

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.

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 preceeding financial years, the quantity and value exported was as follows:—

Coal Mining.

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 a want 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Not withdrawn.

"The encouragement given to the Chinese by employers of labor has not been withdrawn up to the present time, whilst the anti-Chinese feeling seems to have grown stronger every year."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