

some things : that the Chinese population, so far as it has come here, is a necessity to the farming interests of the country, and that to interfere with it would be a serious mistake. That is the universal opinion in Alameda county, without an exception.

I know that Mr. Page was the author of the law restricting the immigration of certain classes of Chinese—prostitutes ; but we believe in restricting that class.

I should not think it would be very good taste in a white woman to marry a Chinaman, nor would it be desirable for the state.

I regard the Chinese very much in the light I do any other thing we want to use—horses or machinery. They do a certain kind of work that we cannot have done unless by some such labor. I do not wish the committee to understand that I am for an indiscriminate and universal immigration of the Chinese ; but I have not seen any reason for any interference with the present treaty with China. I do not think the immigration of Chinese to this coast has interfered with white labor, or will in the future ; or that the number coming here will be so great as to be feared ; but if the time should come when they should begin to be in excess of the demand and of the use that we can put them to, then I should certainly be in favor of breaking up any treaty at all hazards.

[An extract was here read from a letter from Mr. Blakeslee.]

In speaking of the universal opinion of the people of Alameda county, I referred to those who employed men to work. Mr. Blakeslee is not a man who employs labor. I do not know of any man who employs whites or Chinamen in all my acquaintance in Alameda county who believes that we have too many Chinese. Men who make money out of them believe we have not enough, and they are the men who are the best judges.

I believe that God has sent these Chinamen here for a great and good purpose to the human race ; to learn something of our institutions and religion, and by their going back and forth they may diffuse virtue to a great and dark people. That is the chief ground of my opposition to Congress interfering with the present relations with China, or interfering at any time before there is an absolute necessity for it. I do not believe there will ever be any necessity for interfering with them myself.

The Chinese will come only as the demand calls them here. I think there has never been an over supply, and I do not believe there will be for this reason : the Chinese, in their labor system, differ from all other people, and from our own people. They have companies—the Six Companies. Most of these Chinese in California are members of these companies. Those companies have no absolute control over them, but they are for security—the security of their persons—to take care of them if sick, and to look after them generally and see that they get employment. All these companies appoint certain men to look after the Chinamen in a given district. I know this from the Chinese—from talking with them. Every man who employs Chinamen has one that he calls the boss Chinaman. When he wants men he just says to the boss : “ I want so many more men next week than I have,” and that boss obtains the men. He gets a small percentage, I suppose. I know it is the case with my Chinamen. I suppose it is universally the case with the boss Chinaman, who secures employment for other Chinamen, to get a certain percentage of the wages of all the men who work, to reward the boss for his agency in the matter.

I have heard of Chinamen starting in on their own hook, but I never saw a Chinaman who bought or owned any real estate. I conceive it to be right and proper that Chinamen should have the right to buy real

Regards the Chinese a useful machine.

Not too many Chinese.

Demand and supply.

Chinamen do not invest in real estate.