

success. The evidence as printed extended over some twelve hundred pages. This has been condensed. Counsel or managers appeared before the Joint Committee and the witnesses were examined and cross-examined. To have noted the transitions from direct examination to cross-examination would have greatly lengthened without adding to the value of the condensation, in making which the aim has been to give, as much as practicable, in the words of the witnesses, and in a comparatively few pages the result of long examinations.

Guiding aim in making the condensation.

Documentary.

All the literature on the question read.

In addition to the evidence we have described we have availed ourselves of much that is documentary. Any documents which we deemed of sufficient importance will be found either set out in the report or in the Appendix. We have further read all the literature bearing on Chinese immigration; and the issues raised in connection therewith, which the Library of Parliament and the most diligent search elsewhere placed within our reach.

As the California Reports are not found in the Library for recent years we print in the Appendix a judgment of the Honorable Judge Hoffman, bearing on the interpretation of the Act of 1882, and for a similar reason we produce the Act of 1884, amending that of 1882.

Commissioners investigate for themselves.

Preparedness of mind with which Commissioners came to consideration of this question.

Visits to Chinese quarters.

In British Columbia, in San Francisco and in Portland, the Commissioners investigated for themselves the Chinese question as presented in each locality; discussed the problem with leading men of all classes, some of whom, while expressing themselves freely in conversation, did not wish to put their opinions on record; others, for different reasons, could not be examined; and the Commissioners came to the consideration of this question, not only furnished with the information derived from the evidence given, but with the advantage of having discussed it with judges, merchants, statesmen, mechanics and laborers, amongst the whites, and with Chinese officials. In British Columbia we visited Victoria, Nanaimo, New Westminster and Yale.

A brief account of what was seen among the Chinese in San Francisco, Victoria and Portland will be found in the Appendix [D, E and F]. His Excellency the Consul General of China paid a visit to the Commission at the Palace Hotel. After courtesies were interchanged, he enquired particularly respecting the Commission, and the veto powers of the Dominion and Imperial Parliaments. The Consul General expressed a hope that the enquiry would be impartial, and he was assured it would be.

Marginal notes.

In taking evidence on large questions and printing it as given, the same subjects will again and again recur, but as seen by different minds. The mastery of the whole is greatly facilitated by marginal notes, and accordingly marginal notes have been made.