

Withdrawal of earnings from the Province.

There is also another statement prepared, it must be assumed to meet the charge, that the Chinese carry the earnings of their labor in large amounts to their own country. It gives the per contra of the account, showing the individual Chinese laborer's annual expenses as against his profits. This is with reference to the laborer alone. Placing his earnings at \$25 per month, or \$300 a year, it deducts his expenses at \$257, and leaves an annual gain to him of \$45.

The British Columbia statement in detail will be found in the Appendix. See Brooks testimony at San Francisco, page 29, where this annual gain as remitted to China is estimated at \$30.

There are one or two principles involved in the consideration of this part of the question. First, if a man earns his money honestly he has a right to carry it where he pleases. Secondly, it must be presumed that his labor has benefited the country to the extent of his service, or he would not have been paid. He leaves his labor and he takes his earnings. Thirdly, in this respect the Chinese do not differ from the rest of the trading portion of mankind. Half the merchants in Victoria look forward to taking their earnings as soon as they deem they have realized sufficient to the old country to live on.

Principles.

It is a common custom with the English speaking race wherever they go as business men. In China they do exactly what the Chinaman is accused of doing in British Columbia. It is their predominant idea, and it is only when by their treatment in the foreign country, becoming naturalized and acquiring the local right to intervene in its management, their accumulation of property which will be benefited by their remaining, their own personal self interest, and their being put on an equality in every respect as to legal rights with the most favored in the land, that English residents entirely abandon the idea of leaving.

Common custom.

By Provincial Legislation in British Columbia and the general hostility evinced towards them, the Chinese are practically prohibited from becoming attached to the country. They are made, so far as Provincial Legislation can go, perpetual aliens, and with the Indians are by positive terms denied the political and municipal franchises attached to property and person, conceded to other British subjects, born or naturalized, when of sufficient age to exercise them.

Exclusion.

Of these men doing business in the Province to \$1,300,000 a year, contributing largely to the Dominion revenue, permitted by Dominion legislation to be naturalized and become British subjects, not one however respectable in character, well informed, or law abiding, however contributing to the public and municipal revenues by payment of Dominion, Provincial and Local taxation, is permitted to take any part in the consideration of the public welfare. It is but human nature under the circumstances to take their earnings from the place. What Englishmen do it hardly becomes Englishmen to object to in others. There is no estimate however of the actual amount in gold the Chinese really take out of the country, nor any approximation made thereto.

Their own views on this point may be gathered from the answer of Hwang Tsun Hsien, page 41.

Q. Have you any further information to impart? — A. "I would like to say this. That it is charged that the Chinese do not emigrate to foreign countries to remain, but only to earn a sum of money and return to their homes in China. It is only about thirty years since our people commenced emigrating to other lands. A large number have gone to the Straits Settlements, Manilla, Cochinchina and the West India Islands, and are permanently settled there with their families. In Cuba, fully seventy-