

came to the country. This appointment is under the local government. There may have been cases of leprosy amongst the Chinese, they not letting any one know about it; but I do not think so, for this reason: that the Chinese are afraid of it themselves. They would evidently shun them and so make them marked. On the general health condition of the Chinese in Victoria, I cannot speak authoritatively on this subject, for the reason they do not speak English, so we are not called upon to attend them when sick; but I think the health of the Chinese is as good as the whites, according to the death-rate, though I do not know the exact number of Chinese residents here.

Dr. McInnes.

Dr. McInness whose testimony is strong against the Chinese, on this point says:

"I have never seen a case of leprosy among them. I believe there are some cases of leprosy among them, but I have not seen one."

Dr. Stevenson.

Dr. Stevenson, a practising physician of Victoria and a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, who states that he has had twenty-two years experience on the Pacific coast, and is familiar with the history of the Chinese in the Pacific States and territories of the United States, says that the disease is not contagious, and that up to 1882, no case of leprosy had occurred among the whites, though during the ten preceding years fifty-two had been known among the Chinese in California, and he regards the sanitary objections against the Chinese as baseless.

Thus, therefore, from the medical testimony, during the whole period the Chinese have been in British Columbia we find but one case of leprosy among them, and that eight or ten years ago. We further find that unusual as the disease is, there was a case of it in British Columbia before the Chinese came, and we know as a matter of Canadian history that it was known in New Brunswick fifty years ago, and that there was an Establishment at Tracadie in that Province where the lepers were kept, that it never spread or was communicated to any one, and that there never has been the slightest fear of its dissemination among the people of that Province, nor is there at this moment any fear of its dissemination in British Columbia. There can be no doubt, if one of the Chinese so diseased were found, he or she would be immediately separated from the rest of the community as in cases of small-pox.

Proper sanitary regulations can always obviate danger from such sources.

CHAPTER 7.

COMPETITION WITH WHITE LABOR.—DOMESTIC SERVICE AND SLAVERY.

Competition with white labor.

But all these questions are more or less aside of the main issue. We must come in a practical sense to the most important subject submitted for consideration by this enquiry, namely, the effect upon the country—past, present and future, of the competition with white labor created or likely to be created by the influx of Chinese into the country. This is to be governed by a calm and business-like consideration of the circumstances of the country, and not alone by abstract theories or race prejudices. The medicine that suits one man may not suit another. On this point it is but right to quote again from the writer already referred to. At page 80, Vol. I., Oliphant, after strongly recommending the introduction of Chinese labor into the Eastern possessions of the Empire, says:

"It is not, however, merely in the settlement of the Malay Archipelago

Rule.

Oliphant.