

ideas to a great extent ; nearly every body came then. They came from California when money was plentiful and labor was scarce, and they have stuck to these ideas up to the present time to a great extent. They have stuck to the old California ideas, and labor is scarce in our country.

Won't take less.

Q. Is there any permanent industry in the Province which keeps up the price of labor ; what keeps the price up ?—A. No ; they prefer to be idle unless they are starving, rather than take less than the sum of \$2 a day.

Successful mining
a case,

Q. Have the gold mines of British Columbia anything to do with this high price of labor in the province ?—A. Oh ! yes ; a good deal. They have a good deal to do with it. These people work in those mines for three or four months in the year, and they may make more in this way than by ordinary labor ; they may thus make more than a years wages in a few months.

When laboring
men become small
contractors, they
are the firsts to em-
ploy Chinese
labor.

Q. Do the employers of labor show a preference to employing Chinese instead of whites, and when they are employed do they work well ?—A. I notice that laboring men when they become small contractors, are the very first people to employ Chinese labor. They employ Chinamen to mix mortar, and to carry brick and stone, and in the erection of building, masons and small contractors employ them. The whole Chinese labor question is a very conflicting one and very difficult to decide ; where labor is cheap, advantage will be taken of the circumstance, no matter by whom it is furnished, whether by black or by white—no matter what the color of the employees may be.

Chief objection
work for less
wages.

Q. Does the chief objection to the presence of Chinamen in the Province arise from the fact that they will labor for a smaller sum than white laborers are willing to work for ?—A. Yes ; that is one objection to their presence in the Province.

Morals not worse
than other classes.

Q. The objection to their presence is not on account of their morals or anything of that kind ?—A. Of course, their morals are not much worse than the morals of other classes.

Mr. Barnard, says :

Objection among
laboring class
strong.

Q. What is the general objection of the people of British Columbia on this point, as to the desirability, if possible, of preventing Chinese immigration into the Province ?—A. Among the laboring class, the feeling is very strong against them but among those who employ Chinese domestic servants it is not so strong. The Chinese are very useful and employers cannot replace them, as things are now with other labor.

At present em-
ployers cannot
replace.

Would do so if
could.

Q. If employers could replace them with white labor, male or female, or both, at a reasonable rate, do you think that they would do so ?—A. Yes ; and I suppose that in time the Chinese could be replaced, but it would be very difficult at the present time to keep females in British Columbia. The moment they arrive in the Province they get married, leave the Province or do something else, and they are not available for domestic service.

Females not avail-
able for domestic
service.

Chinese domestic
service.

Q. You find that Chinamen are more docile and tractable than are white servants ?—A. Yes ; and they would do more work than white women will do ; they would cut firewood and do other work where white women will only do one branch. Some years ago we employed a number of