

her products abroad, to buy them in a foreign market, or even to send to Massachusetts.

As to restricting Chinese immigration, I have no fixed opinion. It seems to be the impression among the Chinese themselves that there are too many of them here, and that they cannot, under the present state of things, all get employment. When they are unemployed they become vicious and idle, and an American does the same.

Impression of the Chinese that there are too many of them.

The influx of Chinese during the last twenty years has not affected our civilization, nor are we degraded by the presence of these people.

At one time the products of our mines was estimated as high as \$50,000,000, and it took nearly all to keep us clothed and get something to eat. We had not much left.

The demand for California cotton at the present time is greater than the supply. Cotton can be imported for fourteen and one-half cents currency ; it cannot be produced in California for less than fourteen and one-half cents or fifteen cents gold.

I do not think that free competition among laborers of good morals and correct habits injures a country any more than free competition in matters of property or merchandise. Everything is controlled by the law of demand and supply, labor as well as anything else ; but there is one limit beyond which labor cannot go : they cannot compel capital to pay them more for their labor than the products of their labor will sell for in the market.

Labor controlled by supply and demand.

My opinion is that every nation and state is powerful in proportion to the population it supports and supports comfortably, the character of the population having something to do with it.

Rev. WILLIAM W. BRIER, cultivator of fruit, minister of the Presbyterian Church, and a resident since 1850, sworn and examined : **BRIER.**

So far as the country is concerned, I regard the moral and physical condition of the Chinese laborers better than any other nationality by far. They are temperate, cleanly, and healthy. In regard to their religious condition, I know nothing about it.

Regards the moral and physical condition of the Chinese laborers better than any other nationality.

The only bondage, the only obligation, they are under is for money advanced for their passage here. They are debtors, and they agree to work so long until that money is paid back. I think that is the only style of bondage that there is among them.

They all come here to make money and then go back. After being here a while they are a good deal like other people ; they become attached to the country, and when they go back they want to return. They do not become attached to our institutions and reconciled to live and die here.

The Chinese mostly perform labor that is disconnected with team work ; almost every other kind of labor in the world, except in connection with the running of threshing-machines, the Chinamen perform, more particularly in the fruit business. I regard the Chinaman as superior to any other nationality as laborers in their own departments. At the present prices it would be impossible to carry on the fruit business with white labor. The Chinese are more skilful and reliable than white men. They will stay until they learn their business. White men will not do that ; you cannot keep them. If the white man amounts to anything, he will soon acquire enough to start in business for himself. I employ Chinamen because I would not have boys nor girls from the city. If somebody would board them and put them in my orchard to work, I would not have them, from what I know of them. I could not afford it. There is too

Superior to any other nationality as laborers in their own departments.