

CHINESE IMMIGRATION TO NEW ZEALAND.

(Otago, New Zealand, Daily Times.)

The special correspondent of the *Lyttelton Times* telegraphs from Wellington:—"Sir George Grey has tabled a remarkable memorandum on the subject of Chinese immigration to the Colony. The preamble commences:—"Probably the people have but little reflected upon the great struggle which must take place in this part of the world against barbarism, and trust too much to the belief that civilisation is continually and rapidly to advance, and that no retrograde movement or delay in its progress is possible. But if we consider for a short time we shall see that the extension of civilisation throughout the Pacific, and throughout the countries bordering upon it to the north and west, must of necessity be a long and difficult task, and that unless great care is now exercised it is even doubtful if civilisation will be able to hold its own against the flood of barbarism which it will have to encounter." After referring to the present condition of the Chinese question in Australia, it goes on:—"The presence in this country of a large population of Chinese or of any cognate race would exercise a deteriorating effect upon its civilisation. There can be little doubt that they would largely influence the labor market. From their habits and mode of life they could subsist upon a much smaller sum than is necessary for the support of a European household in decency and comfort. They could therefore work for less wages than those European artificers or labourers who were thus driven into competition with strangers, and forced to accept a rate of wages below what the necessities of themselves and their families required, would have to make great sacrifices of their independence and welfare; they would indeed have to descend to the scale of civilisation which their competitors, from habit, would occupy with satisfaction, whilst the European this change in his habit, in his diet, clothing, and dwelling would involve an entire abnegation of his self-respect and independence. After a few years of suffering, the habits and civilisation of himself and family would be entirely altered. The consideration of the arguments used in this paper will show that it is necessary that some regulations should be laid down regarding the future immigration of Chinese into this country. Up to the present time about 5,000 Chinese have arrived here. Nine females have also been returned as being inhabitants of New Zealand, but they are stated to be not of purely Chinese origin. There is the more necessity for some such regulations being laid down, because there are circumstances connected with foreign immigrants which render them acceptable to holders of large properties. If located in villages in the vicinity of large properties they give great value to them, because being strangers in a foreign country, of the languages, laws, and customs, of which they know but little, they naturally cling together, and do not roam in search of employment, nor do they readily, with the hope of bettering themselves, quit the spot of their first location. Indeed, the very circumstances which render such immigrants of little value for the first few years to the country at large which they have come into, render them peculiarly acceptable to the holders of large properties. But here in New Zealand we want citizens—that is to say, men who can at once add to the wealth of their adopted country; who can take part in the public affairs; who can intelligently watch the introduction of laws and assist in the administration of them; who, in fact, are interested in the immediate progress and in the future of the country of their adoption; who feel that they are part of a youthful nation. An unwary cry is often raised regarding the wealth and material prosperity of a country. To secure enormous wealth to a few individuals, and to leave the overwhelming majority of the people sinking in penury, is not the true end which should be aimed at by those who desire to see their country raised to real prosperity and greatness."

Statistics in the United States amount to 2000 yearly.

Bygone in New York is carried on by the aid of the electric light.

The amount of grain in store at Belleville is 112,000 bushels, principally rye and peas. There is more than the usual quantity of wheat, but very little barley.

Hopes of reconciliation between the citizens and workingmen parties are daily diminishing. The *Sand Lots* has returned to its fulminations, the newspaper war has broken out afresh, and apparently all overtures have been thrown aside. Extremities of both parties appear to be in the ascendant. The rigorous sentence given Kearney and Gannon, it is supposed, contributed largely to this change of feeling. It is also understood that arrangements between the Conference Committee and the workingmen's Ward President were repudiated by the Citizen's Union, many opposit an arrangement of any kind short of the unconditional surrender of the workingmen. The approaching charter election and the election of State Senator in place of Dosty, declared ineligible, render reconciliation at the present time still more improbable. Combinations are also afloat regarding the United States Senator.

Notes and News.

THE Ontario Government has issued a proclamation offering a reward of \$4,000 for additional information leading to the conviction of the Donnelly murderers.

In both branches of the Nova Scotia Legislature, committees reported a memorial to the Governor-General on the subject of the Provincial finances and the division of the fishery award. The memorial recites the claims of the Province to the consideration of the Dominion Government on both matters, the purport of which have been already published. Both Houses passed the memorial for transmission to Ottawa.

For some years past a large number of Germans Christian and Jew, have been establishing themselves in Jerusalem, and our readers will probably be surprised to hear that the dominant language in that town is German; 12,000 Jews speak it. Recently the Germans in Jerusalem have started a quarterly review, devoted mainly to local interests which is very ably conducted.

ANOTHER steal of Indian lands is in contemplation at Washington, the Crows being the victims this time. This tribe have the misfortune to own lands which are discovered to be rich in mineral deposits; the cupidity of the neighbouring whites has been excited, an invasion is threatened, and the Crow chiefs are thereupon summoned to Washington to "adjust matters amicably." This means that they are to be considerably offered the alternative of peaceable surrender or forcible expulsion, but go they must. It is merely a repetition of the old story of the Sioux, the Nez Percés, the Poncas, and the Utes. They have land which the whites want and they must quit the homes of their fathers to sick and starve in the swamps and deserts of the Indian Territory. Secretary Schurz has made great professions of philanthropy and reform in Indian affairs, but, somehow, some of the worst possible acts of spoliation have taken place under his administration, just as when the position was held by men without sentiment or scruple. It matters little who is in power in Washington—the Indian must go. He is a savage, and must make way for civilization with its railroad rings, land grabbers, quartz-crushers, saloons, gambling hells, free fights and other concomitants of Western life.

THE *New York Herald* is convinced by the report of the Dominion Inspector of Artillery on the military strength and resources of Canada, that we should be by no means a contemptible enemy when supported by the military and naval power of Great Britain. Quoting the figures of the report as to the available Canadian force, the *Herald* says:—"This is a greater force than could be put at once into the field by our States which border on the Dominion. Our regular army is so small, and the bulk of it is at such a distance in the Western Territories, that it would be of little use in a contest with Canada. Troops could be sent over from Great Britain more rapidly than our regular army could be recruited. There is a popular notion that in case of war we could make a complete conquest of Canada in a single month; but it might not prove so easy a task." Our New York contemporary sees a great danger in the completion of the enlarged Welland canal, which will give ready access to the upper lakes for British gunboats and ships of war which could shell and destroy the wealthy but defenceless lake cities on the American side. At the outbreak of a war, the first thing to be done by the Americans would be an attempt to seize the Welland canal, but Canada could pour forth troops for its defence faster than the States could land them for its capture. The *Herald* suggests the construction of strong and heavily armed forts on the New York bank of the St. Lawrence to command the river, with the aid of torpedoes, in order to prevent the passage of British war vessels.

THE prospect of the older Provinces of Canada, to which the others owe nearly all their importance, being drained of their best elements by a craze for migration westward, is not to be reflected on with pleasure. With all our desire to see the waste places of our North-west inhabited by a large and thriving population, we cannot view with anything but regret and anxiety the growing disposition of the thirty young men of Ontario to try their fortunes in Manitoba. The *Ottawa Citizen* is of opinion that "if people would only think down to the bottom of the matter," they would see that this movement was both inevitable and desirable. It does not need much thinking to reach a conviction of the inevitableness of the exodus when the ingredients are considered together with a reasonable allowance for the timely hopefulness of gain from chance. But "talk down" as much as we will, we cannot reach any evidence of its desirableness. It is a thing to be regretted in every respect. It is certainly a pity that men and women, the descendants of those who reclaimed the country from nature's wildness and laid the foundations of well-ordered society, should abandon all that was accomplished by their progenitors' courage, toil and honest purpose, to begin the same work anew on the hap-hazard of their possessing the same qualities. It is to be regretted that the general character of the population of any country so well ordered as are the old Provinces of Canada should be disturbed by migration on a large scale. It is undesirable, after what has been done, in Ontario particularly, in the way of local development and of establishing means of inter-communication, that those who were responsible for the initiation and interested in the progress of this development should be drawn away to another and distant part of the continent. We concede that the exodus under existing conditions is inevitable; at the same time we pronounce it not desirable, but very lamentable.—*Guide*.

It is reported that a new line of eight steamers and propellers will connect Montreal and Chicago next season.

SOME idea of the extent to which the law of divorce is used in the United States may be gathered from the fact that during January and February 103 petitions of divorce were filed in the Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia. Seventy-nine were of women who petitioned to be divorced from their husbands; twenty-four were of men. About one-fourth of the petitions alleged adultery, and the remainder desertion as the grounds for divorce. Of these cases one hundred were successful. Should the remaining months of the year keep up the average, Philadelphia would turn out twelve hundred divorces of persons per annum—showing either very loose ideas on the marriage question or a very great amount of matrimonial infelicity.

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