

a class. I think that a Chinaman will learn to weave as well on a fancy loom in one month as most American girls would learn in two months, but they do not exhibit any inventive genius. They are conservative. They do not discover any new processes.

Powerful imitators.

Our process of securing Chinese help is through a Chinese merchant in this city, who acts in the capacity of an intelligence office, getting a commission from them for procuring their situations. They are bound to him, and they observe their agreement in the utmost good faith. I pay the man who employs them for me.

I have seen but one drunken Chinaman in California. As to their honesty they will average well with the same classes among other people. In business transactions the percentage of loss between the two races is decidedly in favor of the Chinese.

Chinese sober and honest.

Whenever we can get a white person, boy, man, or woman, who can perform the duties of a Chinaman, we will give them \$5 a month more than we pay the Chinaman. We prefer to give the labor to white people even at a pecuniary sacrifice.

Fruit-raising and agriculture are our two principal productive pursuits. Besides our own institution in San José, there are some tanneries, two establishments for canning and preserving fruit, two machine-shops where they make castings, steam-boilers, steam-engines, and other industries.

White persons can be got for picking fruit if you will pay the wages demanded. At the present time, if there were no Chinamen here and no more white men than now, it would be found that there would be a very short supply of white labor for the business of the Pacific.

With no more white men than now and no Chinese a short supply for business of the Pacific.

If we had not had the cheap labor which the Chinese have afforded us, the industries of the state would not have been developed as much as they have by at least twenty years; and it has the same effect upon the situation of white laborers, probably, that the invention of labor-saving machinery has. By the employment of Chinese and the consequent development of industries upon the coast, situations have been made for a great many white people who would not otherwise have found employment. With the wages paid to Chinese labor the white man purchases more of the necessaries of life than I could with my wages in 1849, when I worked for \$16 a day. The purchasing power of labor from 1849 to the present time has been increased.

Development.

The most of our manufacturing in the state is for domestic use. To a limited extent our woollen products find a market in the east.

White labor on farms here commands from \$30 to \$40 a month and board; the value of such labor in the east would range from \$18 to \$25 and board. Chinese labor here on farms, get about \$30, a month and they will board themselves.

Comparative value of labor.

Chinese as a general thing are not very muscular, but they are serviceable in heavy work. In the fruit business a Chinaman will do as much as a white man. Some white men will do more than others. In my business, there is not room for any great difference between the labor of the two classes. If our Chinamen were taken from us we should close up to-morrow. The reason why we are compelled to have cheaper labor than white is on account of the difficulty of competition with eastern products in this home market. We are trying to substitute white labor for Chinese. We picked up, within the last year, two or three poor women who were willing to work for what we could afford to pay them. They stayed with us, and made first-rate hands, and when we find more of that kind we will employ them. We pay them from twelve and one-half to fifteen per cent. above what we pay Chinamen. There are very few men who would not employ white labor, if they could do it, instead of Chinamen.

Most would employ white labor if they could do it