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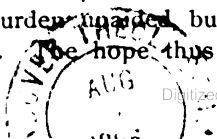
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NO. III.

IN spite of the efforts of the Foreign Board to limit and even reduce the estimates of work for the last year, a new debt of \$57,853.28 appeared upon the closing of the books. It was not possible to gain upon the deficit of the previous year.

When one considers the extent of the work which the Presbyterian Church is attempting to accomplish on the foreign field by a single annual collection, this result is not surprising. On the home field the work has been more and more subdivided, while in Foreign Missions more and more has been put upon the one collection. In our own country, Home Missions, the Freedmen, Sustentation, though virtually similar in their nature, have three collections, and Education is also virtually divided into three departments, one for the ministry, another for the colored ministry and the third for the permanent establishment of colleges.

But since the reunion of the Churches no subdivisions have been made of the foreign work though it has greatly extended; but, on the contrary, other departments have been added. Thus thirteen or fourteen years ago the work which had been given up by the American and Foreign Christian Union in Mexico and Chili was taken up in the hope that such collections as had previously been devoted to that special work would be continued under the Foreign Board. No such collections, however, have been received. Five years ago an appeal was made to the Board to become the almoner of the gifts of the churches to the work in France, Italy, Switzerland, etc., instead of establishing a Special Committee for the purpose in New York, and thus adding to the number of organizations. The Board accepted the arrangement but with an expression of its hope that the churches would not leave the Board to bear the burden, ~~unaided~~ but would make it the medium of their contributions. The hope thus expressed, however,



## MUST THE CHINESE GO?

REV. HUNTER CORBETT, CHEFOO, CHINA [NOW IN THIS COUNTRY].

THERE seems to be a conviction in the minds of a large class living on the Pacific Coast that there is an irrepressible conflict between white and Chinese labor, which can only be settled by the speedy departure of the Chinese.

The chief reasons urged are:

I. The Chinese have become so numerous and are so industrious and frugal that white men cannot compete with them. Unless the Chinese are removed many white men must go elsewhere.

II. The Chinese are here without families, and never will amalgamate with white people and become American citizens.

III. The morals of the Chinese are of such a low order and their habits so filthy that they will contaminate our youth and subvert our Christian civilization.

IV. The Chinese send all the money they earn to China, and do not add to the aggregate wealth of the country.

There is a public sentiment, right or wrong, that the Chinese are a curse, and must be removed. Men differ as to methods of getting rid of them. One class feel that there is need of desperate measures because of the laxity with which the restriction clause has been enforced, that, in self-defense, they are justified in ignoring the existing treaties and in employing force where persuasion will not avail. "When public sentiment says the Chinese must go, the plain duty of every loyal citizen is to fall in with the majority."

Some demand not only the abrogation of existing treaties, but also the passage of laws which shall drive out all Chinese subjects now in the United States, and prohibit forever the importation of Chinese on any pretext whatever.

There is a large number, however, in favor of using only lawful methods to bring about their peaceable removal. They counsel patience, and, until the legal remedies can be secured, think all should agree to give employment only to white people.

On the other hand, there is a class who feel friendly to the Chinese and would accord to them the same treatment as to aliens from other lands.

It is argued:

I. That existing treaties with China should be faithfully observed, and that the unbroken friendship which has hitherto existed between the United States and China should be perpetuated. It should be remembered that treaties which England and France only secured after long and expensive wars, were voluntarily entered into with the United States. Every privilege granted to the most favored nations has been accorded to America. In the last treaty the Chinese Government showed such confidence in America's sense of justice and fair-dealing as to generously yield to the United States the right of passing whatever laws regulating immigration might be deemed wise. It was agreed that the United States might "limit, regulate or suspend" immigration of the Chinese, "but not prohibit it." The United States agreed solemnly that the Chinese who remained here "shall not be subject to personal maltreatment or abuse; and further, should they meet with ill-treatment in this country, the United States Government shall exert all its powers to devise measures for their protection, and to secure to them the same rights, privileges, immunities and exemptions as may be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of most-favored nations, and to which they are entitled by treaty." When Americans in China have suffered by mobs or lawless violence, the United States has always demanded from the Chinese Government full pecuniary reparation and the punishment of the leaders. Justice implies reciprocal obligations on the part of the United States under similar circumstances.

II. That at present Chinese labor is essential to the development and prosperity of the country. There are vast tracts of heavily-timbered land to be cleared. Swamp lands, almost entirely unreclaimed, and therefore practically useless, need to be drained and rendered productive. There are vineyards and orchards to be planted. There are manufactories and many other branches of industry which require efficient, reliable and cheap laborers in order to be successfully carried on. In proportion as these various industries are developed, the wealth of the country will be increased, and more work and better wages offered for skilled white men. Without a certain proportion of work accomplished by cheap labor, it is claimed that manufactures, so urgently needed to provide a home market for raw material, cannot be undertaken. If Chinese labor is excluded, there is none to take its place. White men claim that in order to live comfortably and support their families they must receive what is called "white men's wages," which on the West Coast are higher than have ever been paid in the early development of any other portion of the United States. The Congressional Committee appointed in 1877 to inquire into the effect of Chinese labor on the Pacific Coast elicited overwhelming evidence of the benefit resulting from Chinese labor in the past in constructing railroads and developing many branches of industry. This labor had added immensely to the wealth of the country, and at the same time had provided work at remunerative wages for skilled white men. It is claimed that the same influences that made Chinese labor beneficial in past years still continue to a large extent, and must so long as the natural resources of the country are so vast and so largely undeveloped.

It is the uniform testimony of those who have employed the Chinese that no class has been found more faithful or has given better satisfaction. As a rule, the Chinese are peaceable and industrious. They waste no time nor money at the saloons. They quietly attend to their own business, and refrain from meddling with that of other people. They are not the class found in our prisons and almshouses.

On the Columbia River, where there are several millions of capital invested in fish canneries, the proprietors claim that at present white men of the requisite skill cannot be found in sufficient numbers to do the work. It is only by employing Chinese, who, after years of special training have become experts, that this branch of industry can be carried on with profit. If white men could be found to do the work the wages they demand would soon cause financial ruin.

The class of white laborers that the present development and the resources of the country urgently demand, are not so much mechanical and laboring men who arrive here penniless and are disappointed and discontented if abundance of remunerative work is not awaiting them, as people possessed of sufficient means to enable them to purchase land and make improvements or engage in some special industry and wait whatever time may be necessary to receive a profitable return.

III. America needs just such a market as China affords for the extension of trade, and the utmost care should be taken to strengthen and render more intimate the friendly relations existing between the two countries.

☞ Puget Sound needs a vast market for lumber. Wheat and corn producing States need a foreign market for flour and pork. Manufacturers of iron, farming implements, tools, cotton and woolen goods, and dealers in coal oil cannot afford to lose China, which is already such a market that steamers with valuable cargoes daily arrive there from Great Britain and other lands. In the near future China will doubtless enter upon an extensive system of railroad building, and vast quantities of iron and machinery will be required; the opening of mines and other industries must follow. By proper management our trade with China can be greatly enlarged, and at the same time our influence there can be vast for good.

IV. In regard to the objection heard on every hand that the Chinese send all their

money out of the country, it is answered that the food and clothing which they require are all the products of this country, and that for the money which they may be able to save, as well as for that which they consume, they render a full equivalent in labor. For every dollar therefore which they send out of the country a full equivalent is left behind. The land which they have reclaimed is permanently increased in value to the full amount, or more, of the money paid. In many instances, as we have said, without their labor the land would have remained practically valueless.

V. The United States Government cannot afford to abandon the idea of protecting its own subjects in all parts of the world.

There are several thousands of Americans residing in China. Many of them own real estate and other valuable property there. They have gone there as merchants, physicians, missionaries, and in other callings, under treaty stipulation, and are peacefully and successfully pursuing their respective occupations. Any action taken by our country which would compel these people either to leave that country or to become the naturalized subjects of Great Britain, Germany or some other power which is willing to protect her subjects, would not add to the greatness and honor of a country, which claims to be the most liberal and advanced of all nations. That American citizens should be shut out from China, a country where the subjects of all other civilized nations have the privilege of residing, would be very humiliating.

VI. While admitting that unlimited immigration from China may be injurious, yet while our doors are open to all other nations, without restriction, and our laws allow the ballot and every right of citizenship to the most ignorant and dangerous classes, protest is made against these unjust discriminations against the Chinese. Violent outbreaks against the Chinese in time must provoke retaliatory measures against Americans living in China. Once begun, there are no people who can carry out this line of action more successfully than the Chinese in their own land. Failure to maintain friendly relations with China may leave a perplexing legacy for our country in the future. China does not readily forget injuries. Skillful officers from Germany and other European countries have been employed at large salaries to superintend arsenals and drill troops in China. A number of first-class gun-boats with powerful guns have been purchased in England, and China, already possessed of two first-class men-of-war, with heavy guns cast in Germany, and with all the late improvements in naval armaments, is even now a nation not to be despised. In the near future she will undoubtedly be a power whose friendship will be most valuable. It is thought by many that if our Government will appoint faithful men, who shall enforce the Restriction act at every port of entrance, but who will do their work considerably, this question will, with the return of better times, soon cease to irritate. Some restriction of immigration, enforced according to existent treaties, and by reasonable men it must be noticed, however, is vastly different from a total prohibition of it, and still more from the ostracism and persecution of Chinese already here. Undoubtedly prostration in business has been one principal cause which has aroused this new hostility on the Pacific Coast. Not a lumber mill on Puget Sound runs on full time. Some have wholly suspended work. Many branches of industry have been paralyzed. City and town lots and homesteads are burdened with heavy mortgages, and men have been unable to make the improvements that good times would have secured. In any complete view of the Chinese question this industrial and commercial depression on the West Coast will not be overlooked.

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THE Church Missionary Society's mission churches in Tinnavelly recently celebrated their jubilee. In 1835 there were 8,000 Christians in 224 villages and one native clergyman. In 1885, 56,000 native Christians in 1,000 villages and sixty-eight native clergymen were reported.