

a brother, or they will take the father, or any of the family, to make up what the other man may refuse to do, as security. They can imprison the next of kin for debt, which is a pretty powerful influence upon the mind of the coolies.

coolies, because in that country the next of kin can be imprisoned for debt.

They sell female children in China. I have had mothers offer me their girl-babies for two bits—twenty-five cents. Among the poorer class they do not regard girls as worth anything, and they want to sell them or give them away. I do not think they consider it a crime; they thought it would be a benefit to the child. The women, although sold for \$25 or \$30, consider themselves wives. I do not think they have the idea of degradation that prostitutes have. I do not know of an out-and-out sale for promiscuous intercourse.

Girl-babies sold for two bits.

The women sold at \$25 and \$30 consider themselves as wives.

I think the Chinese Government at the present time are very much opposed to their people going away, and they would not look with disfavor on restrictive legislation. The presence of foreigners in China is not so disagreeable, because they find it profitable. If they did not trade directly with us they would through Singapore and other islands where there are English and Americans.

Chinese Government opposed to their people going away, and would not look on restriction with disfavor.

JOHN STUART, employed in the freight business of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company since 1865, sworn and examined: STUART.

The Chinese cannot very well be surpassed for integrity and honesty in dealing. I have always found them very correct, honest, straightforward, and reliable. In many cases I would prefer to do business with their merchant class than with our people. We have no difficulty whatever in collecting freight-money. The commerce between China and this country varies in a great measure; some years it is greater than others, but for the most part it is increasing.

High commercial character of Chinese.

The Chinese are as cleanly as any other nationality I have seen come off an American ship; rather more so than otherwise. There is very little disease among them, and very few cases of sickness on the voyage. In conversation with Chinamen they always appeared to me to be opposed to the coming of Chinese prostitutes.

Clean.

Very little disease.

With reference to the immigration of Chinese, in my opinion it never will assume proportions that will interfere with the morality of the state to any extent. From 100 to 200 is the number, per steamer, arriving; and from 400 to 600 returning. There are regular seasons for them to arrive and to return. Many of the coolies that we have heard about today are of the mercantile class. Their character for credit stands very good.

Immigration would never assume formidable proportions.

Rev. MARTIN C. BRIGGS, minister, sworn and examined: BRIGGS.

There are two classes whose opinions are entirely different on the Chinese question. The laboring classes, and more especially the Irish people generally in our community, seem to be strongly and violently opposed to the Chinese in every way. The other class are persons who have some permanent interest, persons who are engaged in labor, and persons who wish to engage in labor, do not entertain the same feeling, and do not sympathize with that view. Very generally the latter not only do not wish the removal of the Chinese, but they judge that it is on the

Divided state of public opinion.