

EDWARD D. WHEELER, judge, and an old resident of California, sworn and examined:

Witness thinks that public opinion probably favors a restricted immigration in preference to an absolute and total exclusion of Chinese coming to this coast hereafter.

Restricted immigration.

They never will assimilate with our population here; the matter has been decided in the course of a quarter of a century. They still retain their peculiar costume, and follow their original national habits in matters of food and mode of living. They are not politically ambitious. In the district courts the Chinaman is fully protected, both in civil and criminal cases. The negro, before he was given the ballot in this state, showed no disinclination to assimilate with our white people as the Chinese have always shown, although the negro was not a voter. The reason it is desirable to limit Chinese immigration is that a limited number can be easily managed and controlled; whereas a greater influx would become a very troublesome and dangerous element. A small percentage of Chinamen here is desirable. If the naturalization laws were open to them they would all become naturalized. They are not a healthy element in our body-politic, and if they were enfranchised it would be the worst of evils.

Cannot assimilate.

A larger number dangerous.

To enfranchise Chinese the worst of evils.

JOHN ROGERS, Rear Admiral in the navy, sworn and examined:

ROGERS.

No country can attain secure prosperity except its prosperity be founded upon a population identical in its interests with those of its rulers.

After a short apprenticeship the Chinese can well and cheaply manufacture all our goods, run all our machines, sow and reap all our fields, supply the places of all our domestic servants. They can supplant, by their cheap labor, the more expensive American or European workman in every branch of industry. The effect of this will be to build up a state of society such as existed in the southern states before the rebellion.

In Java, in Singapore, and in Tartary, the Chinese are unquiet, and occasionally they inspire alarm.

They can come to California more cheaply, and, according to their standard, more commodiously, than the American or European immigrants, and when here they can supplant them. A certain number annually might be allowed to come, so that when from these are subtracted those who return there would remain no inordinate increase.

In China the foreign merchant employs only Chinese workmen, under the direction of Chinese or foreign superintendents, paying much higher wages to the laborer than a Chinese employer would give for the same service. The servants in European houses in that country are Chinese, and they are paid nearly twice as much as a Chinaman would pay them. Thus the rights and advantages of emigration with labor from one country to the other are not reciprocal.

Our blue flannel and woolen stockings are made in California better than they can be made for the same price elsewhere in the United States; and if Chinese labor comes here without restraint, no reason is apparent why the success in these articles might not attend other similar productions, and California thus become the great manufacturing centre of the United States, and ultimately starve the operatives of our eastern cities or drive them to Asiatic wages and conditions of life. Americans thus reduced would be unfit for the elective franchise, and hence would arise domestic political complications.

Danger of the Chinese to the state.

A certain number annually might be allowed to come.

In China foreign merchants employ Chinese.

Danger to the United States and eastern labor.