

Future Parliaments.

be had to meet it. Future Parliaments can deal with it when it comes, when it is real, better than a Parliament which deals with it only through the medium of an excited fear as to what it may be.

Chinese immigration.

In the consideration of this question it must not be overlooked, that this immigration of the Chinese into the British Colonies was at the express request and urgency of the British Government, that it was contrary to the traditions and policy of the Chinese Empire and against the wishes of their Government.

A concession.

That it was a concession torn from the latter by the force and determination of the former.

History of a concession.

The history of this concession is somewhat curious. It is well known that the Chinese regarded all others than subjects to the Chinese Empire as *Barbarians*, and permitted no intercourse. In the Treaty of Nankin, between Great Britain and China, signed on behalf of Her Majesty, at Nankin, by Sir Henry Pottinger, on the 29th of August, 1842, and ratified on the 26th June, 1843, there is an express provision for amnesty of those Chinese subjects who had ventured to reside with, or have dealings with the British. By the 9th article, "The Emperor of China, agrees to publish and promulgate under his Imperial sign manual and seal a full and entire amnesty, and act of Indemnity to all subjects of China, on account of their having resided under, or having had dealings and intercourse with, or having entered the service, of Her Britannic Majesty or of Her Majesty's officers, and His Imperial Majesty further engages to release all Chinese subjects who may be at this moment in confinement for similar reasons."

Chinese Treaties.

Hertzete, vol. 6. 221.

1st Treaty.

Imperial Edict.

In the Imperial edict issued in confirmation of this treaty on August 3rd, 1843, and for carrying out its provisions, by the 7th paragraph it is declared:

"(7.) At the various ports where the *Barbarians* are to trade, they are allowed to carry on their dealings indiscriminately with whomsoever of our merchants they please, and all debts contracted between them are to be paid by the respective parties without official interference."

"(11.) The natives of the Middle Kingdom who have been in attendance upon the officers of the said English nation are to be considered free from guilt for so doing, and as peace has now been declared the people of both nations are to be regarded as one mutual whole, no one again daring to proceed to bloodshed."

(16.) "Let each of the above items be definitely arranged with the *Barbarians*, giving closest attention to the minutest particulars, that the treaty may be drawn up in the most clear and intelligent terms, preventing all other difficulties and confusion of affairs. As the *Barbarians* cannot understand us, let the services of interpreters be employed that they may be satisfied. Respect this. Dated 8th September, 1842."

Hertzete, vol. xi. 86.

2nd Treaty.

By the treaty of Tient-sin, June 26th, 1858, signed by Lord Elgin, on behalf of Her Majesty by the 1st article the preceding treaty is renewed and confirmed, by the 9th and subsequent articles, British subjects are permitted to travel to all parts of the interior of China for pleasure or purposes of trade, and also acquired many privileges and advantages which they had not before possessed. By the 31st article "it is agreed that henceforward the character *Barbarian* shall not be applied to the Government or subjects of Her Britannic Majesty in any Chinese official