

think the time was when they were greatly needed, and did much good. We have outlived that day. The building of the overland railroads, and the interior roads, required a peculiar kind of labor; laborers who would follow up the work and live in a very primitive way, board themselves, take care of themselves, without families; labor that was always to be relied upon, and hence I believe the Chinese have done a great deal of good to the state. I think we derived a peculiar advantage from their presence here in early days. But we have outlived that day; we have finished these works, and now this labor must go into other channels, other industries, into agriculture, viticulture, factories, etc., and take the places which otherwise would be filled with white laborers in the towns and villages, and in the country, to an extent that almost prevents the whites from finding suitable employment. They now take the place of boys and girls that are growing up in this country. I believe that the peculiar advantage derived from this labor has been outgrown.

Their labor always reliable, and must go into other channels.

Outgrown advantages derived from their labor.

Q. Do I understand you to say that if these great public works were still *in futuro*, you would then welcome Chinese immigration?—A. No; I do not believe I should welcome it. I can see that it might be utilized to advantage, but the question then would come up what to do with that labor after these works were completed; that is the question we have been called upon to solve.

Would not welcome Chinese immigration.

Q. If they come here merely single men, which it is said they do, where is the difficulty about the tide receding?—A. The peculiarity of Chinese immigration is that it never recedes. The Chinese are a people of conquest, and wherever they obtain a foothold there they remain. That is the history of all the Pacific Islands; that is the history of all countries where they have obtained a footing.

It never recedes; where they obtain a foothold they remain.

Q. Do I understand you to say that in manufacturing work, white men cannot compete with them?—A. I think that day has gone by; the time was when they could not. Chinese to-day do not labor for as low wages as they did ten years ago. Their labor is regarded nearly as valuable as white labor, particularly in piece work; they earn as much as whites. And many are laborers on their own account.

Their labor regarded nearly as valuable as white labor.

Q. Then, after a time, the objection from the working men would disappear?—A. So far as wages are concerned it does not hold as good to the extent that it did in the early stage of the introduction of this labor.

Q. You have never tried the experiment of making them settlers in the country?—A. No.

Q. Would you think it desirable to try that experiment?—A. They can only become settlers by purchase under the present law.

Q. But suppose they were allowed and encouraged to live here as other settlers with their wives and families?—A. If the Chinese were to come to this coast with their families I think much of the feeling against them might be removed. If it were possible for them to come here to remain permanently and maintain homes and families, so that their children and their children's children would become Americans, I do not believe that the same objection which is found to-day would ever have existed. But the fact is that they huddle together in droves, like animals in their habitation, and have no such things as homes; they are simply liver.

If they came with their families much of the prejudice against them might be removed.

They huddle together in droves, and have no homes.