

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 straighten a free nation. Sound legislation.

CHAPTER 5.

OPIUM 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 in 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-