

strong national desire to become acquainted with our language, customs, and principles of government.

As to the morals of the Chinese, the civilization of China is lower than the Christian civilization of our country. The standard and practice of morality by the Chinese people is not equal to the standard and practice of those who accept the Gospel of Christ as their rule of practice; but the standard of Chinese morals is higher and better than that of any other heathen nation in the world. They are very fond of their children. They have profound respect for age and experience. They are great traders, and have the reputation in all the world of being as honest and reliable in commercial and business transactions as are the peoples with whom they have traded. Even here they have the reputation of paying promptly their rents, taxes, and debts.

Chinese morals lower than Christian, but higher than those of any other heathen nation.

The charge of immorality brought against the Chinese here may be brought with almost if not quite equal force against most of the European immigration, whether the specific charge be drunkenness, profanity, fighting and quarrelling, gambling, or prostitution. The same labor that has lately been bestowed in ferreting out the vices of the 30,000 Chinese in this city, if bestowed in special efforts to ferret out the vices of 30,000 immigrants from Europe of the common laboring classes, would produce a chapter of crimes, vices, and misery quite equal to that presented against the Chinese.

The charge that Chinese prostitutes are demoralizing our boys, if true to any extent is a sad comment upon our boasted superiority. But there is one very important and material consideration in connection with this matter of demoralizing our boys that ought not to be overlooked—that is this: There are more liquor saloons and liquor groceries in this city and in this country than there are Chinese prostitutes. It is quite safe to say that all these boys who visit these prostitutes take their first lessons of demoralization in some one of the 3,000 whiskey saloons or liquor groceries licensed by this Christian municipality, kept mostly and patronized largely by immigrants from Europe. The same class of demoralized boys, and in quite as large a proportion, is found in all our eastern cities, where Chinese prostitution is not known.

Chinese prostitutes and the boys.

The statement has been made that the Chinese fill our prisons, gaols, hospitals, and asylums, but the facts as shown by official reports do not exactly sustain the charge. In the state's prison a larger per cent. of Chinese criminals is found than of the whites, but the comparison is made as between the Chinese on the one hand and all the whites, including American-born, on the other hand. It is well known that a larger per cent. of crime, vice, and misery is found among the immigrants from Europe than among native-born Americans. It will only be fair to compare the statistics of crime, vice, and pauperism among the immigrants from some European country—Ireland, for instance. On this basis we find at the present time in our San Quentin prison, 1,158 prisoners, of whom 199 are Chinese, 160 are born in Ireland, 615 native Americans, and 184 from all other foreign countries. About 400 of the whole number are Roman Catholics. I do not think that there are more people in the state from Ireland than there are from China. The Irish population has more women and children, a class always producing less criminals; so that, bad as the case is against the Chinamen filling our prisons, the same charge stands with equal if not greater force against the Irishman. The official reports of the industrial school for the year ending July 1st, 1875, give the total number as 225; their nationalities being 194 native Americans, seven Irishmen, and four Chinese. The alms-house official

Average of crime.