

misled, seduced, or enticed any white man, woman or child into their places of residence, or for having beguiled them in any way into their company for improper purposes, either of co-habitation or opium smoking.

It may here be observed that the police of the city of Victoria are a fine body of men, prompt in the discharge of their duties, vigilant as to offences against the laws, or infractions of the municipal regulations: and in no way tainted with love or affection for the Chinese.

Whiskey drinking.
White and Indian prostitute.

In a country where whiskey drinking prevails to an unlimited extent, and where white and Indian prostitutes can be found and are known to exist in unknown numbers, it seems a contradiction to assume a dread of the white population becoming demoralized from the presence of seventy Chinese prostitutes, in a population of 10,550 Chinese people living in accordance with the customs of their own country, and a practice of opium smoking among their own people, infinitesimally small, when compared with the practice of whiskey drinking among the whites, unless it be upon the principle declared by one of the residents, who, when asked by the commissioners. "What was the difference between getting drunk on whiskey and getting drunk on opium?" indignantly replied. "That one was a Christian habit, the other was a heathen vice," a distinction which it would be difficult for Carlyle to comprehend or Father Matthew to apply. *¶ Mutato nomine de te fabula narratur.*"

A Christian habit and a heathen vice.

The fact is that the statements in these two respects are merely repetitions of the charges made in San Francisco, without the slightest ground for their application to Canada as a whole, or British Columbia as a part of the Dominion; unless, indeed, it be contended that the records of the courts—of the police office and the public institutions of the country are untrue, and that its public officers, its police, its grand juries, and municipal authorities are all alike negligent and inefficient in the discharge of their public duties, regardless of the welfare of the people, and indifferent to the morals of the young and rising generation. It is weakening the position by crowding the enquiry with unsupported charges. But, if we turn to Col. Bee's evidence (page 20), taken at San Francisco, we find that the truth of this charge, as to danger from Chinese prostitution, even as applied to San Francisco, is emphatically denied.

There are grave and there are serious objections to the Chinese as a class of settlers, but these objections are not strengthened by imputing to them offences similar to those our own people are in the habit of committing, whether they be called, whiskey drinking or opium smoking, prostitution or concubinage.

CHAPTER 6.

SECRET SOCIETIES. — WANT OF TRUTH. — FILTHY HABITS. — DISEASE AND LEPROSY.

Secret Organization.

Ignorance of their language and mode of thought.

There are grave objections to the Chinese as settlers or as residents in large numbers, which, apart from the question of competition with white labor, ought to be seriously considered. Prominent among those objections is the undoubted existence among the Chinese of secret organizations, enabling them to act as compact bodies, in any community where they may be, facilitating the evasion of local laws and the concealment of crime. This constitutes a dangerous feature in the administration of justice where their personal interests are involved; our utter ignorance of their language and modes of thought placing the officers of justice in the power of interpreters, whose veracity is doubtful, and whose integrity