permanent Chinese settlers in the city. Chinese settlers.

Q. By permanent settlers, do you mean those who remain a life time?—A. No, I mean those who make it their permanent home for a number of years.

Q. How long do they remain?—A. They generally remain from five to ten years. Whenever they save from \$500 to \$1,000, which they consider enough to enable them to go back to China and live like princes to the end of their days. I have been told that they can live on from one to two cents a day in China, so that when they accumulate that amount, they can go back to China and buy half a dozen wives.

Q. Please state your views on the subject of Chinese labor, and the desirability of encouraging Chinese immigration?—A. I think there was a time in British Columbia when Chinese labor was really a necessity, but certainly that time has gone by, and we have now more white labor in British Columbia than can find profitable employment. Chinese labor once a necessity. Superabundance of white labor at present.

Q. So long as the Chinese remained there?—A. So long as the Chinese remained there. We pay Chinamen in the canneries, from \$25 to \$35 a month. They are all bondsmen. In canneries, Chinese wages.

Q. What do you pay white labor at the same time?—A. From about \$30 to \$40 a month. White wages.

Q. What do you mean by bondsmen?—A. I have been informed by Chinamen themselves that they give bonds, before leaving China, to Chinese companies, to work for them for a term of from five to ten years, and all that the Company have to do in order to carry out their part of the contract, is to furnish them with the bare necessities of life and their clothing, and the company have all their earnings. After they serve their time, of course they go then and work for themselves and make as much money as they possible can and go back to China as quickly as possible. Chinese are bondsmen.

Q. Do you consider Chinese as a high or a low class of immigrants?—A. Low class immigrants.

A. I consider them a low class—certainly much lower than any white class of people I have ever come in contact with.

Demoralizing influence.

Q. Both male and female?—A. Both male and female. They have certainly a very demoralizing effect upon the white people of British Columbia, or any other country in which they have gained a permanent foothold.

Medical experience.

Q. Have you come among them much in your profession?—A. I have.

Habits filthy and immoral.

Q. Can you give us your experience of their habits?—A. Their habits are of a most filthy and immoral kind. Vices are very prevalent among them.

Licentious.
Half a dozen in New Westminster all told.

Q. Of what nature?—A. Well, of a licentious nature. I think we have not over half a dozen Chinese women in New Westminster all told. They are all prostitutes, and it is a notorious fact that nearly all the Chinese women who come to British Columbia—and I believe to the Pacific Coast generally—are prostitutes.

Witness speak from actual experience.

Q. As to their habits of morality; have you professionally, or otherwise, any knowledge as to that, or do you speak from general impression of these moral habits?—A. From actual knowledge—actual experience.

All diseased.

Q. Are any matters of that kind brought up before the Courts?—A. No, I do not mean to say that their immorality is from seduction; but they are all diseased. There is scarcely a Chinaman who comes to British Columbia, but brings with him the most virulent form of syphilis. That syphilis is communicated to the Indians and the white population, and the consequence is that, I believe, in a quarter of a century, out of our present population of 30,000 or 40,000 Indians there will not be 5,000 of them alive. It is killing them off by hundreds every year.

Killing off Indians.

Q. Does that contamination spread from the Chinese?—A. Yes, principally from the Chinese. They appear to have a more virulent form of it than any people I know of.

Increased proportion.

Q. Is it not a fact that this disease has been carrying off the Indian tribes for the last 50 years—ever since they came in contact with the white people on the Pacific Coast?—A. To a more or less extent, I believe that is quite correct, but not in the same proportion that it has since the Chinese have gone to the Pacific Coast.

Indians and Chinese don't mix.

Q. You think it is much more prevalent now than formerly among the Indians?—A. I do.

Q. Do the Indians and Chinese mix very much?—A. Not a great deal.

Q. Then you speak from your professional knowledge?—A. Yes.

Q. Are they subject to scrofula or leprosy?—A. I have never seen a case of leprosy among them.

Q. I believe there are some cases of leprosy among them?—A. I believe so but I have not seen one.

Public Works.

Q. Do you think it is desirable to employ Chinamen on the public

works of the Dominion?—A. I believe it is very undesirable and I think it will be a great misfortune if they are employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway. If they are employed on that work after the road is built they will have a large percentage of the money expended in the construction of that road; they will leave the country and the country will be poorer by the amount of money they take out of it; where if white laborers are employed they will settle down and make homes for themselves in the country, and in a very short time be the means of yielding a considerable revenue to the country.

Q. Do you think it would be desirable to allow Chinese to purchase Dominion Lands?—A. No, I would be decidedly against it.

Q. Or lease?—A. No neither to purchase nor lease.

Q. Do you think it would be desirable to allow Chinese to take up fishing stations?—A. No, I would regret very much to see that. By the last mail I received a petition from the canning proprietors in my district and they complain now that they have to compete with the Japanese in the salmon canning business, and I have no doubt that the Chinese will be into it in a very short time, and they are afraid it will be impossible for them to compete with the Chinese.

Q. Do you think there could be an introduction of white immigrants who would settle along the banks of the Fraser River and utilize the land, and at the same time employ themselves in the fisheries during the fishing season?—A. Yes. The Chinese are very apt and handy, and the canning proprietors out there prefer them to any other class for making tins and for any light work. But for heavy manual labor, for instance, as farming hands, they are not employed in my district but to very limited extent. If employers can get white labor, they employ it in preference to the Chinese labor, considerably cheaper.

Q. Have you any Chinese engaged in cultivating gardens?—A. We have quite a number.

Q. Will you state the effect of their competition with white settlers?—A. Well nearly all of the white gardeners have given up their occupation altogether.

Q. They furnish vegetables much cheaper than white gardeners?—A. Yes, much cheaper.

Q. They have driven the white gardeners out of the business?—A. Yes.

SENATOR MACDONALD, SAYS:

Q. Will you state to the Committee your opinion as to the moral character of the Chinese who come to the Province of British Columbia?—A. From personal experience, I cannot say anything on that subject, but judging from the police reports, I do not think that they are any more immoral than is the general class of laboring people in any country.

Q. On moral grounds, then, you would not be in favor of prohibiting the immigration of these people into this country?—A. I do not think

Vices same as whites.

that I would. I would, however, prohibit all immorality. I do not think that they are worse than the laboring classes of other nationalities in other countries. They gamble, and have women of ill-fame, and all that sort of thing, the same as white people have.

Expense white labor living.

Q. What does it cost a white man to live in the province of Columbia?
—A. It costs them about fifty cents a day.

Ditto Chinese.

Q. Do you think that it costs a Chinese laborer fifty cents a day to live?—A. No; I do not think that it would cost them so much. I think that to live would cost them about half that sum per day; I fancy that this would be the case. I could not state positively the cost, but I think that a Chinaman could live on half of that sum per day.

Domestic services wages.

Q. Are you aware what amount Chinaman earn annually?—A. No; I could not say; Chinamen work in houses. They perform domestic services, and for doing that sort of work they get from \$20 to \$30 and \$35 a month in wages.

Q. And their board?—A. Yes; these men, I suppose, save nearly all their pay, and they make about \$300 a year—more or less.

Their increase detrimental.

Q. If the Chinese are not discouraged, what will be the probable result of the increased number of Chinamen in regard to white labor?—A. I think that as they are driven out of the State of California their numbers in the Province of British Columbia would increase and this increase in their numbers would be undoubtedly detrimental to white labor.

Facilities for coming greater.

Q. Would they increase in greater ratio than would white men do you think?—A. Yes, they have more facilities for doing so than have white men. A ship comes from China to our Province, in five and thirty days, and the rates of freight are low, the passage money for Chinamen is very low. Passages for Chinamen are obtained at a very low rate.

Object to the local legislation on subject.

Q. Could you offer to the committee any suggestions as to the best means of discouraging Chinese immigration other than their non-employment on public works in the Dominion?—A. Well, I do not approve of the bill which was passed with regard to the Chinese population by the Local Assembly of the Province of British Columbia. I think that the Assembly has gone too far in this relation. I do not approve of that measure at all.

Buying dominion lands.

Q. Do you think that it is desirable to prohibit the Chinese from buying Dominion lands?—A. Well, I do not know whether it is desirable or not. I think that in a new country where there is lots of room, it might not be injurious were they allowed to occupy wild land. Were this the case, it might add to the productions of the country.

As market gardeners.

Q. Have they not almost driven the white gardeners and marketmen out of the market?—A. Well, I suppose that they have done so. Their prices are low, and white labor is very high, and Chinamen will be apt to come in and work under them. Certainly, the Chinese by entering into this business have cut down prices.

Market gardeners in 1875, \$3 per day.

Q. What is the feeling that exists among the gardeners and farmers with respect to the competition which prevails among the Chinese themselves?—A. I do not think that market gardeners' wages two years ago were more than \$3 a day.

Q. But what is the feeling of that class with respect to competition with Chinese labor in regard to their productions?—A. Well, the feeling, of course, is very strong against the Chinaman—the same as would naturally be the case in connection with any competition. Even among white people similar results would follow, under like circumstances, with regard to manufactures or commerce, or any other line of business. There is no question that white labor cannot compete with Chinese labor in the scale of economy. The white people cannot live as cheap as the Chinese, or work at such a low rate of wages.

Feeling hostile on account of competition.

White labor cannot compete with Chinese labor.

Q. Could you point out any permanent advantage that would result from the retention of Chinese labor in the country?—A. I think that Chinese labor is useful to a certain extent. It is useful in opening manufactures, and in opening any new work; in clearing land for instance. They are as useful as the Indians used to be in former years, before the Chinese came into this country. At that time, we employed Indians in clearing land at a cheap rate of wages, and Chinamen would be useful in the same way. Probably the Chinese could be utilized in starting boot and shoe factories and tailor shops on a large scale, and in the making of shirts and clothing. They could be made useful in many cases of that kind.

Chinese labor useful to the country.

Q. Does not the presence of Chinese labor interfere with the employment of young men and women?—A. Well, in our country we have very few women. That is one of the evils that we have to contend with. If we had the number of women which they have in this part of the country, they would do all that kind of light work, and then, of course, I would be in favor of doing away with Chinese labor altogether.

Few women.

Q. How could you expect young men and young women to go to the Province of British Columbia and to remain there, if they are brought into competition with Chinese labor at such a low rate of wages, as to prevent them earning the means of living?—A. Well, white labor must come down in price. That is a matter at any rate which must be brought about. It is impossible to carry on any kind of work, either in connection with farming or with manufacturing at the present rate of wages, in our Province. The price of white labor must come down, in order to enable us to carry on any works successfully. On the whole, I must say that I am opposed to Chinese immigration, and I would like to see measures adopted which would prevent any more Chinaman coming into our country.

Price of white labor must come down to enable us to carry on any works successfully.

Q. Is there any further statement you would like to make to the committee on this subject?—A. No; I would only say that a certain limited number of Chinamen have been useful to the Province of British Columbia—the presence of a limited number has been really useful, in my opinion; but I would not like to see that number augmented in any way, I would rather see it diminished, in justice to our population of boys and girls who are growing up.

Limited number useful to Province not to be increased.

Q. Mr. Macdonald, you speak of the difference between the price of white labor and of Chinese labor; will you explain to the committee the reason why such a high price is demanded for white labor?—A. In the Province of British Columbia.

Reasons for high price of white labor in British Columbia.

Q. Yes.—A. Well, the people who came to the Province of British Columbia some years ago in the year 1858, brought with them old California

ideas to a great extent; nearly every body came then. They came from California when money was plentiful and labor was scarce, and they have stuck to these ideas up to the present time to a great extent. They have stuck to the old California ideas, and labor is scarce in our country.

Won't take less.

Q. Is there any permanent industry in the Province which keeps us the price of labor; what keeps the price up?—A. No; they prefer to be idle unless they are starving, rather than take less than the sum of \$2 a day.

Successful mining a case.

Q. Have the gold mines of British Columbia anything to do with this high price of labor in the province?—A. Oh! yes; a good deal. They have a good deal to do with it. These people work in those mines for three or four months in the year, and they may make more in this way than by ordinary labor; they may thus make more than a years wages in a few months.

When laboring men become small contractors, they are the firsts to employ Chinese labor.

Q. Do the employers of labor show a preference to employing Chinese instead of whites, and when they are employed do they work well?—A. I notice that laboring men when they become small contractors, are the very first people to employ Chinese labor. They employ Chinamen to mix mortar, and to carry brick and stone, and in the erection of building, masons and small contractors employ them. The whole Chinese labor question is a very conflicting one and very difficult to decide; where labor is cheap, advantage will be taken of the circumstance, no matter by whom it is furnished, whether by black or by white—no matter what the color of the employees may be.

Chief objection work for less wages.

Q. Does the chief objection to the presence of Chinamen in the Province arise from the fact that they will labor for a smaller sum than white laborers are willing to work for?—A. Yes; that is one objection to their presence in the Province.

Morals not worse than other classes.

Q. The objection to their presence is not on account of their morals or anything of that kind?—A. Of course, their morals are not much worse than the morals of other classes.

Mr. Barnard, says:

Objection among laboring class strong.

Q. What is the general objection of the people of British Columbia on this point, as to the desirability, if possible, of preventing Chinese immigration into the Province?—A. Among the laboring class, the feeling is very strong against them but among those who employ Chinese domestic servants it is not so strong. The Chinese are very useful and employers cannot replace them, as things are now with other labor.

At present employers cannot replace.

Would do so if could.

Q. If employers could replace them with white labor, male or female, or both, at a reasonable rate, do you think that they would do so?—A. Yes and I suppose that in time the Chinese could be replaced, but it would be very difficult at the present time to keep females in British Columbia. The moment they arrive in the Province they get married, leave the Province or do something else, and they are not available for domestic service.

Females not available for domestic service.

Chinese domestic service.

Q. You find that Chinamen are more docile and tractable than are white servants?—A. Yes; and they would do more work than white women will do; they would cut firewood and do other work where white women will only do one branch. Some years ago we employed a number of

English servants who came out of England. The people in the Province contributed towards their passage money and paid so much down. The girls came out, but not one remained one year in employment; some got married and some went to the dogs. But that will all be cured as we get more immigration into the country, and a larger population of women. There are a great many men in the Province who would like to get married.

English girls.

Q. As a general rule, the Chinese do not settle down into the country?
—A. They lease lands and become market gardeners.

Leasing lands.

Q. They make all they can in the country and then leave it? —A. Yes anybody would do that if they could.

As to leaving the country.

Q. I mean that they make all they can and then leave for their own country? —A. This is not always the case; of course, they want to get good land. They will work a piece of land for a certain number of years, and if they can obtain a better piece they are anxious and willing to leave the old one and better their agricultural position.

Q. Are they engaged to any extent in agriculture? —A. Not very extensively.

Not engaged in agriculture.

Q. What is the general character of the male population? —A. They are most industrious and an example to any laboring classes in the world. They are very frugal and industrious.

Male population frugal and industrious.

Q. Are their females more debauched than those of the rest of the community? —A. Are they more debauched than other classes, as a rule? —I think white women are just as bad as Chinese women.

White women and Chinese women equally bad.

Q. Do you think the country loses by allowing the Chinese to follow the white miner into the mines, and taking out the gold? —A. No, if they can be confined to that class of work, it would not be injurious, but it would be rather to our advantage. As I understand the matter the Chinese to-day control the labor market of the Province of British Columbia, and they will control the labor market of any country into which they penetrate. They do not go about individually seeking work, but remain quiet in large bands; they are controlled by the agent of companies which exist in China. These companies, which are wealthy, send these men out at their own (the companies) expense and the men have to serve the companies for a term of years, as I understand it. If you require 1,000 Chinamen to perform a particular work, you do not apply to individual Chinamen, or insert an advertisement in the newspapers in order to attract men from all sections of the country, but you go to one of these Chinese companies, and make arrangements with them. You have to agree to certain terms; you have to make a full agreement with them, and you never see the men until they are sent on by the company to proceed to work. A foreman is sent with them, and to this foreman you have to apply in case any difficulty arises. If you notice any Chinamen who is not doing his duty you go at once to the foreman and he arranges the matter; the individual has nothing to do with it. The result of this class of labor is this: If this thing is permitted to continue in the country, the Chinese will completely control the labor market. If this thing is permitted to go on I take it that one day the Chinese will control the labor market everywhere in the world.

Chinese control the labor market.

Control.

Q. How do these companies control the men after the latter reach the Province of British Columbia and are on British soil?—A. It is a little difficult to ascertain how they do it; they have a faculty of keeping things to themselves.

Objectionable, no amalgamation &c.

Q. In what respect do you consider the presence of the Chinese in the Province of British Columbia is a nuisance, Mr. Barnard?—A. They are a class of people with whom we cannot associate; we cannot amalgamate with them. They are a class of people that have no interest in common with us, and while they earn your money and are supported by your enterprise and industry, they take no part whatever in your political advancement, or in your social or moral condition. They are aside altogether from us—just as much as a steam-engine is aside from a human being.

In their labor they give a fair equivalent.

Q. But, do they render a fair equivalent for the wages which they receive from their employers, in the labor that they perform?—A. Yes, they do.

Sober, industrious and cleanly.

Q. Are the Chinese, as laborers, docile and industrious?—A. They are sober and industrious, and cleanly in their habits.

Sober.

Q. How is it with them with regard to drinking sprees and breaches of the peace?—A. The Chinese are a sober class of people.

Petty larceny.

Q. They seldom commit breaches of the peace!—A. They are considerably addicted to petty larceny.

Q. Are they addicted to petty larceny among themselves?—A. Oh, yes, and also with respect to others.

Control labor market.

Q. You spoke of the introduction of machinery into China, and of the consequences which might flow from the Chinese offering goods very cheaply, and you said we might require greater protection against them than against the Americans. What connection do you think that this has with the question of Chinese immigration into British Columbia?—A. The question is that they are going to control the labor market wherever they settle down, and if this sort of thing is allowed to go on, they will eventually control the labor market of the world.

Supplanting English and American manufacturers.

Q. Do you imagine that there is imminent danger of that. Do you think that there is imminent danger of their supplanting the English and Americans as a manufacturing nation?—A. I cannot very easily understand how, if Chinamen can live for two cents a day as they can at home under such circumstances, any other result can follow. If in China, they are going to produce, say cotton for instance, at a much lower price than where other labor is employed and where a much higher rate of wages is paid—as must be paid to enable Europeans to live—it is plain that they will have an immense advantage over us.

Once admitted in the province there should be no restrictions.

Q. Would it be advisable to prevent the Chinese from working in the gold mines of British Columbia, and to keep these mines until white-labor was supplied from the lower Provinces—until white men came in from the other Provinces,—took up the mines and worked them?—A. I am not in favor of adopting any such measures while the Chinese are amongst us. Once they are amongst us they should be entitled to enjoy the same rights and privileges which all other settlers should have. I do not believe in

passing laws which should prohibit them from doing anything which any other person in the Province of British Columbia can do, though I should like to see them prevented from coming into the Province altogether.

Should be prevented from coming.

Q. Do you know of any Chinamen taking up land and working it in the Province?—A. Yes, there are a few of them that have done so. A few of them have done so in almost every district.

Take up lands.

Q. They cultivate small patches of ground; do they not?—A. They take up patches of ground, which white men would not think of touching for the purpose of taking a crop off from it, and take crops from them.

White men would not touch.

Q. Do they interfere with the operations of ordinary market gardeners (white) in forcing down prices?—A. They do so when they are in the vicinity of cities.

Interference with market gardeners.

To get a correct idea of the value of labor, you have to set down the different kinds of work. For instance at the lumbering camps, except as cooks, there are no Chinamen employed. There are no Chinamen who are any good with the axe, and they do not interfere with the white-labor in that respect, so that the white men get better wages there.

Best pick and shovel.

The labor that Chinamen are best adapted for is that with the pick and shovel. I believe he can very nearly equal the white man with the pick and shovel.

Q. Do you think it would be desirable to allow Chinese to take up public lands?—A. As I said before, if you admit them to the country admit them to all the privileges of the country.

Take up Public lands.

Q. Is it desirable that they should be permanent settlers?—A. I do not know why they should not have all the privileges of citizenship once they are here, but as permanent settlers, we do not need them; we want a better class of people than they are.

Q. What is the general feeling—not among the laboring classes only—but among the whole white population of British Columbia regarding the Chinese question?—A. I think the general feeling is, that the Province would be a great deal better off without them.

General feeling in Province against.

Q. Is that the feeling among manufacturers and mill owners?—A. No, the manufacturers prefer them to other laborers because they are good laborers—steady, regular and methodical and they have no blue Mondays, in fact they have no difficulty with them as they have with white laborers.

Not among manufacturers. Blue Mondays.

Q. In fact, they are a valuable class of laborers, so far as employers of labor are concerned?—A. Yes, as good as any other class of machinery you can get.

Machinery.

Q. Are they employed to a great extent as farmers?—A. They are generally cooks.

Cooks.

Q. You do not know what kind of laborers they make on farms?—A. They do not come up to the ordinary agriculturists. They do not get the wages of ordinary agriculturists.

Not good on farms.

Q. Is there not a scarcity of labor in British Columbia; have you not a sufficiency of employment for both Chinese and whites—for all who apply for it in the Province?—A. There are not many idle men in

Objections.

British Columbia and were there fewer Chinese there would be more whites. But there is very little inducement for a white man to go to British Columbia and take his family with him and turn his girls out to compete with Chinamen in household work; and if he has any respect for himself, he will hardly go and work alongside of a Chinaman. Therefore, to a great extent, he is excluded; and he, in his turn, writes to others who may wish to settle in the country, and tells them if they come there they may expect to compete with Chinamen in every branch of labor they may undertake, and the consequence is that we cannot get white population; we cannot encourage it. I have been asked, hundreds of times since I came to Canada, with reference to that, and I cannot encourage people to go out there under the circumstances.

Expense of getting to Province.

Q. Do you think it is owing to that, or is it not attributable to the remoteness of that Province, and the expense of getting there compared with going to eligible positions in Manitoba? - A. The expense of getting there is of course against us, but that objection would be very easily overcome, if the people were satisfied that the country was worth going to. \$50 or \$60 would take a laboring man there - \$10 steerage from San Francisco to Victoria, and \$10 or \$50 to San Francisco.

Q. Then he has to pay for his living besides? - A. Well, it is very cheap; he could take a basket of provisions with him.

Q. I thought the lowest rate you could get there for was \$70? - A. No; as I said before, these 6,000 Chinamen in British Columbia take the place of two or three thousand families.

Wages of skilled axemen and farm hands.

Q. While you are paying white laborers high wages, \$60 or \$70 a month, I think? - A. Understand that is mostly for skilled axemen who are used to felling large trees - they get \$75 a month. The wages of good farm hands - and this would be a pretty fair criterion - are about \$45 a month.

100 per cent.

Q. That is over 100 per cent. of what we give here for the best men? - A. Yes.

Intelligence and composition of laboring class in British Columbia.

Q. What is the class who are generally known as the white laboring class in British Columbia; I did not get the point quite explained? - A. The idea is this: the class of men who go to settle up gold countries are generally more intelligent than ordinary laborers, as we understand laborers in Canada. They are generally a more intelligent and pushing class who come out there. The white laboring class now in Victoria, for instance, is composed of those men who have come to the mines, who have been mining for a number of years and have been unsuccessful, and they have to fall back into the ranks of the laborers. These men very often are strong, and they would rather starve than go to work alongside of a Chinaman.

Their labor only temporary.

Q. Do these men intend to remain as laborers, or do they resort to those occupations only temporarily? - A. It is a temporary thing, if they strike new diggings and can get along better in them, they propose to do so. I do not think we have any of the ordinary white laborers; the men who will work anywhere and everywhere and on any work you put them at. The laboring class of Victoria are composed of men who are laborers of necessity.

No ordinary white laborers in British Columbia.

Q. In that case would not the Chinese be indispensable, in case of great public works being undertaken in British Columbia?—A. Just as soon as it is announced that public works are to be commenced in British Columbia we will have all the white labor we require, and we **should** have a larger proportion than we have if we knew that the Chinese **were** not to be employed on the works.

White labor on Public Work.

Q. How do **the** Chinese go to the mines; on foot?—A. The cheapest way they can. **The** fact is, gentlemen, the Chinese are too smart for us. They will beat us **everywhere** they get a foothold.

Chinese too smart.

Q. That is the greatest objection to them on the part of the white population?—A. I think it is.

Greatest objection.

Q. How does the ordinary Chinese laborer compare in point of intelligence with the ordinary white laborer of this country?—A. Well, I think he is a grade lower.

Lower in intelligence.

Q. You think that this labor is a little lower?—I think that it is a good deal lower. You cannot get any class of white laborers that I know of—that will for the sake of economy, pack themselves to the extent, say of twenty persons in a room, ten by twelve, and sleeping three in a bed, there being three tiers of beds one on top of the other, and all the household furniture in the house wherein 20 laborers live not being worth more than the sum of \$2.50.

Reasons.

Q. What is the general health of these people, under such circumstances as you have mentioned?—A. Their health is good for the reason that they are very cleanly. They wash themselves very regularly. They could not live as closely as they do, in the hovels in which they dwell were it otherwise. That would be out of the question.

Their health, because cleanly.

Q. Do they ventilate their hovels properly? Do they let in the fresh air?—A. The impression of a white person, on going into one of the houses which they occupy, is at first against them; but that is the peculiar odorous result of the stuff which they eat; it does not arise from uncleanly habits or from effluvia coming from their bodies, but the odor which is perceived, arises from the stuff which they eat. This odor is besides mixed with the smell of tobacco and their tobacco is saturated with a little opium; and the smell of opium and tobacco and food altogether, gives rise to the unfavorable impression to which I allude. There is another disadvantage to which their presence in our country gives rise to. Say that you are a property holder and have a house to let; if we had 6,000 white laborers in the country you would derive a certain amount of rental from your property which in the aggregate would make it something worth while, but it is not so in the case of Chinamen; they will rent a house standing on a piece of land, and they are no sooner in possession of the dwelling, than they put up wings on each side sufficient to keep out the wind and sun, and place people in all the additional accommodations; but they are not satisfied with that, if the land is at all valuable, they will scoop it out and excavate cellars and place people in these quarters; then they will raise the roof and provide a room in the garret, where they live closer than rats in a nest.

Impression of white persons as to their residences.

Contrast of white.

And Chinese rentals.

Q. And they also put their hogs and chickens in the house; do they not?—A. I never saw them keep their hogs in the house.

Hogs and chickens.

Cleanly people.

Q. They keep their chickens in the house, however do they not?—
 A. They put their chickens in the house in case a cold night comes on, but not their hogs. I rather think they are a cleanly people, on the whole they are much more cleanly than the ordinary white laboring classes would be under similar circumstances.

Domestic service.

Q. Do you employ any Chinese, Mr. Barnard?—A. The only Chinaman whom I employ is a household servant.

Not stage drivers.

Q. You do not make use of them as stage drivers?—A. No; the Chinese are of very little service about horses—they have not the nerve.

Domestic service.

Q. Are you aware whether the Chinamen who are employed as domestic servants sleep in the houses of dwellings where they are employed as domestic servants, or not?—A. Oh, yes; they sleep in the houses where they are employed. We have always made it a rule to require the Chinese who are employed about the house to remain in the house during sleeping hours. I have had a Chinese servant in my employ for three years. This is the second Chinaman whom I have had for a similar period, and I have never had more satisfaction out of a domestic servant in my life than I have had out of these men.

Q. The Chinese are cleanly?—A. The room of this man is a picture of neatness, and he changes his socks every day; as far as he is personally concerned, he is extremely clean.

Q. He is a good-cook?—A. Yes.

Their organization as to employment.

Q. The Chinese do washing and laundry work?—A. Yes; in order to give you a good idea of the organization which exists among them with regard to the employments that they follow, I will relate a circumstance that has come under my notice. A gentleman who had been unfortunate in obtaining white household servants, applied for a Chinaman to serve him in that capacity. The Chinaman in charge, to whom he made his application, immediately turned over his books, and said to the gentleman: "Your name is _____?"—"Yes." "And you live at such a place?"—"Yes; I do." "You give too many dinners; you have a lot of men coming to see you every Sunday; you give a big dinner every Sunday?"—"Yes." "Mrs. _____ has three children?"—"Yes." In fact, the gentleman found this Chinaman had in his books a complete register of the whole of his family affairs, and at the end of the register, was set down the price which he was required to pay in order to secure services of a Chinaman. He also found that he could not get a Chinaman for anything less, and on making enquiries he discovered that they had a correct record, not of the standing of the servant who was to be employed, but of the standing of the masters who were to employ these men as servants.

MR. DEWDNEY SAYS:

Chinese Immigration might be overdone.

Q. Do you think, in your experience with, and knowledge of the Chinese, that they are such a class of immigrants as it is desirable on the part of, and in the interest of the Dominion, to encourage to come to the country?—A. I think that there may be too many of them in the Province of British Columbia. It is possible that there are too many; Chinese immigration might be overdone.

Q. Is Chinese immigration at the present time overdone in the Province of British Columbia?--A. I think not.

Not so at present.

Q. Have you any authentic information with respect to the number of Chinese who are in the country; have you any reliable information on this subject?--A. No; and I think there is none to be had.

Don't know number.

Q. The only way, in all probability, of finding out the number of Chinamen in the Province of British Columbia, and the industries in which they are engaged, is to apply to the representatives of the different Chinese companies who do business in British Columbia and obtain it from them. In the report of the Senate of the United States or of California, they appointed a sub-committee which waited on the representatives of the Chinese companies, who gave the Committee as accurate returns on this subject as their registers would afford, as to the number of Chinamen in the country, and I presume that this is the only way, as long as we are without official government sources of information, in which this information could be obtained?--A. You could get it approximately.

By the Chairman M. de Cosmos.

Mode of obtaining information.

Q. You think that the Chinese are a desirable class of people to have around you?--A. I do not think that they are a desirable class to have amongst us, but they are very useful. I think that it would be a very bad thing for us if we were without them at the present time in the Province of British Columbia.

Chinese not desirable but useful.

Q. If the Chinese charged the same rate for their labor as the whites do, would they get work in the Province?--A. Well, some of them would get work, I think, under such circumstances. I believe that a great many people would prefer them for certain employments. For instance, they would prefer to have Chinese servants instead of white servants, but I do not think they would prefer to employ Chinese over whites, as ordinary laborers.

Chinese preferable as servants not as laborers.

Q. The Chinese are more adapted for domestic purposes and for house work than for other employments?--A. Some of them who are trained to that particular employment are so; they make very good servants; but a great number of them are not fitted for house work at all; they are very good laborers; they work very well on roads and on public works.

As laborers.

Q. Is there a better class than the Chinese?--A. The Indians.

Q. Are the Indians a better class than the Chinese?--A. I do not think that they are better, though very good servants are very often obtained from among the Indians.

Indian servants.

Q. Are the Indians equal to the Chinese?--A. They are not equal to the Chinese as domestic servants, but for some kinds of work they are better than Chinamen.

Q. Has not the new industry in British Columbia, I refer to the canning industry, caused a great number of Chinamen to come into the Province?--A. A great many of them came into the Province owing to the opening up of that industry, but a great many also went out again, I think that pretty nearly the whole of them that came into the Province in connection with the prosecution of this industry, went out again as far

Canning industry could not be carried on without them.

as I can learn. I know that they were very useful in this relation. That industry could not have been carried on without them.

Cleanly.

Q. Are the Chinese cleanly in their habits? - A. Yes, they are cleanly, though they live packed very closely together; a great number of them will live in a very small house.

Chinese quarters.

Q. If they are packed very thickly in their dwellings they cannot be very cleanly in their habits? - A. Yes, they are cleaner than the same number of white men would be if the latter occupied the same space; but, at any rate, that is a matter which can always be regulated by the municipality affected. They have always boards of health, whose duty it is to look into these questions and regulate them. But as a general thing, the people who own Chinese quarters, are very anxious to get as many of them as possible into these quarters, as they then get a good deal more rent for their properties.

Adaptation to business.

Q. Do the Chinese adapt themselves to business like other classes of the community. That is, do they become agriculturists, mechanics and manufacturers? - A. Yes; they work in the manufactories. They are employed in making cigars and boots.

Respectable Chinese women.

Q. They have very few families in the country? - A. I think that good respectable Chinese women would come to this country, but the idea amongst them is that if they came they would be persecuted. I know of several respectable Chinese women in the city of San Francisco; several Chinamen there have their wives who are very respectable women.

Schools and education.

Q. Do the Chinese become interested like other classes of the community in the development of the resources of the country; do they become interested in our public institutions, in our educational system for instance or in anything of that nature? - A. I do not know whether any Chinese children come to our schools or not, but I know that young Chinese are sent to the schools in the State of California. I also know that the Chinese are very anxious to learn to read and write and all that sort of thing.

Their object in making money.

Q. Do you think that the Chinese in this country are solely desirous of making a few hundred dollars, and of leaving the country with it ultimately; is that their main object? - A. I do not think that such is the main object of the whole of them; I think that large bodies of them who come to our country are satisfied if they can make enough to go back on. I know Chinamen who have worked in this country for some three or four years, who have wives and children in China, and they are very glad of the opportunity of going back to their homes with a little money.

Chinese farming.

Q. None of the Chinese go to farming to any extent? - A. No not to any very large extent. I know some Chinese who own pretty large farms on the Fraser river.

Q. Do they raise cattle? - A. They raise cattle and grain. They raise a good deal of grain, and they have large market gardens.

General feeling against driving them out.

Q. What is the general feeling in British Columbia with respect to the presence of the Chinese in the country? - A. I think that the general feeling among the people who live in the Province is adverse to see them driven out of the country.

Q. You think that the white people who reside there would not like to see them driven out of the country? - A. Yes, I think so. That is the case in my opinion.

Q. What is the feeling among the laboring population in British Columbia with respect to the Chinese?—A. I think that it is very likely that the feeling among the laboring men is against Chinamen. I think that this would be very natural, and probably is the case. Feeling of laboring men against Chinese.

Q. The feeling there is against them? - A. Yes, so also is the feeling of some politicians. Politicians.

Q. Do you know any politicians in British Columbia who are favorable to the immigration of the Chinese into this country? - A. Well, I do not know about that.

Q. Are any politicians in the Province favorable to Chinese immigration? - A. I do not know that they are favorable to Chinese immigration on a large scale; but I do not think that they would object to seeing the same proportion of Chinamen in the country at any time to the white population that exists in the Province of British Columbia at the present time. I do not think that they would object to the continuation of the present state of things in this respect.

Q. Is the proportion of the Chinese one quarter of the proportion of the Province? - A. No, it is not one quarter. Proportion.

Q. You say there are a few Chinamen in the Province who farm to some extent? - A. Yes, I do. Farming.

Q. What number of acres of land would they have under cultivation? - A. I know Chinamen who own farms of 160 acres, and of 200 acres.

Q. Have they all the appliances for farming like white people?—A. I do not know whether they use as much machinery as the white farmers do or not; in fact, I do not think that they do so, but they cultivate their land in the same manner.

Q. Are we to understand that these farms of 160 and of 200 acres are wholly under cultivation? - A. The bulk of their land is under cultivation.

Q. What is the ordinary rate of wages that is paid to the Chinese laborer in the Province of British Columbia per month? - A. Well, to what class of labor do you refer? Wages.

Q. There is the laborer, and the mechanic and the trader, but the white laborer, I suppose is not expected to be a skilled mechanic, — the laborer who uses the pick and shovel? - A. I paid the sum of from \$30 to \$40 a month to Chinamen working on the roads.

Q. Was this latterly? - A. No it was ten years ago.

Q. What is the rate which is now paid to Chinamen?—A. I do not know at what rate you could engage a body of Chinamen for, at the present time; it depends on the size of the work. If you wanted to

engage a large number of men, I should say that you could get them for the rate of from \$15 to \$20 a month.

Q. And board? - A. Yes, Chinese cooks get from \$15, up to as high as \$50 a month.

Comparison with white labor.

Q. How do these rates compare with white labor? - A. Some white cooks get as high as \$100 a month; but there are very few white cooks.

Q. Speaking of laborers what would the same class of laborers among the white people ask as wages per day and per month? - A. Whites would ask as the price of their labor \$40 a month.

Q. There is only \$10 difference between the rates of wages paid to whites and to the Chinese? - A. That is not the case between the labor I speak of, I refer to labor employed in making roads and in constructing public works. You would have to pay, I think, from \$15 to \$20 a month if you engaged a large number of Chinese, while white men would get \$40 a month. I think that this is about the ordinary price of white labor.

Farm wages.

Q. What wages do farmers pay to their farm hands in the Province of British Columbia? - A. I have known farmers who pay their hands from \$50 to \$60 and \$70 a month. I have known them to pay Indians as much as \$3 a day during the harvest season.

Q. Is this lately? - A. Yes it was the case some two or three years ago.

Bringing money with them into the country.

Q. Do you know any of them who bring money into the country, that is are there any men of means among them? - A. The merchants bring money with them, I believe; many of them. Some of the ordinary class of Chinamen may bring a little money with them when they come from California; they certainly bring none from China - the bulk of them. Some of the merchants are very wealthy.

Mode of living when doing well.

Q. What do they do with their money when they make it in British Columbia? Do they keep it in the country? - A. If the Chinamen are doing well at the mines, where many of them go, they live very well and spend their money in the country. If they are doing well, they live very well. If not, they live poorly on almost nothing. But if a Chinaman is making money, he lives very nearly as well as a white man.

Q. And then, as a rule, they spend all their money in the country? - A. No; I do not think that. A Chinaman may be doing very well, and at the same time may be saving money to go home on.

Nature of articles consumed.

Q. Do they use the same articles in their daily food as white men; that is, articles liable to duty? - A. Oh yes; a great number of them.

Q. Tea? - A. Yes; tea, sugar, rice, boots, clothing, etc.

Q. And if they are doing well, I understand, they live well? - A. They live very well particularly if they can get pigs and chickens.

Chinese labor desirable on public works.

Q. In the event of large public works being carried on here in a year or two, and a large number of men being required, do you suppose it

would be an attraction to the Chinese population to come in from California in greater numbers than whites from other points?—A. I think it would; I think there would be an inducement, and unless Chinese immigration were restricted, contractors would look for that kind of labor, because on that western coast it is a desirable class of labor;—in a country where there are mining operations starting up in every direction. You cannot depend on the white labor; they run off to the mines and leave the employer in the lurch, and the only labor they can depend upon is the Chinese labor.

In mining country white labor not to be depended on.

Q. Would the employment of this labor be prejudicial to the settlement of the country?—A. I do not think it would; I think if public works were going on to an extent to employ two or three thousand Chinamen at work of such a character that white men are not better capable of doing, there would still be a sufficient amount of work for all the white laborers that might be wanted.

Such labor not prejudicial to settlement of country.

Q. Do they employ Chinese as servants?—A. Yes.

Chinese servants.

Q. Judges also?—Yes, almost all the respectable people in Victoria employ Chinese servants.

Judges.

Q. What is the reason they employ the Chinese?—A. Because they find they make better servants than the white people.

Better servants than whites.

Q. It is not because of an absence of female and male white domestics?—A. Well I think not, to a certain extent. Once, at the time that the arbitrary Act was passed by the Local Government, which was disallowed by Judge Gray, all the Chinese servants struck in Victoria. There was not one who did not leave his employment, and they were away long enough for the parties who employed them to send to California for other servants; and the report of this complication on reaching San Francisco, induced a lot of people to come up there and offer themselves, but they were not engaged, and as soon as the case was decided by Judge Gray, they all returned to their employment, and there were very few who did not take them back again.

Chinese strike.

Q. Did the employers of the Chinese as household servants treat them well?—A. I think they treated them very well.

Treatment.

Q. Were the Chinamen well pleased with their wages and treatment?—A. I think so.

Q. You say the Local Government passed an Act levying a labor tax on the Chinese?—A. Yes; they levied a kind of tax.

Local act.

Q. Will you state to the Committee whether you think the Chinese showed gratitude or ingratitude towards their employers on leaving so suddenly and without notice?—A. Well, I think that they certainly showed that they believed they were being imposed on.

Gratitude or ingratitude.

Q. Do you think that an Act of a Legislature imposing a high tax on Chinamen is a sufficient cause for Chinese domestic servants to leave their employers and put them to serious inconvenience?—A. An arbitrary tax like that—I think so. I think it is a very natural way for the Chinese to fight their battle. I am not sure it was not done from instructions received from the Chinese Minister in London.

Witness opinion.

On the strike.

Do as to white.

Q. If the Provincial Government imposed a tax that was considered too high upon the white population, do you think the white population would leave their employment simply because the Government imposed such a tax?—A. It depends on how high it was. If it is in the same proportion as the tax on the Chinamen, I think they would leave very quickly.

Q. You think they would leave good employment?—A. I think they would if the tax was as heavy as that one was. I have seen men strike for much less cause than that.

Q. You think then that the Chinese, when they struck and left families destitute of household servants, did right. Is that what the Committee are to understand?—A. I think that they did what white people would have done in the same position.

Learning English language.

Q. Do the Chinese learn the English language?—A. Oh yes, many of them do.

Chinese immigrants debtors for passage but not slaves.

Q. Probably that may be the reason you have to go the head men to make bargains?—A. It has always been more convenient. My idea is that they bring Chinamen out after collecting a number of them and pay their passage to America. In that way the Chinamen are always indebted to these men, and they have to work until they get out of their debt. I do not know that they are regular slaves—I do not think they are.

Not much employment in British Columbia.

Q. Is there employment for white labor to any extent now in British Columbia?—A. Not very much I think.

Q. Do white people leave in case they cannot find employment?—A. Yes; there are some leaving every year.

Three fourths of Chinese works where white laborers would not.

Q. If these 6,000 Chinamen were not there, they would be able to get it?—A. These 6,000 Chinamen are not working as laborers; over three fourths of them are mining on their own account at places where white people would not work.

I think the reason respectable women do not emigrate more is that they are afraid of persecution.

SENATOR CORNWALL SAYS:

Honesty.

Q. As to the males, are they honest?—A. As far as my experience goes they are, at least, as honest as other classes of people.

Should not be prohibited.

Q. Do you think it would be in the public interest to prohibit them from settling in the Dominion?—A. No, I do not; not to prohibit them from coming into the Dominion.

Not hold lands in fee simple.

Q. You think they ought to be allowed to settle in the Dominion as permanent settlers?—A. I should not object to their coming in, but should object to their holding land in fee simple.

Reasons why.

Q. Why?—A. Because I do not think that a people who will not perfectly assimilate with a western population ought to be allowed as permanent residents of the country; to own land on equal terms with people of other nationalities.

Q. Supposing they were colonized altogether, would they not be a useful class of citizens, and contribute to the revenue of the country as well as other citizens? A. Yes, to a very large extent: they are most industrious.

Industrious.

Q. Are they cleanly in their habits? A. As far as my knowledge goes, they are particularly cleanly in their habits.

Cleanly.

Q. Do they make good servants? A. Excellent servants.

Servants.

Q. Do they mingle with the rest of the community in public enterprises, and assist in permanently developing the country; that is, in contributing their fair proportion of the taxes? A. I have heard that there is some difficulty in collecting taxes from them, but I have never known them to refuse to pay a tax that they were called upon to pay.

Payment of taxes.

Q. Well, what is the objection to them over other citizens do they work cheaper? A. Very little, if at all. The proof of that is the rate of wages which they receive which they always command.

Wages.

Q. Why don't you employ Chinese labor? A. Because I find I can get white men for ordinary labor at the same rate of wages as Chinamen, and would rather have white men.

Prefer white men.

Q. And when you cannot get white men you employ Indians? A. Yes, that is the case. Indians are always on the spot, and you can always have them when you want them. They are there in the neighborhood, and I can get the services of either one or a dozen if I want them at any time.

Q. Then, in the interior it would be as expensive for you to get Chinese laborers as white laborers? A. Yes, I think so.

Chinese labor expensive in the interior.

Q. Their wages are not so high in the larger towns? A. Not quite so high. They certainly work for a little less than the white men.

In town wages less.

Q. As a rule, do the Chinamen accumulate any property there? I mean any that would be taxable? A. Yes, they have personal property; a great many of them have horses, stock, etc.

They accumulate taxable property.

Q. Do these goods pay taxes? A. Yes, there is a tax on personal property - a provincial tax.

Pay taxes.

Q. As a rule, do they put their money into property, or keep it in currency? A. I don't think they put much into property.

Investment.

Q. As a rule, are they residents, or only what may be called denizens of the towns, living there temporarily? A. As a rule, they live there temporarily.

Temporary residents of towns.

Q. Is that not their idea, that they go there just for a time? A. It may be, just the same as the idea of all visitors to a new country.

Q. Are they a migrating class of people, moving from one part of the Province to another? A. They move a good deal from one portion of the Province to another.

Migrating.

Q. Why? A. In search of employment.

Seeking employment.

Not allowed franchise.

Q. Do you say that a Chinaman who holds property is not allowed to exercise his franchise?—A. He is not.

Effect of.

Q. Is that not an arbitrary law?—A. I think it is.

Q. There is no encouragement for them to become property holders?—A. No.

Q. Unless they are allowed the same privileges as other citizens they are not likely to become so?—A. No.

Not expedient.

Q. Do you think, Mr. Cornwall, that the country would be justified in admitting the Chinese to exercise the franchise?—A. That is one of these very difficult questions to answer. You can look at it in two ways. Perhaps, as a matter of expediency, it is better that they should not.

Why.

Q. Why not?—A. Because from their ignorance of our institutions and our language, it is impossible for them to inform themselves so as to give an intelligent vote.

Q. Are there any Chinese located near you as farmers?—A. Yes.

Farm.

Q. Where?—A. There is one Chinese farmer about fifteen miles from where I live.

Live well.

Q. Do the Chinese in the interior consume much beef?—A. Yes; they live very well when they have the means.

Q. Are they large purchasers of beef?—A. Yes, they always buy beef.

Q. Are you aware whether they consume as much per man as white men?—A. I do not think they do. Their favorite animal food is pork (something like the Western States people) and poultry.

Q. Do they buy their pork from the pork growers, or do they grow it themselves?—A. They do both. They buy a great deal from other farmers.

Q. Do they use much flour?—A. Yes; they always use flour.

Q. In large quantities?—A. I could hardly say.

Q. Do they use rice?—A. Yes.

Q. Which do you think they use most of, rice or flour?—A. Rice, I think.

Q. Where does their rice come from; is it Chinese rice?—A. I think it is Chinese rice.

Q. Do they use much sugar?—A. Yes, I think so. They are very fond of sweet things.

Q. Where does their sugar come from?—A. I suppose it is the sugar that is generally used in the country.

Q. Is it Chinese sugar or Island sugar?—A. I think it is Sandwich Island sugar, or that from the refineries of San Francisco.

Q. They buy it from the merchants, do they?—A. Yes; from the Chinese merchants.

Q. Do they deal with each other? - A. Yes, somewhat extensively in Victoria.

Q. Are they as clannish in that way, and do they give their patronage to their own friends? - A. Yes; I should think they were; they are very much the same as other people in that respect.

Q. Are they industrious? - A. Yes; they are always at their work. Industrious.

Q. Are they peaceable citizens? - A. Very. Peaceable.

Q. If public works - the Pacific Railway, for instance - were constructed in British Columbia, what would be the effect upon the cost if Chinese labor were to be employed? - A. On Provincial works.

Q. No; the Pacific Railway, for instance? - A. I should look at the question this way: In the interest of the Province, I should think it would be better for white people to be employed; in the interest of the Dominion it would be better to employ Chinese, if they could be got cheaper than white people. On C. P. R. Dominion and provincial interest.

Q. Your idea is that it would not be much cheaper to build the Pacific Railway by means of Chinese labor? - A. My idea is that it would not be much cheaper. Cash.

Q. Suppose three or four million dollars were to be expended on public works, and there were an advertisement for three or four thousand laborers, what proportion of Chinese do you suppose would be employed? do you suppose they would be more likely than other classes to rush into the country to obtain this labor? - A. I do not think so. Public works.

Q. Is there any fear of a very large proportion of them coming there in the event of public works being projected? - A. I suppose if they were sure of getting permanent employment at a certain rate of wages, you might be able to find a sufficient number for a large work.

Q. Would it not be expected that white people would rush in as fast as the Chinese? - A. I should think you could always obtain a sufficient number of white laborers. White laborers.

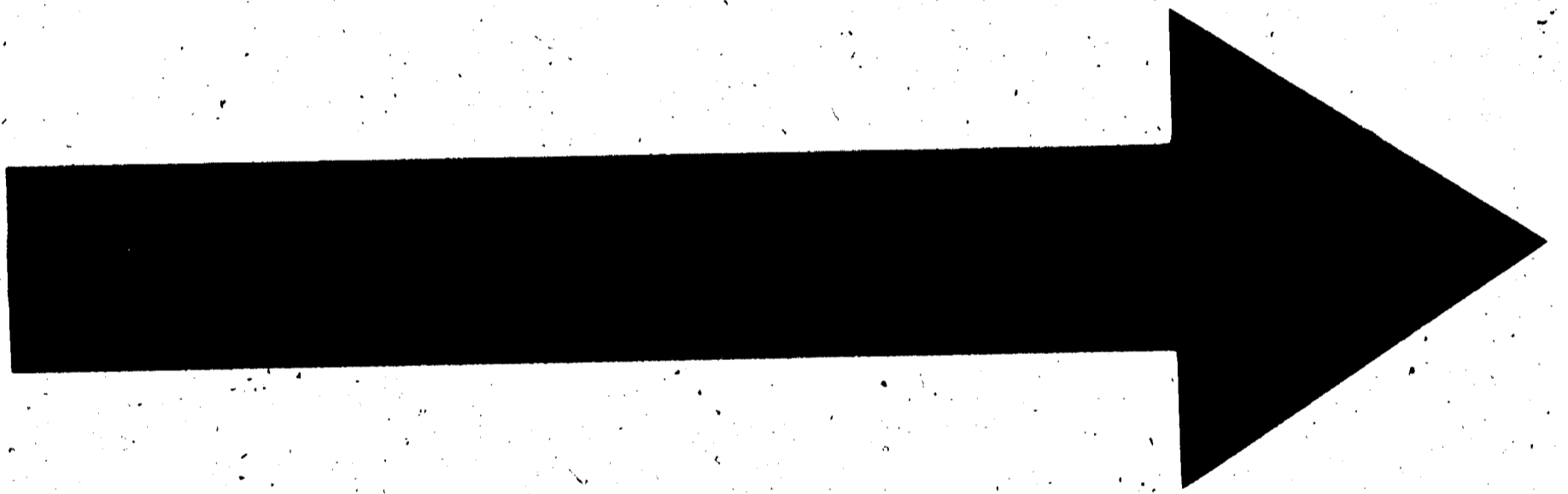
Q. Are they temperate as a rule? - A. As far as I know they are. Temperate.

Q. More so than the whites? - A. Oh, much more. I do not think I have ever seen an intoxicated Chinaman. No doubt there are such, but I have not seen any. More so than white men.

Q. What do you think is the general opinion of the people of British Columbia, with regard to allowing them to settle permanently in the Province? - A. I think the feeling against their settling permanently would be very strong against their occupying lands - against their holding lands in fee simple. Feeling, in British Columbia against them holding lands in fee.

Q. Is the objection to the Chinese confined to the white laboring classes, or is it felt by most men? - A. I think it is confined to the white laboring classes. Objection to confined to white laboring classes.

Q. They are a little jealous, I suppose? - A. Yes; I think that is the origin of the feeling amongst them.



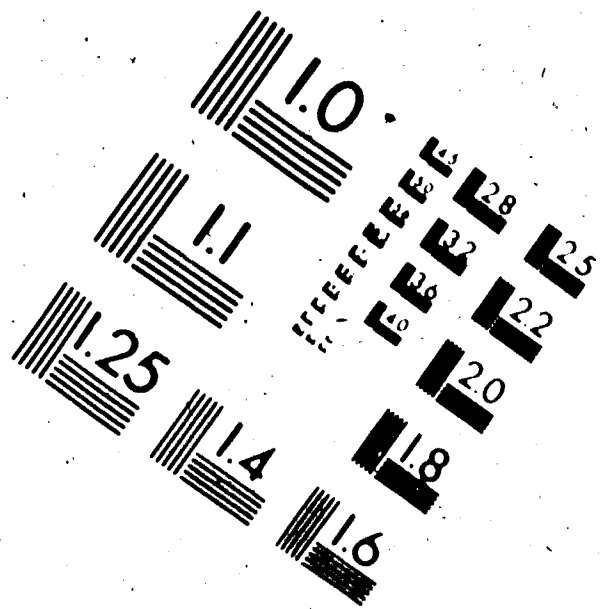
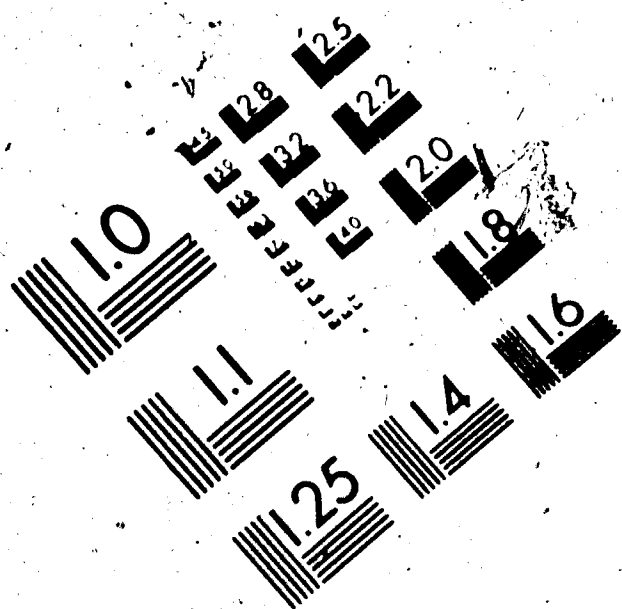
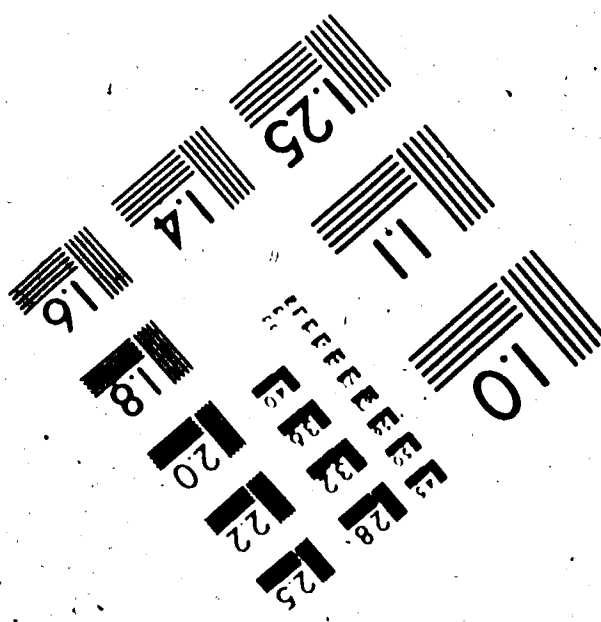
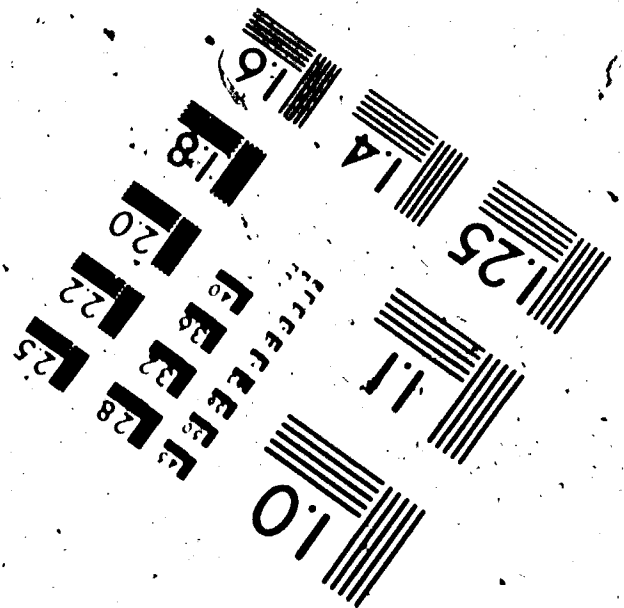
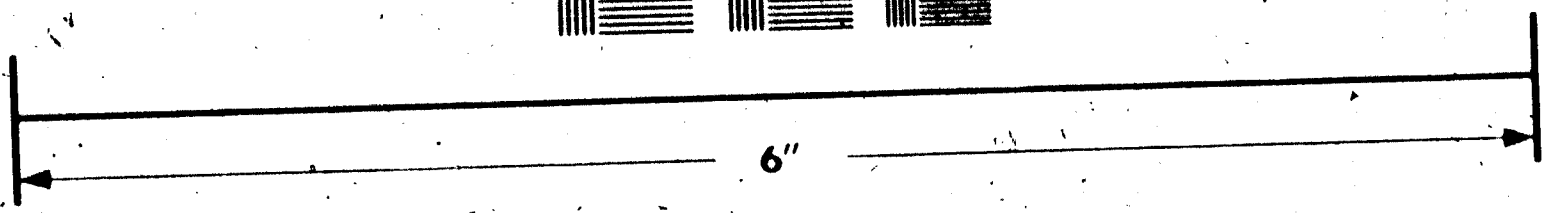
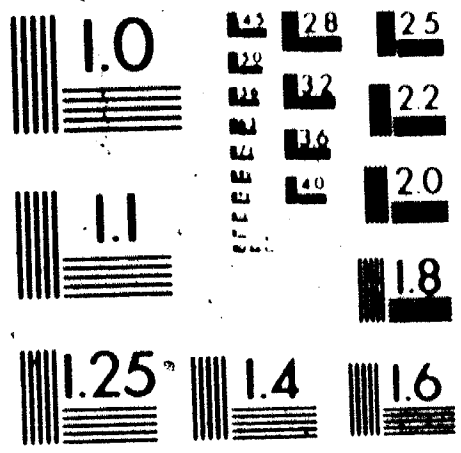
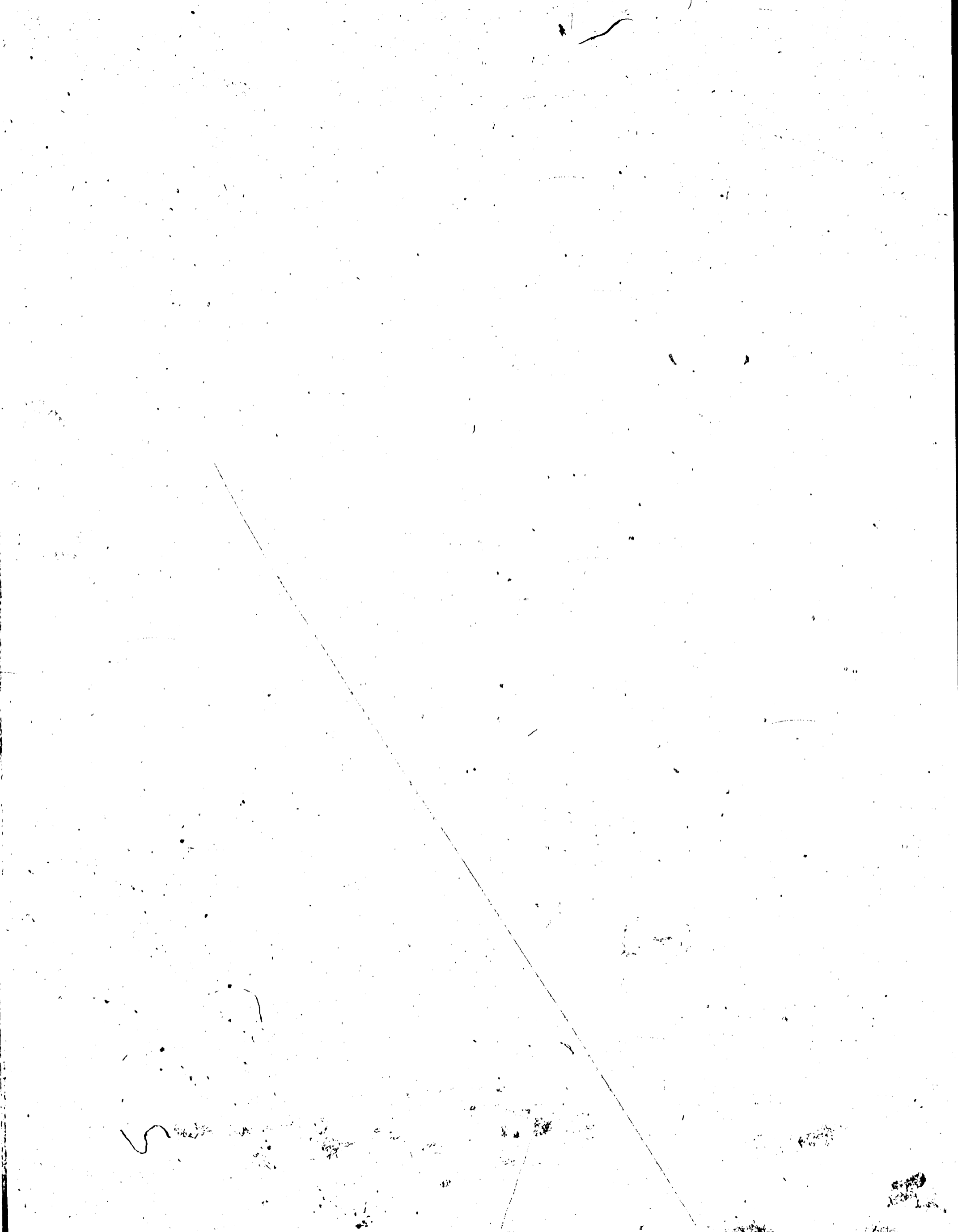


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Chinese make money.

Q. Do some of them make money? - A. I think some of them make a good deal of money.

Spend same in country.

Q. What do they do with it - spend it in the country or take it away? A. Those who have been in my employ, and of whom I can speak with confidence, have spent very much in the country. I have often known them to be very liberal when asked to contribute to different objects. They always clothe themselves uncommonly well, and provide themselves with such comforts as are supposed to be necessary. They always have good watches, and all that sort of thing. In these respects they compare most favorably with the ordinary class of white people.

Local legislation.

Q. Has the Legislature of British Columbia taken any steps to prohibit them coming into the country? - A. Yes; there were some very stringent steps taken about a year ago.

Q. In what shape? - A. In the way of imposing a very heavy special yearly tax upon Chinamen.

Q. A discriminating tax? - A. Yes.

Q. Was that constitutional? - A. It was found by the Supreme Court of British Columbia that it was not constitutional.

Q. Not by the Supreme Court, but by one of the judges of that court? - A. The judge of the Supreme Court is the Supreme Court.

Chinese have not prevented white settlement.

Q. If the Chinamen had not come to British Columbia, do you think more white people would have come to settle down with their families and cultivate the soil? - A. No; I have no reason to think so.

Q. Your agricultural experience does not lead you to think that? - A. No.

Wives.

Q. Have you heard miners or other people complain that they could not get wives? - A. I do not know whether I have or not.

White labor in demand.

Q. I suppose white labor is in good demand there? - A. It is.

Q. What is the rate per month for farm hands? - A. In my part of the country?

Farm wages of white men.

Q. Yes; or any other part of the country? - A. I have two men permanently on my farm; one gets \$50 a month for the year round, and the other \$45 a month.

Q. With board or without? - A. With board.

Q. Are those white men or Chinamen? - A. White men.

Q. Have they families? - A. No.

Q. So, then, they have no other privilege but what you speak of? - A. I mean they do not keep horses or a cow? - A. They are found in every thing they require.

Q. Is that the average rate of wages for white men? - A. Yes; that is in my neighborhood. Many men get more than that, but perhaps for only a few months in the summer.

Q. Could white men going there get employment at these rates? - A. No; not so much. I have two Chinamen employed as household servants; one of them gets \$35 and the other \$30 a month.

Chinese household servants.

Q. Do you know what rate of wages Chinamen get when employed on the farm? - A. Very much the same. I have known Chinamen to get more than \$45 a month on farms; they were exceptionally good hands.

Wages as farm hands.

Q. Were they employed throughout the summer? - A. Yes; during the farming season.

Q. Do you employ Chinamen for irrigation on the farm? - A. Yes; they are employed a good deal in that way.

Irrigation.

Q. Do they make good agricultural hands? - No; not generally.

Not good agriculturalists.

Q. They do not understand the work? - A. They are wonderfully painstaking, of course, and for certain work they would be useful, but not for the general uses that you require a man for in a new country. You require a man who can turn his hand to anything.

Q. They are very imitative? - A. Very imitative. They are wonderfully good gardeners. The way in which they make lands produce in the neighborhood of a town where they may start market gardening is something extraordinary. Before the Chinamen went into that sort of work in the neighborhood of Victoria, I never knew a town that was more badly supplied with market vegetables; and since they have taken up gardening there I never knew a town better supplied. They have a climate there in which they can produce vegetables all the year round, if sufficient care is taken in the cultivation of the soil.

Imitative good gardeners.

Vegetable supply in Victoria.

Q. Are you aware whether the farmers around Victoria complain of Chinese competition? - A. Yes; I have heard that complaint.

Farmers complain.

Q. And have you heard the statement that they were almost prohibited from making any sales of vegetables in the city? - A. I have heard that complaint continually. But what I have said just now is really the case, that until Chinamen took up that sort of work in Victoria, there were hardly any vegetables in the markets.

Deficiency vegetables before.

Q. And they were, therefore, an acquisition? - A. Quite an acquisition.

Acquisition.

By the Chairman:

Q. That is new to me, and I have been there twenty-one years? - A. I have been there seventeen years, and I am sure that before the Chinamen came there, there were no vegetables to be got to speak of.

Q. Have you visited the jail in Victoria? - A. No.

Jail.

Q. Have you visited the Penitentiary? - A. Yes.

Penitentiary.

Q. Have you seen a larger portion of the prisoners to have been Chinese than white people? - A. No.

Proportion.

Q. Are they more subject to larceny or other crimes than the white people? - A. No; not so far as my knowledge goes.

White larceny.

Chinese law-abiding.

Q. Are they as much?—A. No; I think the Chinese are exemplary in that respect. It is very seldom that there is a charge made against a Chinaman. They seem to me to be a law-abiding class.

Q. You have never lived in Cariboo.—A. No.

Difference of treatment.

Q. You have never had any knowledge of the burglaries and robberies that have been committed by Chinamen?—No. I know this, that if an unfortunate Chinaman commits anything of that sort he is bounded down, not by the Chinese but by the whites. If a Chinaman was supposed to have committed a crime of any sort he would be followed by white men of a certain class, who would make a point of running him down if they possibly could; but if one of their own fellows was guilty of a like offense, the whites I speak of would seldom think of acting in the same way towards him.

Working classes and politicians against them.

Q. What is the general feeling in British Columbia as to the desirability of discouraging Chinese immigration?—A. I should think that the feeling against the Chinese is widely spread. The employers of labor and the better classes in British Columbia recognize the advantage of having the Chinese there; but the working classes, aided by politicians have raised the cry against them.

Preference for white labor.

Q. Does it not appear strange that the farmers on Vancouver Island who want hands should not employ Chinese?—A. I don't think so at all. The reason is just as I said before. Where there is not much difference in the rate of wages you have to give, anybody would naturally rather employ white labor. The whole of the facts regarding this question go to show that there is really no ground of complaint on the part of workmen and that wherever they can, employers of labor employ white men in preference to Chinamen.

Chinese are laborers.

Q. Do you know of any Chinese having erected factories in British Columbia?—A. No; I do not remember. The Chinese there are simply laborers, &c., and their coming and going is regulated by supply of and demand for labor.

Very law abiding class.

I should say that the Chinese are a law-abiding class. They are perhaps the most law abiding class I have come in contact with. It is rare that there is any serious crime laid to their charge; we have often heard rumors that they are very immoral in a way that is unmentionable. But this is merely a rumor, as I understand; nobody knows anything about it.

Chinese houses in the country clean and nice.

Q. Will you give us an idea of the habits of the Chinese; have you been in their houses?—A. I have been in different Chinese houses; I have not been in any of their houses in the towns, which, I understand, are inhabited closely. The Chinese rooms that I have been in have always been as clean and nice as possible.

Police reports Supreme Court, Assizes, &c. recommended by Chinese?

The Chairman Mr. De Cosmos.—The best criterion that the committee could have respecting the morality of the Chinese, and whether they are offenders against the laws or not, would be the reports of the Police Courts, the Supreme Court, the Assizes, &c.; I think it is desirable that we should obtain these reports.

Aggravated assault

Q. You have never lived in a part of the country where there was a large section of Chinese population settled?—A. No; I have not. One

of the charges more frequently made against the Chinamen is that of aggravated assault. They are perhaps oftener charged with that than any other offence; that is owing to their impulsive nature. They will seize whatever comes nearest to their hands and strike their opponent with it; in that way they often get into trouble. I have never known a case of that kind maliciously premeditated. The offence of a Chinaman is seldom overlooked.

Q. Nor would it be overlooked in the case of a white man, if a white man were subject to the same charge? A. The class who have signed the petition would not overlook the case of a Chinaman charged in that way, while they continually do so when one of their own number so offends. Treatment.

Q. That is the class on which society is built? A. I should say, so much the worse for society. Society.

Q. Is there any other rock on which society is built than the laborer? A. Floating laborers - those who live from hand to mouth and move from country to country. Floating laborers.

Q. I do not refer to floating laborers; I mean the laborers of British Columbia? A. I should say the laborers of British Columbia were not the rocks on which society is built; they are essentially a migratory class. British Columbia migratory.

RESULTS.

If personal prejudice and feeling be eliminated from this evidence, it is impossible not to admit that as a laboring class the preponderance is not against the Chinese. They are stated to be honest in their dealings, industrious, sober, peaceable and law abiding, frugal and cleanly, and when doing well to live well, consuming the same articles and goods, as do the white laborers, thereby equally contributing with them to the revenue. That as domestic servants they are quite as good if not preferable. That they do not compete or interfere with lumbering, farming, or any skilled industry, and that even in market gardening they could be beaten by the whites, if the latter were willing to work as hard, as shown by the instance of the Italian gardeners in San Francisco. That the preference throughout the whole Province is in favor of white labor, and the proceeds of white industry, if brought within the purchasing power of those who have to pay, but that the wages demanded by the white laborers are such as few persons can afford to give; that the great canning industry of the Province could not have been carried on without them. That they utilize and draw returns from grounds that the whites would not till, and from mines which they have abandoned. Result of evidence as to character.
Domestic servants.
Non-competition with skilled industries.
Preference in favor of white labor if obtainable.
Too expensive.
Utility.

That the white laboring classes themselves, the moment they become contractors are the first to employ the Chinese as laborers, and that the manufacturers prefer them, because they have no "Blue Mondays." That in mining countries on great public undertakings they are more to be depended on, as the white laborers rush off to the mining grounds, when they hear of a successful "strike," whereas the Chinese do not; - and that up to this time their presence in the Province had been most useful, if not indispensable. Blue Monday.
To be depended on.
Presence useful

The conclusions of the Committee must have been in accord with the evidence, for after sitting for weeks, and hearing all that the representa-

tives of British Columbia could say upon the subject, and all the evidence they could bring, the Report signed by the Chairman from British Columbia, simply recommends "that Chinese emigration ought not be encouraged. "That Chinese labor ought not be employed on Dominion Public Works." Anything more faintly condemnatory could hardly have been put.

Mild character of the Report.

The question was not, should Chinese immigration be encouraged, but should the coming of the Chinese into the country be prevented. Had it been injurious or not? Did the state of the country admit doing without it? No one desired to encourage Chinese immigration, but under all the circumstances was it better for the country to be without it? Had the Country's material prosperity been advanced or retarded by it? On these points with all this evidence before it, with all that, the British Columbia members could bring, or by examination elicit from the witnesses, the Committee, with its Chairman, a member from British Columbia, most carefully abstain from the expression of an opinion.

Such is the only evidence that up to this time, has been laid before the Parliament and the country.

It will have again to be considered in connection with the evidence taken by this Commission in British Columbia.

CHAPTER 4.

Evidence in B. C.

We now submit the evidence taken in British Columbia by the Commissioners in the order in which it was given and received. It will be found to cover the objections raised in the Petition to the Parliament, and in the interrogatories directed to persons residing in British Columbia. The answers to the written interrogatories were returned after the lapse of several weeks. In some instances, answers were accompanied with written requests that they should not be used. An embargo having thus been laid on their practical utility, the Commissioners have not felt justified in including them in the return to the Commission. There may have been private reasons affecting their personal interests which induced the writers to make such requests, and as the evidence sought was intended to be the spontaneous expression of the people of the Province, without fear of any injurious consequences, these requests had to be regarded.

From numbers to whom the questions were addressed no answers have been received, for reasons it must be presumed satisfactory to themselves.

Points to which questions are directed.

The questions it will be perceived are directed to the following points

1. The class of immigrants from China.
2. As to their state of health on arrival.
3. As to their being a burden on the people of the Province from want of sickness or otherwise.
- 4, 5 and 6. Their habits, as to industry, sobriety, economy, obedience

to law and fidelity to contracts, or interference with the whites, by competition and otherwise in the labor market.

7, 8 and 9. As to their first reception in the Province, the want they supplied, and the period when, and by whom, the agitation against them first commenced, and by what classes it is now carried on.

10. As to their habits being injurious to the public morals or public health.

11, 12 and 13. As to the effect of their presence on the development of the Province, whether longer necessary or desirable, and the effect upon the comfort and prosperity of the people, should they leave, or be driven out.

14, 15 and 16. As to what number in proportion to the whites would be for the best interest of the Province, and what would be the effect upon the introduction of capital, if the supply of domestic servants was dependent upon those coming from Europe or America.

17, 18 and 19. Whether there should be an expulsion of those here, or restriction or regulation of their further immigration, or could an effectual supply of white labor be obtained by the combined effort of the Province and its Legislature with equal advantage to the province.

20, 21 and 22. As to whether there be steady remunerative work for white people in the Province, what the effect of opening up the railway Belt has been, or whether the presence of the Chinese has retarded white immigration,

23, 24 and 25. What effect their presence has had upon the morals of the people.

26 and 27. As to knowledge of leprosy, or other general information.

These questions it will be observed afford the broadest latitude of enquiry, and an opportunity for the statement of facts, or expression of opinion to the fullest extent, the person answering may desire to go. They were intentionally framed so as to give this latitude and to elicit the most unrestricted information. They were further accompanied and strengthened by the general invitation given by the Commissioners at the opening of the Commission in Victoria, and duly published, to all parties to come forward and place before the Commissioners orally, or by writing, their views on the subject; enabling those who, from sensitiveness, sickness or other causes, were unwilling to come forward in public, to convey their opinions as well as those more accustomed to public life.

The total number who came forward or replied was 51, as in the following list:—

WITNESSES:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. John Westhrop Carey, | Victoria, Mayor. |
| 2. Charles T. Bloomfield, | " Superintendent of Police. |
| 3. John Hearn, | " Sergeant of Police. |
| 4. Hon. A. E. B. Davie, | " Attorney-General. |
| 5. Dr. Helmcken, | " R. C. Surgeons, London. |

6. Charles Wilson, Cariboo, Barrister.
7. W. K. Bull, Victoria, Tax Collector.
8. John Jessop, " Provincial Immigration Agent.
9. Hon. John Robson, Victoria, Provincial Secretary.
10. W. Tuckfield, "
11. Richard Jones, Provincial Tax Collector.
12. Sir M. B. Begbie, Chief Justice, B. C.
13. Joseph Metcalf, Jr., Nanaimo.
14. Robert Ward, Victoria, Commission Merchant.
15. James Young, Nanaimo.
16. R. F. Johns, South Saanich, M. P. P., Farmer.
17. E. Stevenson, M. D., Victoria, College Ph. & Sur. Ontario.
18. Benjamin M. Pearce, " formerly Surveyor Gen'l.
19. Thomas E. Ladner, New Westminster, Fraser Riv. Salmon Can-
nery.
20. John Laity, Maple Ridge, Farm laborer.
21. John Tremblath, " Farmer.
22. J. W. Innis, Esquimalt, Naval Storekeeper, H. M. Dockyard.
23. W. H. Ladner, Ladner's Landing, Fraser River, Salmon Can-
nery.
24. Wm. C. Ward, Victoria, Manager Bank B. C.
25. James B. Kennedy, New Westminster, Lumberman.
26. Robert Scott, Nanaimo, Wellington Collieries.
27. William Moresby, New Westminster, Gaoler.
28. John Brydon, Nanaimo, Wellington Collieries.
29. Mathew Trotter Johnson, Victoria, Merchant.
30. W. B. Adair, Fraser River, British American Packing Co.
31. D. R. Lord, " " " "
32. E. V. Bolwell, Victoria Railway Accountant.
33. W. J. Armstrong, New Westminster, Sheriff.
34. Samuel M. Robins, Nanaimo, Superintendent Vancouver Coal
Company.
35. John Tindal, Victoria.
36. Michael Haney, Yale, Irishman, Superintendent C. P. R.
37. W. Stephenson, Forks Quesnelle.
38. Rev. Philip Dwyer, Victoria, Killaloe Cathedral, Ireland.
39. Robert Dunsmuir, M. P. P., Victoria, Proprietor Wellington
Mines.
40. J. Dawson, Nanaimo, J. P.
41. David Wm. Gordon, M. P., Nanaimo, Contractor and Builder.
42. Hon. Mr. Justice Crease, Victoria, British Columbia, Supreme
Court.
43. Andrew Onderdonk, C. P. Railway Contractor.
44. Emily Whurton, Victoria, L. E. V.
45. C. T. Dupont, " Inspector Inland Revenue.
46. Hon. M. T. Drake, " President Ex. Co. B. C.
47. Knights of Labor, Nanaimo, No. 3017.
48. John A. Bradley, Victoria.
49. Huang-Sic-Chen, Chinese Consulate San Francisco.
50. Gilbert Malcolm Sproat, Essayist.
51. R. O'Brien, M. D., Nanaimo, President N. Tra. Association.

The following are the questions:—

1. What classes of people come here as emigrants from China? Are they chiefly laborers, mechanics or traders?
2. When they arrive here, do they usually arrive in good health and fit for work?
3. Have you any system of public poor relief, and do they often become a burden on that fund, or upon the private charity of white citizens?
4. Are they industrious, sober, economical and law-abiding or are they lazy, drunken, extravagant or turbulent? Please answer this question fully.
5. Do they respect their engagements with white men, and carry out their contracts?
6. Do they show any disposition to interfere with the prospects of the white population in any way beyond the competition which they offer in the labor market?
7. When the Chinese first came to this Province, did they supply a want then felt, and was their coming encouraged and welcomed?
8. Up to what period did that feeling continue?
9. When did the agitation against the Chinese begin, and what class or classes of people began it, and what classes are now carrying it forward?
10. Is there anything in their habits or mode of living injurious to the public peace, or to the public health? Please answer this question fully.
11. Has the presence of Chinese contributed to the development of the Province?
12. Is their presence here any longer necessary or desirable?
13. What would be the effect upon the comfort and prosperity of the people of this Province, if they were to go hence voluntarily or otherwise?
14. Are not a certain number necessary, and if so, how many?
15. What proportion (if any) should Chinese immigration bear to the immigration of white people in order to advance the best interests of the colony and provide for the comfort of the people now here, or those who may come here?
16. What would be the effect upon immigration into this colony of persons with capital, if the supply of domestic servants depended upon the number of such coming from Europe or other parts of America?
17. Is it your opinion that the present Chinese residents should be forced to leave this Province, or the further advent of others should be

prevented, or merely that the numbers coming should be regulated in some manner, as to the number and choice of such emigrants?

18. What manner would you suggest should be adopted to restrict or regulate their coming?

19. Would a combined effort on the part of the people of this Province and its Legislature, to encourage white immigration, and discourage the employment of Chinese, effectually furnish a supply of white labor, exclude Chinese immigration and at the same time develop the natural resources of the colony as speedily and safely as they are now being developed?

20. Can white people now find remunerative employment here and steady work, and is such remuneration adequate to support and clothe and educate their families and make reasonable provision for old age?

21. Has not the opening up of the public lands reserved for railway purposes had a material effect on the immigration of settlers to this Province?

22. Has white immigration been retarded by the presence of Chinese immigrants in this Province?

23. What personal observations have you made as to the effect of the Chinese upon the morals of the white people, and are they more injurious than white people of similar or allied habits.

24. Is the proportion of depraved and immoral people amongst the Chinese here greater than amongst white population in other places similarly situated, where the Chinese are not found?

25. Do the vicious and depraved flaunt their vice and depravity more openly or more effectually than do white people in similar classes?

26. What personal knowledge have you of the presence of leprosy amongst them and have you any personal knowledge of leprosy being communicated from them to the whites, and if so, how many instances and under what circumstances?

27. Can you give any statistical or other information, or furnish any facts bearing on the general question now being considered by the commission, which will facilitate its work, or make its labors more complete?

Though several of the objections to which the above enquiries were directed will hereafter require and receive separate and distinct consideration, it may be said that the conclusions deducible from the whole evidence so taken by the commissioners in British Columbia as well as from their personal observations and enquiries agree with those, to be drawn from the evidence taken before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1879.

There is the same preponderating testimony as to the sobriety, industry and frugality of the Chinese as manual laborers, and the reliance to be placed upon their performance of contracts. There is at the same time

evidence of the great antipathy of race, and the undoubted preference for white labor throughout the Province, with a difference of opinion as to the benefit hitherto derived from their presence, and the necessity of its continuance. With one or two marked exceptions, the preponderance is in favor of restrictions upon their future advent in large numbers, leaving alone those who are now in the Province; but a close inspection of the evidence, shows the conclusions on one side, to be the result of practical observation and experience *in connection with the actual circumstances of the country*, the other to be more or less theoretical, and the result of long engendered prejudice, natural enough perhaps with minds brooding on ideal perfection, but not in accordance with human nature or the habits of mankind even in the most civilised countries.

General result.

The habits and modes of life of the Chinese are in many respect objectionable, their religious practices idolatrous and offensive, their sordid desire for the accumulation of money and hoarding it up injurious, but these same faults are to be found among other people, and if all were excluded against whom such charges could be brought, the population of British Columbia would be extremely limited.

The soundest legislation in a free country is that which based on the highest moral principles, at the same time recognizes the existence of the frailties and errors of mankind, and so frames its enactments that it will accomplish the greatest good attainable for the greatest number though it may not be all the good that might be desired. You cannot straight lace a free nation.

Sound legislation.

CHAPTER 5.

OPIMUM SMOKING AND PROSTITUTION.

At the end of the Long Drive in the Royal Park at Windsor, about two miles from the Castle, on the spot where four roads met, forty years ago there stood, and it may stand there yet, a monument erected by the late King George the IV., to his father George the III. It was surmounted with the figure of the old king, and bore this inscription:

George the 4th to George the 3rd.

"Pius filius optimo Patri."

The relations between father and son from youth to age hardly warranted this descriptive tribute. Either History or the monument must tell an untruth.

It, however, clearly indicates one suggestion, that to arrive at truth, we must examine the characters of those who give characters to themselves or others, as well as the characters of those to whom the characters are given. The Italian proverb tells us, "Every medal has its reverse."

Examination of character.

We are, therefore, in the present instance to examine not only the characters given to the Chinese, but the characters of those who give them.

No Canadian will pretend to defend prostitution or opium smoking. Both are vices to be prevented if possible, and as far as possible, but what we have at present to determine is whether the Chinese are the cause of these evils in the country, for if not, punishing them will not only not remove the evil, but would be an act of injustice, discreditable to a free and self-governing country.

Are the Chinese the cause of their being brought into the country.

It is urged, as one of the gravest objections to the presence of the Chi

nese, that they are in the habit of opium smoking, and introduce that habit in the places where they are permitted to dwell.

Opium forced on the Chinese by the British.

Apart from the historical fact, that our country within the last thirty years forced the use of opium upon the Chinese, burned their towns, demolished their fortifications, and slaughtered their people, to compel them to admit it into China, against the wish of its government and its inhabitants, as an article of trade and consumption, besides making them pay seventeen millions of pounds sterling as indemnity and war expenses, for presuming to resist its importation, and seizing a little vessel, on board of which it was found, entering one of their ports, that vessel bearing the British flag, and the article itself being the production of our own East Indian possessions, and an essential factor, from which we derived the means of bearing the expenses of the East Indian Government; the startling fact meets us that it was in use among the British people themselves long before the advent of the Chinese into British Columbia, or as working classes either into America or Great Britain, and was and is used in immense quantities among the European nations where a Chinaman never was seen. That the flower from which it is derived grows in almost every garden of Europe and America, and that it is a common article of barter and of trade among the civilized nations of the world. That it is used in half a dozen different ways, and may be found in every apothecary's shop in England and America. That as chloral, morphine and chewing, it is far more extensively and more dangerously used, and less capable of being detected than the practice of opium smoking.

The lorcha Arrow.

Its ancient use.

Used in various ways Chloral morphine.

The poppy.

It may be not inappropriate, in discussing this phase of the question very briefly, to refer to some of the authorities bearing on its use. The British, French and American scientists recognize it as derived exclusively from the *papaver somniferum*, or the ordinary white and black poppy. In India the flower appears in February, in Europe and the United States not earlier than June, July or August. All parts of the poppy contain white opaque narcotic juice. In the capsule the juice most abounds; the seeds are destitute of narcotic property. It was cultivated by the ancient Greeks, and is mentioned by Homer as a garden-plant. It is at present cultivated very extensively in India, Persia, Egypt and Asiatic Turkey for opium, and in several parts of Europe, especially France and Germany for the seeds, though in both countries, good opium is at the same time produced. Though until recently only found in the gardens as an ornamental flower, of late, attempts have been made to cultivate it on a somewhat larger scale in the United States; and with success in Australia and in the Province of Victoria. Commerce is supplied with opium chiefly from Hindostan, Persia, Egypt and Asiatic Turkey. Immense quantities are produced in the Indian Provinces of Bahar and Benares, and in the more interior province of Malwa. The opium of Hindostan is distributed extensively through continental and insular India, where it is habitually employed in the place of spirituous liquors. Great quantities are also sent to China, into which it finds an easy entrance notwithstanding prohibitory laws. Much was formerly produced in the district of ancient Thebes, Upper Egypt, and laudanum was well known as *Tinctura Thebaicum*. The increase of consumption in the United States may be judged from the following importations:

Cultivation.

In United States and Australia.

Increase of Consumption in the United States

In 1878.....	207,762 lbs.
" 1879.....	278,554 "
" 1880.....	372,880 "

Opium is much adulterated. It has been stated in Athens by a person engaged in the extraction of opium that grapes, freed from their seeds and crushed, were almost universally mixed with the poppy juice, and that the inspissated juice of the grape thickened with flour is often used for the same purpose. In the report on the progress and condition of India for 1871-72 it is stated that the cultivation of opium in India is increasing, there being at the time of the report 500,000 acres in Bengal, and 608 acres in Bombay planted with the poppy, and that the exports of opium for the same year amounted to 893,364 chests, valued at £13,365,288 sterling, or \$66,826,440. — (*United States Dispensary, 15th Edition, title: Opium.*)

Value in crop in India \$66,826,440.

Having thus shown the enormous value of the opium crop in India, for which Great Britain insisted upon having China as a market, it may be of importance to ascertain what quantity is imported into Canada, its value, and the duties paid. It is clearly recognized as a legitimate article of trade and commerce, and the accompanying return shows that during the last three years there has been imported into the several Provinces of the Dominion a total in value of \$400,555, on which duties were paid to the Dominion revenue of \$79,140.

STATEMENT of the Quantity and Value of Opium entered for Consumption in each Province of the Dominion, also the duty collected thereon during the fiscal years ended, 30th June, 1882, 1883, 1884 respectively.

PROVINCE.	ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION.					
	OPIUM.			OPIUM PREPARED FOR SMOKING.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
1882.	Lbs.	\$	\$	Lbs.	\$	\$
Ontario.....	700	2,444	488 80	.....	.....	.....
Quebec.....	1,808	5,591	1,118 20	.....	.....	.....
Nova Scotia.....	180	471	94 20	.....	.....	.....
New Brunswick.....	184	613	122 60	.....	.....	.....
Manitoba.....	4	15	3 00	.....	.....	.....
British Columbia.....	21,507	78,833	15,706 52	2	28	10 00
Prince Edward Island.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	24,509	\$87,067	\$17,593 32	2	\$28	\$10 00
1883.						
Ontario.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	2 50
Quebec.....	1,792	5,133	1,026 60	.....	.....	.....
Nova Scotia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Brunswick.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Manitoba.....	1	5	1 00	.....	.....	.....
British Columbia.....	30,235	106,307	21,273 40	3	43	15 00
Prince Edward Island.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	32,028	\$111,505	\$22,301 00	3	\$50	\$17 50

PROVINCE.	ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION.					
	OPIUM.			OPIUM PREPARED FOR SMOKING.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.	Quantity.	Value.	Duty.
1884.	Lbs.	\$	\$	Lbs.	\$	\$
Ontario.....	2,087	3,241	648 20			
Quebec.....	2,007	5,463	1,092 00			
Nova Scotia.....						
New Brunswick.....	63	227	45 40			
Manitoba.....	1	3	00	1	3	1 25
British Columbia.....	56,542	192,140	38,420 80	15	214	75 00
Prince Edward Island.....						
Total.....	60,700	\$201,083	\$40,216 00	151	217	\$76 25

J. JOHNSON,
Commissioner of Customs

Customs Department, Ottawa, 28th October, 1884.

Smuggling into the United States.

These returns show an amount of importation of opium into British Columbia entirely out of proportion to the population, as compared with that of the other Provinces, and equally out of proportion to consumption by the number of Chinese in the Province. It may in some degree be explained (though not justified) by the long continuous boundary line between British Columbia and the United States, extending for hundreds of miles along the 49th parallel, through unsettled districts, affording extraordinary facilities for smuggling opium by the Chinese in British Columbia into the United States for the use of the many thousands of their countrymen in Oregon, Washington Territory, California and along the Pacific coast.

Opium Licences in Victoria.

Its use also, as a legitimate source of municipal revenue, is recognized by the city of Victoria, having, during the first half of the current year, issued to the Chinese eleven opium licences at \$500 a piece, netting a revenue of \$5,500 to the city. It is difficult to make the Chinese understand, why its use is so objectionable, when the Dominion Government permits it to come into the country as a common article of trade, and the city government makes money by granting licences for its sale. Nor can they understand why they themselves are so objectionable, when in addition to the opium licences - the city government grants them liquor licences for selling spirits at \$50 a piece, thus adding still more to the city revenue.

Spirit Licences to the Chinese.

From this opium comes chloral, morphine and other extracts and compounds far more dangerous in their effects, and much more used by the higher and cultivated members of English, European and American society than is the opium for smoking by the Chinese. Of chloral though not well understood before 1869, in 1878 (less than ten years) its con-

Consumption was estimated at one ton daily, in England and America alone, ranging from innocuous doses at thirty grains to danger and death at one hundred and twenty, when used as an hypnotic. It is far more seductive in its effects, and more dangerous in its consequences. It affects the brain, the spinal cord, the intellect, and brings on imbecility and death. (U. S. Dispens.)

Consumption of Chloral in England and America.

An American paper thus refers to its use in a very late issue: "A terrible vice has crept in among the fast-sex of New York. Fashionable ladies from the 'Fifth' and the adjoining regions of the high-toned may be seen entering drug stores and calling in silvery accents for a glass of soda water. Into this innocuous beverage, white crystals from a white-mouthed bottle are dropped and dissolved. The solution is gulped, fifteen cents are paid, and the elegantly dressed apparition vanishes. These ladies are known as "chloral fiends." The drug is now imported into New York by the ton. This is, as a weakness, worse than opium smoking because more readily indulged in, and almost as revolting as the hypodermic injection of morphia."

Its use should be limited to medicinal or scientific purposes, and every aid should be given to those who seek to prevent its consumption, being introduced as a habit among our people either for smoking or other merely indulgent ends.

The evidence taken before the Commission in British Columbia shows no perceptible tendency among the people of the Province, in any way, to adopt such a habit. In every city, in every part of the world, there will possibly be found persons of the lowest and most degraded habits who frequent opium dens, but they are almost always persons who have fallen so low from previous debauchery and vice, that there is no lower depth to which they can descend.

No tendency in British Columbia to adopt the habit.

With reference to Chinese prostitution the evidence shows that out of a total of 10,550 Chinese in the Province there are altogether only 154 Chinese women, of whom seventy are prostitutes, scattered throughout the Province entirely among their own countrymen many as concubines, that relationship being among them deemed no offence, and no discredit.

Chinese Prostitution.

It is doubtful whether a similar number of English or American people in a strange country would show any better record, though they might not use exactly the same terms. In dealing with this question it is impossible to avoid plain language.

The evidence does not show reasonable ground for fearing in British Columbia any contaminating influence from either one or the other of these vices, as coming from the Chinese. It may safely be affirmed that the white associates (few as they are) of the low Chinese in these vices will be themselves found to come from the lowest and most degraded classes of the whites, persons so utterly dead to every feeling that becomes either a respectable man or a virtuous woman, that wherever they might be, in whatever city of the world, if it were possible to find any place lower than an opium den or a Chinese house of prostitution, it is there they would have to be sought. It is a reflection upon the people of British Columbia to assume that as a people they could be led away by such degraded tastes.

In the police reports extending over five years from 1879, there are only two charges against the Chinese for prostitution, and none against any of the Chinese for the improper sale or use of opium, or for having

Police Reports

misled, seduced, or enticed any white man, woman or child into their places of residence, or for having beguiled them in any way into their company for improper purposes, either of co-habitation or opium smoking.

It may here be observed that the police of the city of Victoria are a fine body of men, prompt in the discharge of their duties, vigilant as to offences against the laws, or infractions of the municipal regulations; and in no way tainted with love or affection for the Chinese.

Whiskey drinking.
White and Indian prostitute.

In a country where whiskey drinking prevails to an unlimited extent, and where white and Indian prostitutes can be found and are known to exist in unknown numbers, it seems a contradiction to assume a dread of the white population becoming demoralized from the presence of seventy Chinese prostitutes, in a population of 10,550 Chinese people living in accordance with the customs of their own country, and a practice of opium smoking among their own people, infinitesimally small, when compared with the practice of whiskey drinking among the whites, unless it be upon the principle declared by one of the residents, who, when asked by the commissioners, "What was the difference between getting drunk on whiskey and getting drunk on opium?" indignantly replied, "That one was a Christian habit, the other was a heathen vice," a distinction which it would be difficult for Carlyle to comprehend or Father Mathew to apply. — *Mutato nomine de te fabula narratur.*

A Christian habit and a heathen vice.

The fact is that the statements in these two respects are merely repetitions of the charges made in San Francisco, without the slightest ground for their application to Canada as a whole, or British Columbia as a part of the Dominion; unless, indeed, it be contended that the records of the courts — of the police office and the public institutions of the country are untrue, and that its public officers, its police, its grand juries, and municipal authorities are all alike negligent and inefficient in the discharge of their public duties, regardless of the welfare of the people, and indifferent to the morals of the young and rising generation. It is weakening the position by crowding the enquiry with unsupported charges. But, if we turn to Col. Bee's evidence (page 20), taken at San Francisco, we find that the truth of this charge, as to danger from Chinese prostitution, even as applied to San Francisco, is emphatically denied.

There are grave and there are serious objections to the Chinese as a class of settlers, but these objections are not strengthened by imputing to them offences similar to those our own people are in the habit of committing, whether they be called, whiskey drinking or opium smoking, prostitution or concubinage.

CHAPTER 6.

SECRET SOCIETIES. — WANT OF TRUTH. — FILTHY HABITS. — DISEASES AND LEPROSY.

Secret Organization.

Ignorance of their language and mode of thought.

There are grave objections to the Chinese as settlers or as residents in large numbers, which, apart from the question of competition with white labor, ought to be seriously considered. Prominent among those objections is the undoubted existence among the Chinese of secret organizations, enabling them to act as compact bodies in any community where they may be, facilitating the evasion of local laws and the concealment of crime. This constitutes a dangerous feature in the administration of justice where their personal interests are involved; our utter ignorance of their language and modes of thought placing the officers of justice at the power of interpreters, whose veracity is doubtful, and whose integ-

there are no means of testing. The power and extent of these secret organizations enable them to command a simultaneity of action throughout extended districts, and to inflict serious injury upon a community, while themselves not overtly violating any law so as to incur punishment. This was shown by extraordinary combinations in our Eastern possessions in 1856. And still later, to a small degree by the Chinese strike in Victoria in 1877, at the attempted enforcement of an unconstitutional Act passed by the Local Legislature directed against them.

They are so entirely ignorant, so incapable of understanding our system of government that they are naturally suspicious, and resort to this mode of protecting themselves when it is not required. Dangerous as is this element in their character, there is another which is worse, that is their disregard of truth where their feelings or passions are involved; and particularly in charges of a criminal nature, they care not what pain they inflict, or what they endure, so as their end be obtained. A striking illustration of this occurred on a criminal trial in the Supreme Court of British Columbia at the assizes in Victoria, a few years since. Some time previously a Chinaman had been found severely injured and beaten on one of the sidewalks of the city. He accused two other Chinamen of the offence, who were arrested, indicted and tried under the statute for inflicting grievous bodily harm, and by means of his evidence convicted and sent to the Penitentiary. The friends of the two convicts thereupon had the prosecutor indicted for perjury. On his trial for that offence the contention was that he had inflicted the injury upon himself, and had falsely charged the two Chinamen with doing it, in order that he might be avenged upon them for a former quarrel. A Chinese witness had sworn strongly to this effect. The learned Judge remarked: "It was difficult to believe a man would so severely injure himself, merely to have another punished." When the witness was leaving the stand he quietly drew a razor from his pocket, and in a moment slashed open his own head from back to front, leaving a great broad gash of five or six inches through his shaven crown from which the blood poured in a stream. The interpreter explained, that this was to convince the Court that a Chinaman did not mind what pain he inflicted on himself if he could have another punished on whom he had a wrong to avenge. When both parties are ready to go to that length, it is difficult in the administration of justice to know which to believe.

These two features of the Chinese character and habits are so objectionable that the utmost care is required to obviate the consequence. No doubt, this want of truth renders unsatisfactory the administration of justice in all matters of a criminal nature affecting them, while the knowledge that such power of combination exists creates a sense of insecurity, particularly as to the permanency of engagements for domestic service or the privacy of the household.

There is one thing, however, always to be remembered in dealing with natives of foreign countries; allowance must be made for different moral standards, dissimilar modes of thought and habits, entirely at variance with those to which we have been trained. The Christian religion, the institutions of the middle ages, the habits of freedom, the moral tone of the European races of the highest class, have tended to make truth an essential element in the characteristics of their people and descendants -- recognized in the codes of society, in the rules of law, in the dealings of man with man and nation with nation. It is not so with the Asiatics: With them an adherence to truth, as we call it, is simply an admission of weakness. Whatever contributes to immediate success in the object they

Power of secret organization.

Combination in the East and at Victoria. See *Tai Sing vs. McGuire*, Judgt. Sup. Court of British Columbia, Sept. 1878.

Want of Truth

Chinese self infliction.

Illustration

Objectionable.

Allowance for different moral standards.

desire to obtain, is sanctioned as belonging to superior intelligence. Dupli-
city and capacity to deceive are of higher value than truth. In this
respect, therefore, the Chinese do not differ from the rest of the people of
the continent to which they belong — truth with them is the evidence of a
weaker race; but admitting all this, the strong common sense of the
European races and their descendants, points out, that that deficiency is
no reason why dealings should not be had with Asiatics, when the interests
of humanity or the extension of commerce will be promoted thereby, and
assuming from all the circumstances attending their presence in British
Columbia, that the benefit to the Province exceeds the detriment, then
the remedy for the two evils referred to, may be found in the course pur-
sued in China, at the time of the occupation of Canton, in 1856, by the
British forces, under the embassy of Lord Elgin and in some preliminary
observations made by his secretary, Mr. Oliphant, in his narrative of the
expedition, in which the secret organizations are more particularly referred
to:

Elgin's China
1860,
Oliphant.

Elgin's China,
Vol. I. 20.
Singapore.

Secret Societies.

Conjoint respon-
sibility and
authority.

Manilla.

Registration and
Taxation.

Selection by
themselves of
Officer respon-
sible.

" At present, there is a population of 70,000 Chinamen in Singapore,
and not a single European who understands the language; the consequence
is, that in the absence of any competent interpreter they are generally
ignorant of the designs of the Government, and regarding themselves still
as Chinese subjects are apt to place themselves in an antagonistic attitude
whenever laws are passed affecting their peculiar customs. No effort is
made to overcome a certain exclusiveness arising hence, and this is fost-
ered by the secret societies which exercise an important influence upon
the minds of all, but more particularly the ignorant portion of the popu-
lation. Were Chinese themselves put into positions of authority under
the Government and allowed to share to some extent in the duties and
responsibilities of British citizens, which, intellectually speaking, they are
quite competent to undertake, the barrier which now exists between the
two races would be partially removed, and the mutual distrust and suspi-
cion engendered by our present system would in all probability quickly
disappear. Nor is this mere speculation. We have, fortunately, in their
own Empire a perpetual proof before our eyes of that reverence for
authority, when judiciously enforced, which is one of their chief character-
istics, and which has for so many centuries been the preservation of its
union and one of the great sources of its prosperity."

" Manilla, like Singapore, owes a great part of its prosperity to the Chi-
nese portion of its population, and in our management of this race in our
possessions, it might not be unprofitable to investigate the expediency of
some of those measures, which other nations inferior to us in the art of
colonization, as a rule, have found it necessary to employ. All the Chi-
nese arriving at Manilla are registered and taxed according to their occu-
pations. They are divided into four classes: merchants, shop keepers,
artisans and day laborers."

The entire Chinese population has been estimated as high as 30,000,
but, according to a Spanish author writing in 1842, the number actually
enrolled does not exceed 6,000, and their capitation tax is about \$100,000
a year, while that of all the native inhabitants, exceeding 3,000,000, does
not equal eight times that amount. This taxation is manifestly excessive,
and no good object could be obtained by drawing any distinction in our
own possessions between Chinese and British subjects, but the election of
a captain by themselves, whose office is to collect the tribute and arrange
all internal differences, and who is to a certain extent responsible for the
good conduct of his countrymen, is an excellent arrangement. At the
same time that the captain is elected, his lieutenant and head constable

are also chosen by the Chinese. Were we to establish a good system of responsible government among our Chinese populations and employ a sufficient staff of interpreters, we should be relieved from apprehensions on their account, and they from the dread of the consequences with which we are apt to visit them under the influence of that apprehension.

The exemplification of these views was carried out after the capture and during the occupation of Canton. At page 169, he says:

"During the first week of occupation, bodies of men were marched through the different quarters of the city as patrols, it was found, however, that this served rather to alarm than to reassure the population, while a lawless rabble following close in rear took advantage of the confusion created, to shoplift with a dexterity worthy of the swell mob. An allied police was, therefore, substituted for these patrols, composed partly of Chinese and partly of English or French. Natives and foreigners were alike amused to observe a file of marines walking amicably side by side, the one headed by a sergeant and the other by a petty Mandarin gracefully fanning himself. This scheme proved eminently successful. European offenders were brought up and punished by the tribunal, while "Pehkwei" bastinadoed his own countrymen with an unsparing vehemence to prove his desire of cordial cooperation. As in the course of his explorations, Mr. Parkes discovered some proclamations intended to inflame the population against the foreigners, which evil disposed persons were beginning to post up extensively; Pehkwei was ordered to issue notices to the headmen of the districts making them responsible for insulting or incendiary proclamations. The system of responsibility thus introduced is thoroughly in accordance with the Chinese plan of government. It was that pursued in the government of Canton with perfect success; it served the two fold purpose of keeping Pehkwei constantly in check and of proving to the inhabitants the absolute supremacy of our power."

We thus have the principles defined and the proof of its success - a system of conjoint supervision creating both confidence and supremacy in the dominant power, and responsibility on the part of those who are governed. It ensures to the Chinaman a conviction that his case is thoroughly understood - that his wants, his feelings, his positions will be explained by those who from their mastery of his language, and their knowledge of his customs, are thoroughly competent to do so; while it affords to the Local Authorities, a certainty that their views and objects in any contemplated movement, in the enforcement of any local law, or the carrying out of any sanitary arrangement, will not be misunderstood, and in consequence erroneously resisted or evaded. The details of a proposition to this effect will hereafter be more fully considered - not only as embracing the considerations above mentioned, but as covering the enforcement of sanitary regulations - cleanliness of "Chinese quarters" and places of residence - and also as preventing the introduction of paupers - diseased or deformed Chinamen into the Province.

All these matters come clearly within the powers of legislation by prevention in the first instance - or in the second by remedy in the way of proper sanitary and remedial measures, enacted with prudence and enforced with strictness.

There can be no doubt of the truth of the charge, that about their residences and in their mode of living in their own domiciles the habits of the lower classes of the Chinese, as a rule, are most objectionable and filthy. The air is polluted by the disgusting offal with which they are surrounded, and the vile accumulations are apt to spread fever and sick-

elephant, 100.

Successful result of Conjoint system.

Conjoint tribunal and authority.

Advantages of.

Comprehensive extent.

Filthy state of residences.

The same in China.

Oliphant.

Ample power for abating nuisances.

Non existence in British Columbia.

Remedy without expense to Canada.

Local authorities power to abate.

ness in the neighborhood, which in the end may affect extensive districts. This is not exceptional as to their habits when abroad, but is equally noticeable in all the large towns in China where foreigners or travellers have had opportunities of observation. Among the lower classes also, the most repulsive objects of disease and deformity are sometimes met with. In their own country human life is not regarded, and when the wasted cripple or paralytic can no longer help himself, and death is slowly approaching, his wretched body, ere life has fled, is thrown out on the dung heap to perish — carion for the crows and dogs.

Oliphant mentions such scenes and instances at Tien tsin, a city of a million of inhabitants within a hundred miles of Peking, the capital of the Empire, and similarly have they been noticed in other large cities of China.

In the lowest dens of London, Liverpool and Dublin, in the slums of New York, and the large capitals of Europe equally are to be found the most repulsive objects of disease, and the most degraded and filthy modes of living. Even in our own cities — in Montreal, the most populous and most Christian City of the Dominion — residences for human beings and habits more degrading and filthy are to be found. In the *Montreal Daily Witness*, of November 14th, will be found in article, "Abodes of Misery," descriptive of habitations, which rival, if they do not surpass any place in the worst of the Chinese quarters in Victoria or San Francisco.

Among the lowest classes of human beings of all the nations of the world, whether Christian or Pagan, the same degradation may be found, and it would be well that the writers who so vehemently attack the Chinese on these grounds would look at home and amend the evil there. The law provides the most ample power for the abatement of such nuisances, and for the punishment of the offenders, whether they be tenants or owners of the land. The local authorities ought really to be the parties attacked for not exercising the powers with which the law clothes them for that purpose, rather than the poor wretched degraded beings, victims of ignorance and years of debauchery, misery and crime, with whom conscience is extinct, and virtue and shame unknown.

In British Columbia there has never been a density of population, or pauperism sufficient to render such scenes possible among the whites, and it is, therefore, that the mere probability of their approach is regarded with such justifiable horror.

In Canada they can be prevented under effective existing legislation, without expense to the Government of the Dominion; and so far as the Chinese are concerned, their obedience and submission to authority, the peculiar characteristic of the people of their country, resulting from the long training, and despotic nature of their Government, its assumed divine origin, and absolute arbitrary will, render the carrying out of measures by the local authorities to that end, a remedy of simple means.

It is difficult to conceive upon what principle such charges are made. Where the local authorities have power to remove or abate the evil, it is a waste of time to abuse it. Where they can punish the offender, and do not, it is a premium to offend. Mr. Bloomfield the Superintendent of Police in Victoria in his evidence says: "I have known instances when buildings and their owners have been presented to the Grand Jury as nuisances and no action been taken." There is no question, that the "Chinese quarters" are the filthiest and most disgusting places in Victoria, overcrowded hotbeds of disease and vice, disseminating fever and polluting the air all around. Then why allowed so to remain? It is not the fault of the Chinese so much as of those who can and do not prevent it.

It is reflecting upon the administration of the law and its executive machinery to permit the public health to be so endangered. It cannot be presumed that the owners of such habitations or places can have the influence, or would desire, to thwart the Authorities in doing what the public interests require, nor that there can be an object in nursing the evil rather than removing it.

In argument, however, it forms no more ground for expelling the Chinese than it would for expelling any other class of dirty people, or for legislating against any other race, white or black, amongst whom certain bad or objectionable classes were found. Proceed against the offender, whether he be black or white, but do not confound the innocent with the guilty.

In connection with the matters referred to in this chapter and in connection with this phase of the question comes up the oft repeated charge of leprosy and "Leprous race."

On this point it may be said that particular and searching inquiry was made by the Commissioners. Dr. Helmcken, one of the oldest and most eminent physicians in the Province, who was there long before the advent of the Chinese; after remarking that the Chinese came to the country about fourteen or eighteen years ago, says: "I have never seen more than two cases of leprosy since I have been in the country, one an Indian before the Chinese arrived, and one about eight or ten years ago - this a Chinaman. With regard to the man in the prison mentioned by Sergeant Bloomfield, he came into the prison for stealing, I think, and after he arrived in the prison, the question arose as to his being a leper and that he be liberated; and I said the Chinese doctors had better see him as they were acquainted with the disease, and after doing so they said he had the leprosy, giving a certificate to that effect, and upon that certificate the man was kept in prison after his sentence had expired. He was afterwards liberated. The same man, I am informed this morning, has just been brought into prison again, not on account of leprosy but for stealing. According to the best medical authorities, leprosy is not considered a contagious or infectious disease. To day it exists in Norway and Sweden, and also in the Mediterranean countries. I do not know that it is necessary a leper should be locked up. Leprosy is incurable, and persons so affected are usually put in some place for incurable diseases. The disease may go on for years. In the Sandwich Islands lepers are separated from the healthy. The peculiar indications of leprosy vary - in one affecting the skin, another the nervous system. The skin kind is more like syphilis. It is more or less hereditary; and in some families, there might be a leper. People residing and cohabiting with them do not take the disease. I cannot tell you whether it has been found the same in Australia, as I have no reliable information. I do not know of a single white person having leprosy in this country, only having known two cases of leprosy, as I said before, one an Indian leper, which was before the Chinese arrived, and a Chinaman. The Indian, therefore, did not contract it from the Chinese. Leprosy is not only found amongst the Chinese, but affects the whole of humanity. It has, however, disappeared from Europe, except Norway and Sweden, Finland, and the Mediterranean. There are more cases in China and the East; it seems to appertain to hot countries chiefly, and marshy places. I do not think the cause of the disease is known. Of course, now a days it is a "Bacillus." If there was a case of leprosy in Victoria now, it would be the duty of the police to report the same to the city authorities the same as a case of small pox. I have been the visiting surgeon of the jail ever since it was built - from the time I

Black or white.

Leprosy.

Dr. Helmcken.

Leprosy.

came to the country. This appointment is under the local government. There may have been cases of leprosy amongst the Chinese, they not letting any one know about it; but I do not think so, for this reason: that the Chinese are afraid of it themselves. They would evidently shun them and so make them marked. On the general health condition of the Chinese in Victoria, I cannot speak authoritatively on this subject, for the reason they do not speak English, so we are not called upon to attend them when sick; but I think the health of the Chinese is as good as the whites, according to the death rate, though I do not know the exact number of Chinese residents here.

Dr. McInnes.

Dr. McInnes whose testimony is strong against the Chinese, on this point says:

"I have never seen a case of leprosy among them. I believe there are some cases of leprosy among them, but I have not seen one."

Dr. Stevenson.

Dr. Stevenson, a practising physician of Victoria and a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, who states that he has had twenty two years experience on the Pacific coast, and is familiar with the history of the Chinese in the Pacific States and territories of the United States, says that the disease is not contagious, and that up to 1882, no case of leprosy had occurred among the whites, though during the ten preceding years fifty two had been known among the Chinese in California, and he regards the sanitary objections against the Chinese as baseless.

Thus, therefore, from the medical testimony, during the whole period the Chinese have been in British Columbia we find but one case of leprosy among them, and that eight or ten years ago. We further find that unusual as the disease is, there was a case of it in British Columbia before the Chinese came, and we know as a matter of Canadian history that it was known in New Brunswick fifty years ago, and that there was an Establishment at Tracadie in that Province where the lepers were kept, that it never spread or was communicated to any one, and that there never has been the slightest fear of its dissemination among the people of that Province, nor is there at this moment any fear of its dissemination in British Columbia. There can be no doubt, if one of the Chinese so diseased were found, he or she would be immediately separated from the rest of the community as in cases of small pox.

Proper sanitary regulations can always obviate danger from such sources.

CHAPTER 7.

COMPETITION WITH WHITE LABOR. DOMESTIC SERVICE AND SLAVERY

Competition with white labor.

But all these questions are more or less aside of the main issue. We must come in a practical sense to the most important subject submitted for consideration by this enquiry, namely, the effect upon the country—past, present and future, of the competition with white labor created or likely to be created by the influx of Chinese into the country. This is to be governed by a calm and business-like consideration of the circumstances of the country, and not alone by abstract theories or race prejudices. The medicine that suits one man may not suit another. On this point it is but right to quote again from the writer already referred to. At page 80, Vol. I, Oliphant, after strongly recommending the introduction of Chinese labor into the Eastern possessions of the Empire, says:

Oliphant.

"It is not, however, merely in the settlement of the Malay Archipelago

to which Chinese immigration might be directed and encouraged by Government with great advantage, but to many tropical colonies in other parts of the world—where there is an enormous capacity of production coupled with an utter inadequacy of means. We must be careful of judging of the results of Chinese immigration by the experiences of California, Australia, or any other Colony where peculiar conditions resulting from gold discoveries exist, and where the climate admits of competition by whites. It is as undesirable that such a competition should be established in those countries adapted for European out door labor, as that others should be deprived of the benefit of any such labor at all because the climate is fatal to the white man."

This sounds the key note of the question. Oliphant's work was published in 1859, we have therefore the additional experience of 25 years.

On both points submitted in the heading of this chapter, what does that experience prove in relation to British Columbia and Canada? In the first place as to British Columbia, we have a Province "where there is an enormous capacity of production coupled with an utter inadequacy of means." It covers a habitable square or parallelogram, more than 1,200 miles in one direction by 500 in another from South to North, from West to East, larger than Great Britain and Ireland, larger than France, equal in extent to the German Empire, or coming nearer home, twice and a half as large as Ontario and closely doubling on Quebec. It has an assumed a population of 60,000 inhabitants located in a few towns and scattered along the margins of the rivers and the forests. It contains in round numbers - 219,000,000 acres,* which would give a pre-emption lot of 160 acres - to 1,368,759 people - or at its present assumed rate of population of 60,000 - 3,650 acres for every man, woman and child in town and country - including Indians, Chinese and all other Nationalities. Its great internal area capable of unlimited development is almost unutilized, save for the roaming of wild cattle, or the natural growth of the timber. What is wanted is population - tillers of the soil, manufacturers, settlers, traders, laborers, mental and manual, merchants, capitalists, who will make its rich resources conducive to the comforts of life. The returns of the Collector of Customs for British Columbia show that with all the known natural resources of coal mines, gold mines, fisheries, lumber, as well as railway works and other inducements, there only came into the Province, including passengers, men, women and children business and private, public and official during the four most attractive years from the construction of great public works, 27,256 white persons, and during eight years, including the same period, 18,000 Chinamen. How many of these returned or left the Province is not shown. At that rate, which would give a yearly average of 5,667 immigrants, it would take over 240 years to reach a population of 1,368,750 - allowing the births, death rates and outgoers to neutralize each other; but an immigration to that extent cannot be reasonably expected, when the demand for labor by the completion of the railway will, to a large extent, have ceased. With all the great Northwest from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains open to settlement and cultivation - with all the immense Territories of the United States bidding for the comers from Europe and the British Isles, British Columbia need not fear being over-run for many a day. The question therefore is, shall the development which is attainable be rejected because it cannot be by the particular means most desired?

Extent of British Columbia.

Its interest unutilized.

* The British Columbia pamphlet, "Information for Immigrants, 1883, gives the area of the Province at 300,000 square miles, which multiplied by 640 acres to the square mile would be 224,000,000 acres.

Evidence of Mr. Brooks.

On this point the observations of Mr. Brooks, of San Francisco, one of the ablest Oriental scholars, and from an experience of many years thoroughly acquainted with the subject of Chinese immigration into the United States, are singularly applicable. In his evidence at San Francisco (page 30) he says:

"The early immigration came to supplement rather than to supplant our laborers. When it came it was very much needed; -- with the gradual filling up of California, it is now claimed that we do not need it and that any renewal of Chinese immigration would tend to lower the standard of wages obtained by American laborers. It is the pride of the United States that they are enabled to pay higher wages for labor -- through the great bounty of Nature and their great territorial advantages and natural wealth -- than any other country in the world. Thus the laborer is enabled to educate his family and acquire more home comforts. He is, in fact, raised to a higher condition of existence than is possible under the cheap labor of Europe. The same thing applies to Canada exactly. If the Chinese coming into the country are limited in number to the actual requirements of a new country, and are able to command wages equally with American labor, the only question then involved would be, whether their presence would crowd out a corresponding amount of home labor? With the enormous territory of the United States at present unoccupied, and only waiting labor to develop its resources, this can hardly be urged as an objection at present. But the presence of too many Chinese, especially if they attempt an internal self-government -- *imperium in imperio* -- by which they farm out fishing grounds and district the city for wash houses, forming combinations and interfering with avenues of labor needed for the proper support of our own people, their presence is objectionable. All civilized Nations have proclaimed against exclusiveness, and mixture seems to be an element in progress; but, as every home has a right to protect itself, socially, morally and industrially, against all outside interference, so a Nation through its Government, is bound to protect all proper industries in process of development within its territory. Conditions may exist where the accession of Chinese aid in the labor market may protect and also increase the American labor required, our people becoming directors, and the mere menial duties necessary to existence may be performed by laborers with less intelligence. We often blame the Chinese as a whole for the errors and faults of an individual."

When territory great. No objection.

When Chinese aid beneficial.

Evidence in B. C.

Non interference with skilled labor.

Chinese labor.

Advantage to mechanic.

From the evidence adduced before the Commissioners, the competition of the Chinese with white labor in British Columbia has only been with labor of the lowest kind. It has not interfered with the mechanic or skilled labor. The carpenter, the foundry man, the gas fitter, the mason, the cabinet maker, the wharfinger, the glazier, the painter, the carriage maker, boat builders, shipwrights, and all industries requiring skill, intelligence and steady industry, pursue their different vocations and are carried on without rivalry or competition from the Chinese.

All those pursuits which pertain to the higher order of intellectual and physical labor, which raise the white man in the scale of life, and enable him to bring up his family to take the highest positions in the land are untouched by the Chinese; but to dig a ditch, shovel earth, cut wood and wash clothes, which white men who can get anything else to do will not do -- this labor is left to the Chinamen, and for such purposes affords to the industrious mechanic an opportunity of getting done at a price within his command, work on which his own time is too valuable to be employed. A careful consideration of the evidence shows this to be

the case. It is fortunate that, in a young and sparsely settled Province, this cheap labor can be obtained, for it enables those whose minds are capable of higher development, and whose ambition looks to more ennobling industry - to follow pursuits in which they will rise - rather than toil and slave in grovelling work, which wears out the body without elevating the mind.

But it does more. It enables the capitalist to bring money into the country with the prospect of benefitting by its investment, while the expenditure benefits the country by the development of its resources. This is not a question between labor and capital. In British Columbia there is neither the one nor the other, at all proportionate to its extent of territory. It is a question of bringing in both. The labor would be of no use without the capital, and centuries would pass if left to labor alone before the Province would be developed or settled to the extent of even the smallest of the German States. Capital is as much required as labor, but what capitalist will bring money into the country, if the price of labor is so high that he cannot expend it with the prospect of some advantage to himself. The evidence shows most distinctly that the price of white labor of the lowest kind is at such a figure that he cannot use his capital to advantage and with safety, while with the prices charged by the Chinese for similar labor, he can. It has been shown by facts and reasoning that the fear of Chinese competition has not deterred *bona fide* industrious white settlers from coming into the Province, and the instance given in the evidence of the Chief Justice of British Columbia, one of the oldest residents of the Province, is conclusive, that with steadiness, frugality and sobriety - a common workman in the coal mines - in the course of the ordinary number of working years can not only make a comfortable living for himself and family, but lay by an ample competence for his declining years. This is not a solitary instance. Mr. Robins, the manager of the Vancouver Coal Company, says: "white people can now find remunerative employment. In fact wages are high enough to attract the best class of white labor." It may be safely affirmed, such are the resources and varied opportunities of industry in British Columbia - that no instance can be named - where a laboring man with health - steady industry and sobriety, has ever failed to make a comfortable living, unless disabled by some unforeseen misfortune. - Many by good luck succeed though they may not be frugal or sober - many become dissatisfied because they cannot become wealthy in a few years. Some think they ought to be special favorites of Providence and wait until something turns up; but Chinese or no Chinese, in the country or out of it, an instance cannot be named, where a sober, industrious, frugal and ordinarily sensible laboring man has ever failed to make a comfortable living in British Columbia. The question has now been brought to a point, where it is necessary to lay before the Parliament and country the facts without reference to persons or parties.

It is something strange to hear the strong broad shouldered superior race, superior physically and mentally, sprung from the highest types of the old and the new world, expressing a fear of competition, with a small, inferior, and comparatively speaking, feminine race.

When France or England has any special object to gain, nothing is thought of crossing many thousand miles of intervening Ocean, entering the densely populated land of China with all its ancient civilization, and with a few hundred men by means of modern science defeating the Chinese in countless numbers, taking what either Nation desires, and against their will, insisting that your people shall go into their country whenever it pleases or suits - but if they the Chinese come over to your country in

Successful result of steady industry.

No instance of failure of a steady sober working man

Plain speaking.

Superiority of white race.

National aggression Chinese.

Rule.

the peaceful pursuit of trade or industry—they must be driven back because they are more sober, more frugal, and in the humblest calling of labor work a little harder than others feel inclined to. The rule should work both ways. Let the English people leave them alone and they will leave the English people alone.

Present and future.

But it is to the evidence we must again turn. Throughout the whole of it there is not a witness, with one or two exceptions, who does not say that in the first instance their presence was essentially necessary and beneficial to the Province, that up to the present time there are not too many, and that it would not be desirable that those who are in the Province should be driven out, but that there should be some regulation for the future to prevent too great an influx.

Laborer saving machinery.

The argument that their presence cheapens labor, to the detriment of the white man, is simply the argument that has been used against every labor-saving machine, and every improvement that science has ever made, tending to the advancement of the human race. The grass cutting, reaping, sowing, and planting machines interfered with, the labor of hundreds of laboring men in every agricultural country where they were introduced; the steamers with sailors, the railroads and cattle cars with horses and drivers, stage coaches and posters, machinery in mills and factories with hand labor. The telegraphs and phonographs with post boys and messengers. Who now proposes to do without these scientific aids?

Difference between living and inanimate machinery.

The Chinese in British Columbia as affecting the rapid development of the country are living machines differing from artificial and inanimate machinery in this, that while working and conducing to the same end with the latter, they are consuming the productions and manufactures of the country, contributing to its revenue and trade, and at the same time expanding and developing its resources.

Room for 50,000,000.

Year by year in America the opening of new districts is affording room for unlimited numbers of settlers. Canada has but five millions of inhabitants from Ocean to Ocean, yet in the North West Territories and British Columbia alone there is room for fifty millions, and the Chinese in the country it is contended, are simply clearing the ground for their advent. It is difficult to believe that the white race in America can be stayed by such a class, or need protection.

Cause.

Wages.

As to the competition of the Chinese with white labor in British Columbia it may readily be shown that the main obstruction to the steady employment of the latter lies with the white laborers themselves, and is in some degree owing to habits and ideas implanted in the country by the early comers of 1858. With the admitted and undoubted preference for white labor throughout the whole country, there must be a good cause why it does not command the market. That cause is found in the high rate of wages demanded for a day's unskilled labor. The employer cannot afford to pay it and live. The great mass of the people in British Columbia are workmen—mechanics, parties commencing with small capital, shopkeepers, traders, and strugglers in various industries requiring skill and knowledge. Their wages as mechanics, and for ordinary skilled labor range from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per day, dependant as in all such cases upon personal superiority. There are not many capitalists—in fact, very few. The laboring man with steady, continuous employment on railways, corporation work and in the mines gets \$2 per day; for occasional jobs he makes \$2.50 per day. The latter is what is mostly in demand with the mechanics and others above mentioned. If they cannot get their little plots of ground dug or their wood cut at less than \$2.50 per day, that sum absorbs more than half of their own earnings. They must, therefore,

necessarily look for something cheaper, and thus the Chinese are employed, because their remuneration is within reach and leaves some thing of the day's work for the mechanic himself. This costly idea of remuneration for ordinary unskilled labor results from the ease with which gold was found on the first settlement of the Province. The extravagant ideas they engendered still continue. At this moment there is not in circulation in the country a coin less than a ten cent piece. The Banks had to return the five cent pieces sent out by the Dominion Government for circulation, because the business portion of the community would not use them and declined the reception of a coin so small. The remuneration for the commonest services is three and four times what is paid for similar services in the Eastern Provinces.

Extravagant ideas.

The following extract is from a correspondence published in one of the Victoria papers under date of the 14th November 1881 from a new settler, addressed to a friend in Ontario: "Our money is quite different from yours, we use "bits" when you would use cents." If you are buying ten cents worth of anything and give twenty five cents you will only receive ten cents back, no five cent bit, being in circulation. Money is no consideration here. They think no more of changing a twenty dollar gold piece than you would a five dollar bill. Nearly all gold and silver is used here, altogether this is a most delightful place, the climate all that could be desired, and knowing that relatives from whom I am separated are in good health, I can feel happy and contented in my new home."

Settler's letter

Senator MacDonald in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1879, after stating that Chinamen would not work at less than \$1.25 per day says: "White labor can I fancy be got for \$2 a day. I know I have offered \$1.50 a day, and they have declined it and consequently I have thus been forced to employ Chinamen at a low rate of wages. Instead of employing white men at \$2.25 a day, I have employed Chinamen at \$1.25. It costs a white man to live about fifty cents a day, a Chinamen about half that sum; white labor must come down in price. That is a matter which at any rate must be brought about. It is impossible to carry on any kind of work either in connection with farming or manufacturing at the present rate of wages in our Province, the price of white labor must come down in order to enable us to carry on any work successfully."

Senator Macdonald.

Matters of this nature seem small to be mentioned in a report on the subject under consideration, but in social questions and in view of sumptuary legislation thereon, they are necessary to a thorough understanding. In most young countries when the struggle of first settlement is going on, there is not much money, prices and wages rule low, and increase with the increase of the country, and the means of payment. That is healthy and normal, but the first days of British Columbia were days of wealth—gold was abundant—prices were high, and wages in proportion. In a pecuniary sense as affecting the permanent common weal, its state was unhealthy and abnormal. Reckless indifference to expenditure and habits of extravagance were formed which did not change when the circumstances of the country changed, and to this day the laborer thinks the same scale for payment should continue, though the employer has not the same means for payment. Men are not now taking out gold as they did, and the laborer must prepare as in other countries, to work a little more continuously and not expect to become immediately wealthy. The evidence and the official Returns show that this Chinese competition is not with skilled labor or with agricultural settlers, or persons intending to become permanent residents in the country, but with migratory transitory laborers, who

Social and sumptuary legislation.

gold.

Competition with migratory laborers.

may or may not become settlers, dependant upon ulterior circumstances. This fact must be borne in mind in order to have a thorough comprehension of this phase of the question, because Mr. Robin's testimony shows there is now in this Province ample opportunity for white laborers at remunerative wages, if they choose to avail themselves of it. An absolute monopoly of the labor market, or a power to control and dictate the rate of wages, would be, (as an absolute power in any other of the business relations of life) most injurious to the general welfare.

Monopolies
injurious.

The extraordinary length, to which the majority of the Local Legislature and some of the inhabitants of British Columbia, have been prepared to go in consequence of this Chinese antipathy, will be seen from an examination of the Local Act, and the circumstances shown in the judgment of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in the case of *Tai Sing vs. McGuire*, delivered September 23rd, 1878. Laying aside all that part of the decision which declared the Local Act to be *ultra vires* as affecting trade and commerce, examine its enactments with reference to the white inhabitants themselves, and observe how, if they employ Chinamen, it substitutes the innocent for the guilty and punishes the farmer, the merchant or the trader, for offences, and violations of the Act to which they are not only no parties, but of which they must be in entire ignorance. Such Legislation would hardly be tolerated anywhere among a free people, nor in any country where fanaticism had not usurped the place of reason. It was that Act which led to the Chinese strike in Victoria, in 1878, and was disallowed by the Dominion Government as soon as attention was by this judgment called to its provisions.

Tai Sing vs
McGuire -
(appendix.)

Policy to regulate
not forbid.

Sound policy, therefore, will regulate the coming of the Chinese, not stop it, any more than a clear headed sensible farmer would dry up a river, because it may sometimes overflow its banks, and perchance create temporary derangement in the lands through which it flows, but which, when properly restrained, its waters irrigate and enrich.

Regulating laws.

There can be no difficulty in enacting laws based on sound economical and commercial principles, regulating the immigration of Chinese and, indeed, of all other labor coming into the country, without interfering with that inducement to healthy immigration which Canada so essentially wants, but this Commission has to deal with the Chinese only, and even though the danger arising from their coming be imaginary, (if not questionable), it would be satisfactory that there should be a limited restraint; for there still exists, and will always exist the objection, that there is no homogeneity of race between them and ourselves, nor can they comprehend or assimilate themselves to our institutions. The nature and extent of such regulations will be hereafter considered, but we can approach their consideration relieved from the prejudice that would have been created, had the evidence, as to the past and present consequences, of their being in the country, shown that such presence had operated to its disadvantage.

Domestic service.

Before, however, the latter measures are discussed, in order to their better understanding, we must consider the question of domestic service. Without the Chinese in British Columbia, there would have been no domestic service at all. There were no persons, to be servants. The fallacy that has pervaded the whole discussion in British Columbia is the assumption, that manual and bodily labor, digging and delving, is the only labor in the world, and that no persons were to be considered in this matter, save the diggers and the delvers. The man who toils with his brain, to unfold the mysteries of nature, to develop the field of scientific enquiry, to add to the humanities of life and ennoble the daily discharge of duty, is as great a benefactor of his race and as much deserving of consideration

Fallacy as to
labor.

as the man who works with his hands or in the ordinary paths of labor. The gradations of labor are simply the dispensations of Providence, by which the highest good can be obtained for mankind, and he who commences on the lowest rung of the ladder frequently attains the highest. The two kinds, while in progress cannot always be combined, though very exceptional cases, such as Hugh Millers have shewn they may be, but as an ordinary rule, they are essential to each other, and work together for the common good, each during that progress in its relative position.

Service, servitude, or help by which - ever name it may be called is absolutely necessary for the comfort of domestic life. Can that be obtained in British Columbia without the Chinese in the present state of this Province? It may safely be affirmed it cannot be, nor for very many years to come, in reality until a density of population there exists, which no man of the present day will live to see.

Service or servitude.

In the first place, the Institutions of the Province are against it - the teachings of the public schools are against it; the whole feeling of the people is against it; the silent protest of facts is against it; the unspoken language of every white father and mother in the country is against it; their children are not meant to be servants. They are on equal terms by birth and right of heritage with the first in the land, and however humble they may be, however poor in circumstances, they will toil and labor at the hardest work but never stand the lacquey or menial of those who are better off. The system of free education supported by public taxation is antagonistic to inferiority of social position. From the hour that a boy or girl enters the public school they are taught that the education so freely given at the public expense, is to raise them to the level of the highest, and that there is no position in the Province to which, under the constitution they may not aspire. In fact they are taught to work up - and it is well for the country it should be so. It ensures throughout the country a higher order of intellect, a loftier tone of thought, and a fitter class of people for self Government - it carries the country onward - but it kills domestic or menial service. As, however domestic service is a necessity, if the people of the country are of too high a grade for it, a substitute must be found where best it can be.

Institutions and education of country against.

Free education.

Incoming immigration will not supply the want. If the immigrant is a desirable one, the first thing he does is to assimilate himself to the institutions and feelings of the country. After living in the Province two or three years, he will not admit his children to be inferior to those of the other residents. They are equally entitled to the education and training of the public schools; and the seed sown in the young and virgin soil will be the more vigorous because different perhaps from that received by the parents in the old country.

Assimilation of incoming immigrants.

The declaration of American Independence a hundred years ago, struck the death blow in America to menial service. The very word servant became obnoxious and "help" was substituted for it. The feeling against it has strengthened and spread every hour. It has extended to British North America, and will be found in a more or less degree in every one of the English speaking Provinces.

American Revolution.

It may not be to the same extent in the Province of Quebec, because the Roman Catholic Bishops and clergy, and their schools, impress upon their scholars respect and obedience to their superiors and those in authority, both lay and clerical - and to look for some portion of their reward in the world to come. No such idea is taught in the public schools paid and supported by public taxation. Equality, worldly success, personal ambition, are alike impressed upon boys and girls, and success at the

Quebec.

Public schools supported by Public Taxation.

schools is held as the augury of success in the struggle of life. Such is the end of modern national education supported by the public purse, and among the boys and girls of the white families it puts an end to the prospect of supply from thence for domestic or menial services.

Change.

To the careful observer of human progress, it is plain that an entire change is taking place. Education is producing its effect upon the masses of mankind, even more rapidly than the clearing and cultivation of the soil does upon the productive forces of nature. The relative position of

Female education.

the human race is changing—half a century ago, female education was limited to the attainment of the arts and culture, which tend to adorn and refine society. Now, it embraces the practical operations of life—the universities, the professions, the political privileges and powers, which were hitherto claimed and enjoyed by men alone, are now participated in and shared by women of mind and intelligence. The rights of property,

Political privileges.

of representation, of influence, of power, of business pursuits and the various industries and callings are theirs as well as ours.—Talent belongs to no particular class. It is found in the humblest ranks of life, as in the highest; and now, that this enlarged field is open to their command, can it be supposed they will be content with the position of inferiority hitherto assigned them. Female menial service, to any extent, will soon be practically annihilated among the white women of America. A marked distinction must be drawn between the overcrowded populations of Europe and Asia, where old customs, associations, and the habits of centuries, have engrained certain fixed modes of thought—and the free and ever changing attitudes of society in America. In this mental characteristic, Canada, as a nation, must be regarded as entertaining American ideas and modes of thought, however much it may differ in its view of constitutional government. Indeed, it is questionable how far these same ideas are not at this moment influencing the course of public opinion in England and the advanced nations of Europe. It is possible, many believe most probable, that within fifty years, certainly within one hundred, all hereditary distinctions of persons and rights will be abolished in England, and republican equality prevail, though, perhaps, under different designation and terms. It is barely forty years since the "Russel Purge" was applied to British North America—look at the difference between now and then, in social as well as in political life. This is putting the case fairly, and for the purposes of Parliamentary legislation, the only way to put it. It is not, what we may wish or not wish, what we may approve or not approve, but what is the tendency of public thought. What does the history of the last one hundred years prove.

Female menial service.

The public man who announces as his policy that the white children of this Dominion—whether natives or immigrants—are to be brought up to fill the places of menial servants, will be driven from the hustings with ignominy.

Fortunate for British Columbia.

It cannot, therefore, be regarded as injurious to British Columbia, that without violating the feelings and principles of a self educating people, she has hitherto been able to obtain for this purpose—a class peculiarly adapted to this end, and leave to her own rising generation the pursuits of a higher and nobler character.

The evidence, of the peculiar adaptability of the Chinese for this purpose is so cumulative that it becomes monotonous. Not an instance has been shown of their tampering with the morality of the families with which they have served, which is indeed the main objection that by some parties has been urged.

Parents duty.

The duty of a parent is the same whether his servant is white or Chinese.

So thoroughly is this view, with reference to domestic service, in accordance with the views and experience of the large cities of Canada—that if it were possible to supply those cities with similar service, with the same facility it can be obtained in British Columbia—it would be regarded as a benefit.

Here also the charge must be considered that the Chinese sent out to British Columbia and elsewhere for the purposes named, are slaves. This is distinctly and emphatically denied in the document from the Chinese merchants, where it is alleged that slavery does not exist in China—and that no man can be sent out of the country against his will. They are sent by contract of their own will—just as laborers are supplied by engagement with individuals or firms in all parts of the world where extensive public or private works are being carried on—a practice common in England and America, France and Germany, and all civilised nations.

It was done in England during the Crimean War, when Peto Betts and Brassy sent out railway navies by the thousand. Yet no man called them slaves. It has been done in the construction of the railway lines in the United States, where no slave exists. And it is done constantly in England, South America, Canada, where parties are sent out under some philanthropic individual, on stipulation that out of the products of their labors the emigrants are to repay the costs of their passages and outfits.

Brooks in his evidence at San Francisco, page 34, says :

"It has always been against the principles of the United States to authorise labor contracts—consequently, any Chinese coming to this country under labor contracts come under contracts that cannot be enforced after they have landed. Nearly all who have come to the Pacific coast are laborers or coolies, but comparatively few come under labor contracts—in fact no more so than Irishmen came originally to the United States, when railroad companies agreed to employ them in building railroads."

Examine the whole evidence before the Commission, and not one witness has been able, when questioned, to give the slightest ground or reason for the assertion.

But if we turn to the Chinese themselves, not only is there no authority for the statement, but it is shewn that the greatest precautions are exercised, both for the safety of the Chinese laborer while abroad, and his return to his native land, when the contract has expired, under which he was engaged, as also for the compensation he is to pay to the companies or contractors who send him abroad. An intelligent Chinaman resident for many years in Australia and America, and speaking English well, gives the following explanation :—

"China is divided into six districts, one of the companies, each controlling a district. The companies representing the districts are Hin-Yun, Hip Wah, Kong Chu-Yong Wah, Sam-Yip, and Hop Top. In each of the districts the Chief Magistrate issues a proclamation to the effect, that the company (in which ever district it may be) will take charge of Chinamen wishing to go to America and other foreign countries. These companies are private corporations which are authorized to take charge of Chinamen.

Slavery.

Does not exist in China.

Labor by contract common.

Chinese account of the terms of the contracts under which they come out.

When they take a Chinaman from his own country they are bound to return him. If they die they are bound to return their bodies. They also look after the welfare of Chinamen when away from their own country. For instance if a Chinaman loses his business or becomes ill, the one of the Six Companies which has been in charge has to see that he is properly cared for. If a Chinaman is murdered, the company offers a reward for the perpetrator of the crime. If a Chinaman is accused the Six Companies are bound by their contract with the Chinese Government to expend money for counsel, and see that the accused gets a fair trial.

"Every Chinaman in America pays two and a half per cent. of his earnings while there, to the company having him in charge. The agents of the Six Companies are stationed in San Francisco, and when a Chinaman wants to return, he pays his percentage and is given a free ticket home to his own country. He is brought out free by the companies."

This statement explains three things which hitherto have not been understood in British Columbia.

Explanation of three things.

1st. The reason why the dead bodies of Chinamen are returned to China. It had always been supposed it was from ideal love of the country, or the existence among them of some superstitious belief, that it was essential to their future happiness, whereas, from this statement, it appears that it is simply a *Habeas Corpus* system provided by the Chinese government in case of laborers going abroad, to show that they have not been and cannot be sold into slavery, the production of the body being the proof.

Secondly. Why their sick and destitute are never a charge upon the country where they go, the terms of incorporation of the companies and the contract with the Government requiring that they should be provided for.

Thirdly. The finding of ample funds for their defence, when accused of crime, there being similar provisions to that end.

Can any similar instance of humane consideration be shewn in any British contract for the care and safety of the emigrants who left the British Isles.

Col. Bee, in his evidence at San Francisco on the 28th July, 1884, before the Commission, gave the following account of the companies, etc.:

Six companies organized for benevolent purpose.

"Q. You spoke, Colonel Bee, of the six companies as charitable corporations; could you explain to me their organization?—A. Yes, sir. The Province of Canton is comprised of six divisions—you might say six counties comprise the Province of Canton. The Chinese here organized what is known as the Six Companies, wholly for benevolent purposes. A Chinese immigrant to this country, who came from one of these counties in Canton, on his arrival here was met at the steamship landing by the secretary of each of the companies. These secretaries announced that they were the secretaries of the associations representing each of the separate districts. The Chinese gave their names and were registered as residents of the district. That register is kept at the headquarters of the company. The functions of the Chinese Six Companies are to protect their Chinese fellows in health, and provide them with means to reach the interior; provide them with medicines and with hospital accommodations in case of sickness, and look after their interests physically, generally. If a Chinaman becomes sick he applies to the agent of the Six Companies who procures medical aid for him, and puts him in the hospital if he is at a convenient distance. And if he dies that company buries him; and at

Register.

the proper time, at the request of the parents, that company returns his bones to the parents in China. There the functions of the company cease. They have been charged as being immigration agents—importers of Chinese labor. I undertake to say the proof cannot be produced in a single case.

“Q. Why should these companies take so much interest in the Chinese man then?—A. The testimony cannot be produced that one of the Chinese companies brings labor to this country, paying his passage directly or indirectly. It cannot be produced that they have collected a dollar of his wages and appropriated it. It cannot be shown that a dollar has been collected as a fee from him, until his departure from the country. Before departing he goes to his headquarters and settles his fee as a member of the company, the fee ranging from \$2.50 to \$10. Those companies who represent a district where there are but few immigrants—their fee is \$10. Where there is a large number it is \$2.50. That is the fund, and the only fund, they have from them. The interest is no more or less than that exercised by other benevolent societies—Masons, Oddfellows, and Druids.

“Q. You say the testimony cannot be produced; but the fact may be though the testimony cannot be produced?—A. It cannot be a fact that the Chinese companies ever have brought any immigrants to this country. It is entirely outside of the functions of their organization, and hence a matter in which they have no interest.

“Q. What motive could they have, then, in organizing?—A. If you desire to get the reasons of the organization of the Six Companies I can give it.

“Q. Yes?—A. In the early settlement of California by the Americans, we had in our early days no laws, we might say. We were here in large numbers without courts, without laws, no established government; we were a territorial government for a time. There were no sheriffs, no officers, no courts; no mail facilities to speak of, except by express; no mail contracts let by the government. Communication with the interior and the seaboard was very difficult. Americans arriving in the mines, organized associations. For instance, I belonged myself to New York association; adjoining me was one called the Palmito association; another one was a Pike County of Missourians, etc.; they went by the names of the different states. Each one of those associations kept a book, and all residents of New York arriving in those diggings would come to this place and register their names, writing where they resided. Once a month, a courier would come around to those different associations, and take all the names off the registers. He would come to San Francisco as courier and get the letters and mail belonging to the subscribers for which he received \$1 for letters, and newspapers 50 cents. Mail was delivered and separated generally in the headquarters of those associations, and the parties who had signed their names came there and got their mail. When a man from New York was taken sick, a notification was sent to the members that he was sick in a certain ravine or canyon. Then a committee was appointed to go and take care of him, and to nurse him and bury him, or procure medical attendance if necessary. Chinese, when they came into the mines, noticed and became familiar with those organizations of the whites, and hence the basis of the six companies. They organized then their six company associations, not organized in San Francisco originally, but in the mines, establishing a headquarters here where their letters

Immigration out side of their functions

Organization of the six companies.

were sent from here to the mines, the same way we were doing it. They have kept up that organization till this day, although all the other associations fell through when the government machinery was put in work, mails established, officers appointed, and a regular government, and no further necessity for such associations. That was the beginning of the six company associations which does not exist in any other country in the world to which the Chinese immigrate but California.

"Q. You would say that they are survivors of that original?—A. Yes.

"Q. A statement has been made that these companies try men for offenses, that they in fact make laws of their own, have their own sanctions to these laws, and inflict severe punishment, and sometimes have not hesitated to inflict capital punishment; what is your evidence on that head?—A. It is not true. I will state that I know that like ourselves occasionally they have cases for arbitration brought to the attention of the six companies, and they arbitrate or employ arbitrators, and white men are sometimes called in to act with them; but as to their trying a man for a criminal offense, it is not true, or that they inflict punishment.

Six companies as arbitrators.

"Q. It has been stated, Colonel, that when the Chinese quarrel amongst themselves they are very savage and violent, and use weapons; what is your evidence on that head?—A. In California there are about 1,400 Chinese, according to my estimates, that are irresponsible, vicious, criminal; who have no occupation. They are known as *highbinders*. Those men are cruel, irresponsible, and of the criminal class; but take the Chinese character and people as a whole they are not savage or cruel—they are not savage, they are timid. A hoodlum of twelve years of age can drive half a dozen of them from the street. They avoid contact; they avoid difficulty of that nature, all that is possible. As a class they are not to be judged by the few irresponsible, non working Chinese high binders.

Highbinders.

"Q. Are those highbinders ever employed by the Six Companies?—A. No, sir; they have no occupation whatever. The Six Companies have no use for that class."

Thus, from all accounts, it is plain that slavery is not an object of the organization of the Six Companies.

The question up to this point has been considered more with reference to British Columbia than to the general bearing it has upon Canada—because in reality—the evil if it be an evil—has not been alleged or shewn—to have had hitherto—either for better or worse—the slightest influence upon any other part of Canada—but the same reasoning will apply to all parts.

Canada.

Canadian Pacific Railway.

The well known rule in all business transactions is applicable, that the supply of Chinese labor, will be regulated by the demand. In the more densely peopled parts of old Canada, the demand has not yet arisen, nor can it arise to an extent that will be prejudicial. In British Columbia it is not increasing, and with the completion of the public works the supply will seek other sources of employment. The benefit to British Columbia to be derived from the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, so far exceeds all other considerations that up to this time the matter does not admit of discussion.

That work when completed will have advanced the maturity of British Columbia by fifty years, and without Chinese labor to complete it, it would have been delayed fifty.

CHAPTER 8.

A COUNTRY "WHERE THERE IS AN ENORMOUS CAPACITY OF PRODUCTION COUPLED WITH AN UTTER INADEQUACY OF MEANS."—OLIPHANT.

The question must now be considered in its general aspect and bearing.

1st. As to whether any legislation at the present time is necessary or desirable.

2nd. If necessary or desirable on what principle it should be based.

In view of the first we have to remember that the powers of Parliament are always existing, and always adequate to the occasion. They are concurrent with the country, and concurrent with the evil whatever it may be that affects the country, therefore the omission to legislate to day or to-morrow is no admission, that legislation on the proposed subject may not at some time be necessary. It is simply an admission, that it has not been proved that it is necessary at this time. Of the appropriateness of the time for legislation, Parliament which represents the whole people must be the judge, not the particular section which seeks the legislation. Any other position would make the whole subordinate to the part.

In determining the appropriateness of the time, Parliament will consider the circumstances of the section for which the legislation is asked as well as of the whole country, whether the evil be existing, or the danger remote. Too much legislation, particularly in sumptuary matters, is as much to be avoided as too little. The more a Government will leave to the people, the management of their own private affairs, the better. How a man shall spend his money or whom he shall employ, had better be left to himself, unless a pressing public necessity should overrule his choice.

The state of a country described in the quotation which heads this chapter points out a rational guide to follow.

In deciding whether present legislation is necessary or desirable that element must have weight, it is not conclusive, but it is important. In furtherance of the observations made in the preceding chapter we find from the census returns of 1881, (page 94), that the actual area of British Columbia is 341,305 square miles—218,435,200 acres, while that of Quebec is given at 188,688 square miles—120,764,651 acres, the Province of Ontario at 101,733 square miles—65,111,463 acres according to the same census. Both together not territorially as large as British Columbia, but their united population amounting to 3,282,255, while the total actual population of British Columbia, including all races and classes, whites, Indians and Chinese, is by the same census in round numbers 49,500, of which the whites are not quite 20,000. The influx since the taking of the census in 1881, has undoubtedly largely increased that number, and the assumed number of 60,000, may well be taken as the actual number, if not under. The question of number does not affect the principle, but it indefinitely postpones the danger, if danger there be, of this immense territory being overrun by any one class of people for many years. It is said that British Columbia, from its mountainous character does not afford the same accommodation for settlement that Ontario does. For the sake of argument—admit it. Throw off one half—and you have still room left for the entire population of Ontario 1,923,228. Nor is this comparison, as to population, in any way to lessen the value of British Columbia to the Dominion. Small as is its population, its contribution to

Parliament
always existing.

Will consider the
circumstances.

A rational guide.

Census of 1881.

British Columbia,
Quebec, Ontario.

United population
of Quebec and
Ontario.

Population of
British Columbia.

Danger postponed

Contribution to
revenue.

the general revenue exceeds the per capita of the other provinces as its territory exceeds theirs; but it is only as bearing on the question of immediate danger from Chinese immigration that it is brought forward. The return of duties collected at the port of Victoria alone, for the month of October, 1884, is \$106,780.28, or at the rate of \$1,281,363.36 per year. Surely it may be said of this country, "there is an enormous capacity of production, coupled with an utter inadequacy of means."

In ascertaining whether there be danger we must look to the evidence produced by the movers of the proposition — because it is in its application to this country we have to legislate. It is not whether the Chinese are bad in their own country. It is not whether they are bad or unsuitable in California or in the United States, but whether they are bad or unsuitable in British Columbia or Canada. Circumstances in each country may so vary as to render the Legislation in one unnecessary or injurious to the other. What each country will look for, from its own Parliament, is the practical legislation which suits itself.

These observations become the more applicable when the census from which the above returns are taken is analysed. The tables from which they are made are classified under separate heads of the races or origin from which the population is derived. Out of the entire numbers composing the 3,282,255 of Ontario and Quebec, there are only twenty-nine Chinese. The danger to those Provinces must be, indeed, remote. The fear of competition with white labor, or the corruption of Canadian morals from such a source, must be infinitesimally small.

Practically, it is as to British Columbia alone, the question has to be considered, and the danger to that Province judged of by the evidence which its Government, Legislature and people have produced. It ought to be assumed that this movement was not made by its Legislature without having first thoroughly examined the subject, obtained the proof, and satisfied themselves of the soundness of their conclusions — with the care and impartiality becoming a deliberate assembly. The future welfare of the Province, and the development of its vast resources were not to be left to prejudice, idle declamation, or the dictation of interested classes.

When, therefore, in answer to the application of the Province to the Dominion Parliament for stringent legislation on the subject — as preparatory to such legislation, and for the purpose of determining its nature and extent — the opportunity was afforded to the Province to prove the danger — where, when so afforded, that proof was earnestly asked for — and where, when if it existed, it was within the command of those who alleged there was danger — then the omission to produce that proof is conclusive, either as to its non-existence, or the inability of those who made the charge, to establish their position.

Unfortunately, among some persons who assume to be leaders of public opinion in the Province, there was an idea, that because the Local Legislature had passed certain resolutions denouncing the Chinese as an evil, therefore, that was conclusive against further enquiry, and the Dominion Parliament had no authority to go beyond.

This was a grave mistake. A resolution of the Local Legislature on a subject, on which it had no power to legislate, carries with it no conclusive authority, and cannot be regarded as the constitutional expression of opinion of the people the Local Legislature represents. If the subject matter be one reserved by the constitution for another and higher Legislature, it is plain that to that higher Legislature the people have delegated the power of expression. The power to legislate involves the power to consider, and the option to determine. The former without the latter is of little value.

Evidence as to danger.

Analysis of Census.

British Columbia.

Assumption that legislature had proof.

Deduction from omission to produce proof.

Local resolutions.

Mistake.

Representation given for particular purposes, constitutionally limits the expression of authoritative opinion to those purposes, and binds the people represented only to the extent of those purposes. Under the British North America Act, all matters relating to trade and commerce, foreign Nations, Imperial or Dominion interests, are exclusively reserved to the Dominion Parliament. When, therefore, the doctrine was promulgated, that resolutions on this subject by the Local Legislature were to be considered as the conclusive opinion of the Province, it was a mistake, because, in the higher Parliament to which such subjects are relegated, the Province has its representatives, and sends them there, to pronounce upon those subjects.

In that higher Parliament, the interest of the whole Dominion on the particular subjects have to be considered as paramount to the interests of the subordinate part, and the representatives of the latter must carry their position by the weight of reason, not by the assertion that another legislative body, of inferior standing, however much to be respected, had determined it. Whatever may be the judicial construction ultimately put upon the word "immigration," in the 95th section of the British North American Act, which it would be improper for the Commissioners here to assume, the contour of the whole Act shows it must be so limited as in no way to interfere with the power of the Dominion Parliament.

The Dominion Government and Parliament had and have the undoubted right to obtain evidence on all subjects bearing on the general public interests in such way as they may deem best, and they are not to be limited to the views of any particular local representations, as to the statement of facts bearing thereon, or conclusions drawn, to the consideration of which the Dominion Government and Parliament were no party. It is possible that but for thus being misled, there were persons in British Columbia who thought that they could have given important evidence, but did not. The Local Government, however, understood the Constitution, and could not thus be misled. The Commissioners have before them all the evidence that the highest Local Authorities could produce. The representatives from the Province in the Dominion Parliament, who knew the wishes and understood the desire of that Parliament for information, in order that justice might be done, and the future public welfare of the Dominion promoted, were invited by the Commissioners to aid the enquiry and make suggestions or direct attention to any point, fact or circumstances they deemed important.

The evidence, it will be observed, consists not only of oral testimony of statistics, of written answers given after ample time for consideration to written questions — but also of several carefully prepared documents and letters transmitted by intelligent men who had given the subject much attention. It comes also from every class — the capitalist, the manufacturer, the laborer, the contractor, the trader, the farmer, men of business; the rich, the poor; settlers from the old countries who came in twenty or twenty-five years ago, have made the Province their home, and from others who have hardly ever been beyond the Province; from the learned and the unlearned, scholars from the English universities and others, whose personal knowledge is the result of personal experience; from the pioneers of 1858 and 1860, and from the immigrant who only came in two years ago — in every varied phase of life, information was sought; and it may be questioned whether much remains beyond that gathered in. From that evidence it distinctly appears that the great body of the white inhabitants do not wish the removal of those Chinese who are now in the Province. If the danger to the morals of the community be so great as

Representation.

No interference with Dominion Parliament limited.

Government not misled.

Best evidence obtained.

Sources of evidence.

Against removal of Chinese now in the province.

has been described by some—if their presence really prevents a good class of white settlers coming in—if the carrying away of their earnings be so injurious to the country; if vice, disease and leprosy be the consequence of their remaining—then they ought not to be allowed to remain an hour. It is manifest, therefore, from the expression of opinion above referred to, that the great body of the people do not see the danger alleged; in fact they do not believe it exists, or they would not have expressed that opinion. With reference to any further accession, there is a strong expression that it should not be. How far that accession can be stayed until after the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway is a question for the Parliament. Whether the stopping one of the main sources of the supply of labor to which the contractors looked, and to which under existing laws they were entitled to look, at the time they entered into their contracts with the Government, would or would not be, in the absence of any pressing necessity, a departure from good faith, is for Parliament. How far the request that it should be done is consistent with the urgent and repeated demands of the Legislature of British Columbia, that the construction of the railway should be carried on to completion with the utmost rapidity, is also for Parliament; and equally is it a question with that Parliament to determine whether the closing up of one of the main sources of the revenue (the establishment of Oceanic lines of steamers with China and Japan, for trade and commerce with those countries, which would tend to relieve Canada of the burden of the expenditure caused by its construction, and which was urged as among the inducements for assuming it), is wise or not; for surely the establishment of such lines for the purpose would be utterly futile, if no communication is to be had, or the people of those countries, or of either of them, are to be forbidden to accompany their business.

All the Commissioners have to report is that up to this time no evidence has been shown of any immediate danger to the country, or of any pressing necessity for immediate stringent legislation; and they refer to the whole of the evidence placed before Parliament accompanying this report in support of that conclusion.

But, nevertheless, there is another element to be considered, that is Public sentiment. Masses of people do not always reason logically, but sometimes instinctively arrive at conclusions, and the public in British Columbia have almost unanimously, in the evidence, expressed a wish that some legislation should be had on this subject. Therefore, though there be not any actual immediate danger, it may be and is desirable that sufficient legislation to meet existing evils, or what may augur the future advent of supposed greater evils, should be had.

There are two principles on which such legislation may be based:

- 1st. Entire and absolute exclusion.
- 2nd. Moderate restriction and sound regulations.

The first is unsound, injurious to commerce, and a violation of international courtesy when applied to a nation with which we are at peace and have treaties, besides being illiberal and at variance with our own interests.

The second is promotive of good feeling, because it removes and prevents causes of irritation, which may lead to bad feeling, hostilities and reprisals. It is consistent with the law of self-interest, which compels every government to protect first its own people, (doing no wrong to a friendly power), and at the same time promote that commercial intercourse which leads to amity with all people.

It may be accomplished in three combined ways: 1st. By excluding all

Against further accession.

Railway contracts.

Ocean steamers.

Public sentiment.

Bases of legislation optional.
First Unsound.
Second Sound.

who will be manifestly injurious to, or a burden on the finances of the country, such as paupers, criminals, sick, diseased, or persons from undoubted reasons objectionable. 2nd. By limiting admission to those who by conduct and character would promote the trade and business of the country, and conduce to its prosperity and the conveniences of life. 3rd. By securing, if possible, the cordial co-operation of the country against whose people the legislation is directed, in carrying out the object and policy of the law enacting such restriction and regulations, and for this latter purpose by creating such tribunals as would remove or obviate the difficulties now existing in the administration of the laws as regards that foreign element of the population, and give confidence to the peoples and governments of both countries-- that not only that law, but all other laws affecting them, would be administered strictly, in accordance with the principles laid down, and with impartial justice.

Accomplished in three ways.

Secure cooperation.

As such special legislation and such special tribunals are only necessary in consequence of that particular foreign element, it is perfectly consistent that those constituting that foreign element, who come into the country for their own interest or pleasure, should bear the expense of the exceptional tribunals, precautions and requirements created and necessary for their especial benefit and protection, when from peculiarity of race, incompatibility of institutions, or characteristics of language, the comer cannot advantageously avail himself of the existing tribunals and institutions of the country.

Special tribunals.

Expense of.

For instance, the great difficulty that exists with reference to the Chinese in our ignorance of their language, customs, idiosyncrasies and religion. We do not know how to get the truth from them, we cannot remove the suspicions from their minds that we do not intend to treat them fairly. To render the administration of justice satisfactory, it is not only necessary that it should be impartial, but that the conviction should exist that it is impartial. As to those people, therefore, expenses must be incurred as to interpreters, experts and expounders which are not necessary in other cases. They should feel that their language and customs are thoroughly understood, and we, for our own sakes as dispensers of justice-- that we understand and interpret them rightly. It may be difficult to accomplish but it can be done.

The same difficulty does not exist with the Teutonic or Latin races, with comers from Europe or America--North or South; numbers in every community know their languages, customs, habits and religion, and in the administration of the laws no exceptional circumstances arise.

Teutonic and Latin races.

Such expenses, therefore, with reference to the Chinese fall within the police regulations required for the good order of the community, and though exceptional, do not constitute any violation of international law or courtesy.

Police regulations.

It is said that this was not the course pursued by Australia or the United States. Each country must be governed by its own circumstances. The Australian Colonies had paid enormous sums to get out immigrants; shipload after shipload left the shores of England freighted at their expense with people who went out under inducements from the Government. They imported a population and deemed it right that that element, which owed its existence to the public purse should be cherished and sustained until it could support itself.

Australian regulation.

From statistical notes of the progress of Victoria, Australia, published in 1861, pages 6 and 7, we find that in twenty two years, from 1838 to 1859, there were introduced into the Colony at the partial expense of the State, one hundred and fourteen thousand eight hundred and thirty-

Australian statistics.

nine (114,830) souls, while during the same or a somewhat longer period, from 1836 to 1859, the unassisted emigration amounted to only five hundred and fifteen thousand nine hundred and sixty (515,960), or nearly one-fifth brought out by public aid; and in the report made on the 17th of November, 1857, to the Legislative Assembly by the Select Committee on Chinese emigration, we find the following pertinent observations, showing a marked distinction between the nature of the occupations of the Chinese in Australia and British Columbia. In the former, simply depleting the country by the abstraction of its gold without leaving any valuable result behind; in the latter by labor in the construction of great public railways, in the coal mines and canneries, and clearing the land, thereby tending to advance the country and prepare it for future agricultural settlers, increasing the facilities of intercourse and the extension of its trade and commerce.

It is also to be observed, that at that time war was raging between England and China, a circumstance which would facilitate the adoption, by the Legislature, of the bill submitted for imposing the exceptional taxation of ten (£10) pounds sterling per capita, with a residence license fee bi-monthly of one pound sterling (£1) on all Chinese emigrants coming into the country.

The following are the extracts from the report of the Committee:

"Your Committee have ascertained that the immigrant Chinese are principally from that part of China, of which Canton is the capital, with which the British nation is at present in open hostility. These immigrants are not of that class commonly known as coolies, but comprise men from the country districts, as well as from the towns - cultivators, traders and mechanics."

"That in no instance, hitherto, have they applied themselves to the cultivation of the land, nor, indeed, to any of the industrial pursuits of the colony, save that of digging for gold. Their object being to acquire a sufficiency of means wherewith to return to their own country. That the Committee feel assured that the advantages derived from the trade and commerce, which the presence of such a vast population brings with it, affords no compensation to the country for the large and increasing quantity of gold, amounting in one year to about one hundred and twenty ounces (120,000 oz.), valued at half a million sterling, which the Chinese are annually abstracting from the natural wealth and resources of the country."

See Ante, page 83.

"That the Committee have ascertained that the majority of the Chinese are amenable to the laws of the country, and under a proper system of registration and management - through the agency of headmen of their own race, selected by themselves - order, to some extent, may be kept amongst them."

"That the fiscal regulations for the collection of rates and taxes imposed by the government, provided they are clearly and distinctly defined and enforced with justice and firmness - the Committee see no difficulty in carrying it out."

The Committee recommended the bill referred to, with the following additions:

"1st. That any Chinaman found on the gold fields, or elsewhere in the colony, without a license or receipt, be subject to a penal servitude on the public works of the colony, for a period not exceeding three (3) months.

"2nd. That any person arrested under this Act as a reputed Chinaman, it shall be sufficient for the accuser, to prove that the accused is reputed, or is considered by the accuser to be a Chinaman. His oath, or the oath of one