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## THE NEW ELEMENT IN AMERICAN POPULATION.

The importation of seventy-five Chinamen to Massachusetts to work in a shoe factory, has again attracted attention in the neighbouring Republic to the Chinese labour question. It is a singular commentary on the American doctrine of "protection to native industry," that home capital is freely permitted to import foreign labour and employ it in opposition to native industry at rates which on all hands are admitted in commercial

phrase—to defy competition. Still more singular it is that the great champions of protection are also the warmest advocates of the importation of Chinese workmen, as witness the New York *Tribune's* laudation of the Celestials to which we referred some time ago. The *Tribune's* philosophy appears to have penetrated the old Bay State, where protectionist ideas flourish in perpetual verdure. But surely the real owner of native industry—the American workman—must begin to see that the pro-

tection which adds from fifty to a hundred per cent. to the cost of almost every article he consumes, for the benefit of American capital, must be very unequal when it permits the importation of foreign labourers, who will, at least for generations, retain their own habits and remain foreigners still, to compete with him at rates of wages for which he from his mode of life cannot afford to work. No doubt all the worst features of the Trades' Union system will soon be developed against the Chinese



POST OFFICE, MONTREAL. From a sketch by our own Artist.—SEE PAGE 531.