

an equal number of white men from coming by taking their places themselves, I say it would have been better if we had not had the Chinamen, and had had white men, which would have been the result without the Chinamen.

To stop the immigration of the Chinese I would be willing to abrogate all treaty relations between the United States and China; it cannot be stopped any other way.

If necessary would be willing to abrogate all treaty relations between the United States and China.

HENRY H. BIGELOW, manager Home Mutual Insurance Company, and a BIGELOW. resident of San Francisco since 1850, sworn and examined:

The presence of the Chinese poisons any portion of the city where they go. It increases the rates of insurance nearly double; and where there are wash-houses from one to three and a half per cent.

Poisons the place. Doubles rate of insurance.

Unrestricted immigration of the Chinese has been a very vexed question, but there is only one opinion with all business men, and that is that it is detrimental to the state. Personally I am in favor of Chinese immigration, on the ground that it produces wealth here. I was very much in favor of slavery and on the same ground that I was a strong advocate for slavery I am an advocate for Chinese immigration; but it will drive away the white population and make California what Peru is to-day. I endorse every word Mr. Swift said on the ground of our white race.

Detrimental to the state.

Would make California what Peru is to-day.

There are some 5,000 or 6,000 Chinese in the state who own property and insure largely, but they insure everything, both by sea and against fire; but the rank and file do not insure at all, being merely producers and owning nothing. We have had very few losses. The class that insure are as good business men as you would expect among the same class of Americans or Englishmen, and they are a help to us. Outside of these 5,000 or 6,000, the others are peons or slaves, only our laws do not so term them. The same system is here that is in Peru. They come here under contract. I do not think they are as free in their labor to hire or not to hire as white people. As workers three Chinamen are about equal to two white men; they stick to their contracts very well, being industrious. I would prefer them to white men to do my work; you can count on them better, if you contract with the head men. Their exclusion from the coast would damage us very materially for a time. Their effect on the boys and the agricultural population here is very disastrous indeed; but looking at the interest of the state, I do not know whether we should look at that consideration. It takes the labor which the boys would be paid to do out of their hands, because they can labor more cheaply than boys; and this makes labor disgraceful in a measure.

Few losses.

The class who insure as good as men of the same standing among whites. Come here under contract.

Can count on them better than on whites.

Effect on boys and agricultural population disastrous.

Makes labor disgraceful.

There is labor for all—cheap labor—but it would be a servile labor like the Chinese labor instead of being free labor as in Illinois and other western states.

The Chinese are very careful with fire. They think it is the devil, and they keep him in due bounds. Where towns have been burned up most of the fires originated in Chinese quarters. Any one going through their quarters must wonder why they have not been burned up long ago. It is the very nature of the race, that while they are careful with fire they are dirty. They will have fire in a coal-oil can right on the floor; but they are afraid of it and will be careful. Yet they live like pigs. Wherever a wash-house is inserted in a block we always steer clear of it. For

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