

## BY TELEGRAPH.

## CONGRESSIONAL.

## SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 1.—In continuation of his argument on the Chinese question Sargent said that the people of the East are quite certain if the Chinese were to land in their midst in the proportion of one to every eight of the population, they would be as easy of the future as now. The importation of coolies, and of females for immoral purposes, is now forbidden by law, but the law is a dead letter. Nine-tenths of the Chinese male emigration, and ninety-nine hundredths of the female emigration, is in violation of law, and from the difficulty of procuring evidence there is no remedy but general exclusion. The resolution before the Senate looks to a modification of certain provisions of the existing treaty so that the immigration of Chinese may be restricted. Californians are not always wise and deliberate in their treatment of the subject, and their excitability often leads to extravagance of speech and exhibitions of heated prejudice which produce an effect in the East the very opposite of what was intended. The right of expatriation is asserted in the clauses of the treaty objected to. The Chinese are not republicans, they are not attached to our institutions, but they use us for their convenience, temporarily, not intending to make their homes here. To such people and for such purposes the right of expatriation cannot apply. If the Chinese are not fit subjects for naturalization, and do not come within our political dogmas as to the right of expatriation, and if a wise self-interest may be made the basis of our dealings with all nations, it remains to be shown why the immigration of these people at present and probable rates will work harm to this country. Experience has shown the people of the Pacific States that the Chinese population expels all other. Sargent gave a description of the habits and manner of living of the Chinese in San Francisco, and said the future will see San Francisco a purely Asiatic city unless some means are devised to divert this calamity. A legislative commission was now sitting in San Francisco, taking testimony on this subject. He quoted the testimony of the Rev. Otis Gibson, a missionary of the Methodist Church for ten years in China, and for ten years past among the Chinese of San Francisco, to the effect that the number of Chinese on the Pacific Coast is 150,000; of this number 60,000 are in California, 30,000 being in San Francisco alone, and said that in all this great number there are not one hundred families.

But the flood is not confined to the Pacific States and Territories, the Chinese follow the lines of travel everywhere, and have reached the Atlantic States in small numbers, but not yet numerous enough to excite local comment and alarm. He read from the New York Herald a description of Donovan's Alley, kept by Chinese as a place for the practice of immoralities and degrading exhibitions, and, continuing his argument, said that only a few trickling streams have leaked out from the Pacific Coast; but as their reservoir fills higher these streams will swell, and Donovan's Alley will not be singular in its disgusting characteristics.

Another evil of Chinese emigration is its injury to white labor. By it white labor is entirely supplanted, and the growing young men and women in San Francisco find scant employment, and in few vocations, because cheap Chinese labor is taken in preference by employers, and if the community is built up by such industry it is not as a New England or western village is built up. It is Foo Chow and not Cedar Rapids; it is Donovan's alley and not Broadway; it is hovel and not house; joss houses and not churches; it is not republicanism, it is not civilization. A slower growth of a community with the elements in it only of civilization would be preferable to rapid development by an alien heathen population. White laborers have families and they educate their children. Europe offers to us every year hundreds of thousands of emigrants of cognate languages, religion, civilization and hopes. A population easily resolving itself into the mass of American society,

readily acquiring our language, honoring our institutions, worshipping our God, unexcelled in industry and skill, spreads like a flood over the western prairies, fertilizing like the swelling of a sacred river. This gives health and beauty to our political and Christian civilization; this is a healthy development. Iowa, for example, has been built up by such means. Would it not be undesirable to have its population retrograde to the level of the Chinese, however industrious the latter may be? There is no practical difference in the result, between the recession of an American community back to the level of the Chinese, and the displacing or anticipation of such a community by the Chinese. In San Francisco the laborer cannot support his family for less than two dollars or two dollars and a half a day; Chinamen will work for a dollar, and they monopolize the market, and the white laborer must emigrate or starve. The Chinaman is a constant threat to labor, skilled or unskilled. He is very imitative, and soon acquires sufficient art to compete with the best workmen and to supplant them. The operation of these principles has been seen on a limited scale in Massachusetts, on the occasion of a strike, where an employer at North Adams imported a sufficient number of Chinamen to carry on his establishment, and since that time has refused to employ white men. He has grown rich by the operation, but labor has been overawed because it learned what could be done if it was not submissive. That which had been seen at North Adams on a small scale, and under the least repulsive conditions, goes on in California upon a large and increasing scale, with surroundings of squalor and misery. When Chinamen become abundant in Massachusetts, as they will in time, Massachusetts employers will use them as they do in California—to the exclusion of the whites, and the latter will be generally expelled.

But the disastrous effects are not alone with labor. Cadmus sowed dragon's teeth, and they sprang up armed men and destroyed him. Sargent then quoted, from the testimony before the legislative commission in San Francisco, to show how manufacturers in California had employed Chinamen because they would work for a low price, letting their white laborers go; and as soon as they were taught the Chinese set up for themselves, and undersold and bankrupted their employers, and were getting large branches of business into their own hands. The whole advantage gained by any one accrues to the Chinese slave master, who utilizes his coolie labor. The emigration of Chinese is not like that of Europeans who seek our shores voluntarily, to become citizens. They are quasi slaves. He quoted from a dispatch of Bailey, Consul at Hong Kong, dated April 25, 1871, to the State Department, to show the slavery of the emigrants, the manner in which they are decoyed on board ships, by all sorts of tricks, opiates, and illusory promises, and when once in the clutches of the men dealers, by a system of treachery and terrorism, connived at by the local Chinese authorities, whose chief business in life is to squeeze the people, the stupefied coolie is overawed into making a contract under such Chinese influence and surroundings as give it a sacredness of character nowhere else known, and from that moment he is the mere tool of an unscrupulous dealer wherever he may go. Nine-tenths of the Chinamen who come to San Francisco are brought there as slaves.

He also quoted from a letter published in the N. Y. Tribune on June 7th, 1870, showing the manner in which the coolie sells himself into slavery for the price of his passage, at an exorbitant rate, and mortgages family at home. When the mortgages become due the family is sold off, commencing with the daughters, and the coolie, sometimes, on returning, finds a portion of the claim still unsatisfied, and is himself sold for it. Bailey's dispatch says that the entire contract system is full of fraud and corruption, and the most brutal inhumanity.

Sargent argued that our tolerance of this emigration was encouraging the darkest crimes against humanity rather than opening our portals to the distressed of the earth. It is no more a voluntary and healthful emigration than that of the African slave trade. He quoted from Chief Justice Smale, of Hong Kong, in

the case of a coolie who had assisted in the murder of the captain and crew of the *Penelope Nouvelle*, a coolie ship, who was claimed by the Chinese Government as a murderer, and who was released by the court on the ground that he had a natural right to regain his liberty, even by taking the lives of those who held him in slavery. The judge says that in a short time there will be seven coolie ships burned or sunk with all on board, containing 300 coolies. Bailey speaks of the case of the *Dolores Ugarte*, where the hatches were battened down on the coolies, when the ship took fire and they were all burned to death. Sargent again quoted from the testimony of Captain Joy, of the ship *Cresus*, before the legislative commission, which vessel has just landed a large cargo of Chinese at San Francisco, showing that they had to discharge firearms over the heads of the passengers to show that they were armed, and the declaration of the captain that such people would not be allowed to be landed in Liverpool; and, resuming his argument, he said the results of the traffic is what the people of the Pacific Coast deprecate and deplore, and they ask relief from a condition of things degrading to free labor while peopling the nation with slaves. Statesmen must see these things and must heed them, or the people will remove them and send men here who will.

Sargent then called attention to the peculiarities of the traffic in Chinese females, and said that young girls were bought of their parents or owners in China and were sent from thence to San Francisco under contracts for continuous prostitution, made nominally with themselves, while really they are passive victims. The girls are virgins when purchased, and are first prostituted in San Francisco. He read a translation of a contract for prostitution, given in evidence before the legislative commission, in which Ah Ho binds herself, for the sum of \$630, paid to her mistress, to give her services in prostitution for the term of four years; and, resuming his argument, he said that Chinese females when landed by hundreds from the ships are put in barracks, as in slave days, and there kept until distributed by their masters.

After distribution they are kept at their degrading work by fear, ignorance and superstition. The police testified before the commission that it is notorious to them that women are bought and sold. When a Chinese woman escapes from her servitude she is brought back by persuasion or force. The Rev. Gibson testified that the women are slaves, and are bought or stolen and are brought here as slaves. They contract ostensibly to repay alleged borrowed money, but really to prostitute their bodies for four or five years; at the end of that time they are retained still longer and indefinitely, under the pretense of debt, but in reality they are owned by certain men or women, and are in slavery, harder and more miserable than existed among the white races. As long as they are fit to earn any money they are kept, but as soon as they give out they are turned out to die. Policemen also testified to this latter fact, and that they often found the dead bodies of Chinese women in the morning in the streets, where they had been left to die by their owners. Charles Wolcott Brooks testified that those who come are the scum of China, and that the women are more dangerous than the men, being afflicted with syphilitic diseases, which they communicate to the boys of this land. Dr. Toland, an eminent physician of San Francisco, testified that he had known many boys of 8 or 10 years of age to contract this loathsome disease in the Chinese quarter. Sargent said this showed what horrors exist when solicitation and temptation reached youths of such tender age. Was it any wonder that parents were angry and indulged in threats of violence and disorder? He produced much testimony bearing on the subject, and said that women were treated worse by Chinese than dogs are by Americans. "These people make lazar houses of your cities; they bring pollution and spread corruption. Shall we treat them as standing on the footing of emigrants, such as we invite to the country?"

He referred to a statement in a New York paper, to the effect that the Chinese are neither criminals nor paupers, and stating that there is not an almshouse or a prison in

the whole length or breadth of the republic that shows a marked infusion of the Chinese element. Continuing his argument he said it was not surprising that there were no Chinese in such institutions in States where the Chinese are yet unknown, but the assertion was ridiculously false of the Pacific States. By the State prison returns for California for 1874, the last accessible, it was shown that out of 935 convicts, 150, or nearly 17 per cent., were Chinese. Supervisor Gibbs recently testified that there are 38 Chinese in the county pest houses, eight of whom have leprosy, and all have loathsome diseases. Dr. Toland testified that Chinese fill the hospitals, and that pauperism is the normal condition of the coolies and prostitutes who sell their services and bodies to hard masters to get to this country.

In regard to the arrivals of Chinese in this country he said the accounts from San Francisco show that they are arriving at the present time at the rate of 1,000 per week. The trade is very profitable to the ships, and the supply of coolies is ample where 400,000,000 of population can be drawn upon. The danger could not be averted by belittling it. The Chinese when numerous, so as to give each other countenance, are dangerous infractors of the peace and violators of the law. He cited instances of deadly quarrels and pitched battles, between different clans of Chinese, occurring in California and Nevada, and cited and read from various works to show that the Chinese are cruel and revengeful. Resuming, he said the degree of enlightenment of a people and their amount of uncorrupted humanity might be best found by an insight into their courts and prisons. He read from authorities to show how horrible torture precedes executions in China; he also referred to the massacre of foreign residents at Tientsin in 1870, when the French consul, all the foreign merchants, their wives and children, the Catholic priests and the sisters of mercy, and about one hundred orphans were cruelly murdered under circumstances of revolting barbarity, and said this was a most eligible race for American citizenship.

Although Chinese fill the prisons of California, a large number escape conviction from the quantity of false testimony which is produced to order in favor of anyone whom they wished to shield. He referred to the testimony of the district attorney and police officers to show the utter unreliability of a Chinese oath, and said that California had exhausted all measures of legislation in order to remedy the evils entailed by these emigrants. The measures may not have been wise, and the Supreme Court now says that any exercise of power by the State is unconstitutional, and the only resource of the people of that State is in the General Government. The Government must act. To allow this inordinate immigration of corrupt humanity is to import leprosy into the body politic. Every attempt to civilize the Chinese has been a failure; it is necessarily a failure, because they do not come here for homes, and seldom remain longer than a few years, giving way to fresh and larger hordes. To civilize them is to roll the stone of Sisyphus. The basis of our civilization is labor fairly rewarded. The great body of our people toil with their hands, and rates of wages prevail under which they can rear families. If the sole object of civilization was to enable the wealthy to accumulate more wealth, regardless of the comfort and cultivation of the common people, he, Sargent, would still doubt that wealth itself could afford to destroy the character of the nation in its greed for increase. If capital could avail itself of Chinese labor exclusively, at half price, the impoverishment and final extinction of the great middle class of our country would leave a nation of lords and serfs, in which property itself would be a sort of adversity. It is not sufficient to reply that the absorption of the country by Chinese will not occur for a century; it is our duty to determine whether this is desirable at the end of a century. If not, then we must act for those who are to come after us in a way to avert the calamity.

The modification of our treaty with China in the respects called for will not be distasteful to China; the established policy of its government is to prevent the emigration of its people. But if this is otherwise, self-protection and the high-

est considerations of the present and future enforce our demand. The Chinese government has not the disposition or strength to enforce the rights guaranteed to Americans in the treaty, for Americans cannot travel in the interior of China without a strong guard, and they cannot open a shop in any village outside certain boundaries, without the certainty of pillage and murder. The disabilities of the treaty are all on our side, and it is only by the fear of punishment that the Chinese are made to pay any respect to the rights of foreigners in China.

In conclusion he made an earnest appeal for the government to take some steps to stay the sorrowful scourge.

WASHINGTON, 4.—The impeachment trial was resumed.

Blair of the counsel for the respondent, then opened the argument on the question of jurisdiction, and quoted at length from the Blount case in support of his views. He denied the power of the Senate to try, on articles of impeachment, a private citizen, and quoted from various English works on the subject of impeachment. He contended that several United States judges had resigned their places and that impeachment proceedings against them had been stopped.

## AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 3.—The World's Washington special says, the committee on post offices and post roads have begun another investigation into the letting of mail contracts.

The investigation into the cotton bureau of the Treasury Department promises rich revelations. It is already shown that over \$300,000 has been paid to attorneys for services for which there was no authority of law, while the employment of Judge Frazier, of Indiana, late member of the British American Mixed Claims Commission, at a salary of \$10,000 per annum, is also in violation of law. Bristow did not employ him. He is one of the extravagances which followed the appointment of Richardson as Secretary of the Treasury.

The evidence of naval officers, who would naturally make the best showing possible in regard to the efficiency of the service, as taken before the committee on naval affairs, shows conclusively that the department, as managed by Robeson, is in a most disgraceful condition, and that opportunities for fraud and spoliation are of the most varied kinds.

The Tribune's Washington special says that at a cabinet meeting, to-day, it was decided that formal notice should be given to Great Britain of the abrogation of the tenth article of the Ashburton treaty, which relates to the extradition of criminals between the two countries. It is entirely within the power of the executive department of our own Government to give this notice of abrogation, without the assent of the Senate. Fish formally notified the British government this evening of the action of the Government.

The Herald's Washington special says that Custer will leave here at once to take command of his column, which is to take the field for operations against the hostile Sioux. He says that the three columns about to start under the plan of operations directed by Sheridan will aggregate in numbers about 3,000 men, while it is said that the Sioux can put 8,000 warriors against them. Some very hard fighting is expected, if not the hardest known.

Speaker Kerr has repeatedly offered the Speakership pro tem. to Randall, and has urged his acceptance, but the latter thought it would interfere with his duties as chairman of the appropriation committee.

The House committee on territories agreed, to-day, to report favorably on Delegate Patterson's bill to enable the residents of the Territories in the U. S. to elect their own officers. This will relieve the President of the power to appoint territorial governors and other officials, and place it in the hands of the people of the territories, who, however, do not seem in all cases to be anxious to exercise it.

Jeff Davis sails for Europe with his family in a few days.

Vanderbilt is steadily improving. CLEVELAND, O., 3.—Everything is quiet at Massillon and the other mining districts this a.m. Last night threats were made and several shots were fired at the Warmington mine, but nothing more