

but incorrectly termed the Coolie trade. The influx of Orientals to this continent bids fair to become one of the most important revolutions, both in its social, economical, and ethnical aspects, which have ever taken place since the day when Columbus first landed on its shores, and as such it is worthy of all and more than all the attention it receives. Our present object is to discuss briefly some of the bearings of this problem and its effects on the future condition of America, as well as on the progress of civilization all over the world. It will become apparent before long, though it does not seem to be clearly realized now, that there is a war of races growing out of the lesser war of labour against capital, and that the time is fast approaching when the most heartless and selfish of demagogues, as well as the most crafty and calculating of capitalists, will be compelled to think seriously of the danger which threatens all.

In proceeding to consider the problem of Chinese emigration to America, we shall be compelled, for want of space, to assume as true and accepted the ordinary estimate formed of the Chinese character, though it would not be a difficult task to show that even that estimate is none too low. The national intellect has always exhibited two somewhat paradoxical features: a capacity for making early and intelligent progress in the first stages of the arts and sciences, and an utter want of capacity, and apparently of inclination, to carry out improvements and inventions to their ultimate beneficial results. The former of these characteristics is shown by the antiquity among them of the arts of printing and paper-making, the use of the mariner's compass, the manufacture of gunpowder, etc.; and the second by the rudimentary condition in which these inventions are found even at the present day, and the limited extent to which they and others are applied to practical purposes. The same two intellectual phenomena are strikingly manifested in the peculiar stage of agglutination in which their language has from time immemorial existed, as if caught and crystalized in that state whilst still in its infancy. Morally, we have little to do with them at present in so far as theoretical ethics and moral sanctions are concerned; unfortunately their behaviour in practical life, both in their native land and foreign countries, is such as to make them exceedingly undesirable citizens until some radical change has been effected. Leaving out of view altogether the crimes, beastly and barbarous,