

grievance he usually takes it before his own president, and from him it goes to the Six Companies and before a tribunal they have to rectify any wrongs that exist among themselves; that is as I understand it.

Q. Who are the presidents of the Six Companies; are they not the leading merchants here?—A. That I don't know; I don't know who they are. My understanding is that there are supposed to be men from different parts of China who are looked up to by the others as learned men. That is my understanding of it.

Q. And if there is any difficulty, if a Chinaman is accused of not paying his debts he is brought before this board?—A. They do in some instances; yes, sir.

Q. They try the case in the court the same as you would?—A. Yes, sir; investigate it, and give their decision.

Q. And if the Chinaman is alleged to be in their debt, or in the debt of another, and the presidents of the Six Companies have decided that he owes a man a certain amount of money, he can not leave this country and go back to China, can he?—A. That I don't know; I was never present at any of their meetings. I have heard from Chinamen on the outside, of cases where they have had trouble about money and have taken it before the Six Companies.

Q. We were present to-day at the steamboat landing where a thousand Chinamen were taken on board a ship to be transported, and the agents of the Six Companies were standing there and they had to show a receipt before they were permitted on board.—A. There are men that stand there and collect those tickets; for what purpose I don't know.

STATEMENT OF FREDERICK BEE.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Please state your name.—A. Frederick Bee.

Q. What is your position?—A. Chinese consul; I have been consul for over twelve years here.

Q. Are you at the head of the Chinese consular office in this city?—A. No, sir; this is a consular legation. We have a vice-consul, a consul-general, two secretaries, and I am a consul. There are two vice-consuls over me.

Q. Is the consul-general here also?—A. Yes, sir; he is here and outranks me in the service.

Q. Your duties are similar to those performed by consuls of the United States?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Anything in addition?—A. I do not know that there is, though my functions take a pretty wide field and have ever since I have been consul. Our office has its instructions from the legation in Washington, what to do, and we try to carry them out. We board every ship that comes in and pretty much all that go out, take a list of arrivals and departures, and examine their passports and exercise other such official functions as other consuls do. I have been connected more or less with the Chinese for twenty years.

Q. Have you resided in China?—A. No, sir; I never lived in China. My first close connection with them was defending them before the Morton committee of 1876.

Q. Which visited this place?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. That was your first connection with them?—A. Yes, sir; there was a great deal of excitement at that time here. It was very difficult for them to get an attorney to represent them.

Q. You represented them as an attorney?—A. Yes, sir; at the request of Senator Morton, the chairman of the committee. They were here to thoroughly investigate the Chinese question and they did it. They were seven weeks in session, holding night sessions all the time.

Q. You defended the Chinese?—A. Yes, sir; I represented their side of the question.

Q. The facts that were to be brought forth favorable to them?—A. Yes, sir; and afterwards the Chinese Government appointed me consul. I am the only American in the consular service or ever has been.

By Mr. LEHLBACH:

Q. Do you understand the Chinese language?—A. A very few words. I have plenty of secretaries and interpreters.

Q. Have the conditions of Chinese life changed here since then?—A. No, sir; I don't think they have. I think there has been a change for the better, if anything.

Q. Much for the better?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In what respect?—A. The decrease of numbers for one thing, and the exertions, with the aid of the consulate, through the health department, in a sanitary way. It has been a fact, and often stated, that the police have a regular way of taking Chinese through Chinatown. I made an attempt to have that abolished. As for the cleaning of the seven blocks in Chinatown, the city has spent thousands and thousands of dollars in cleaning other parts of the city, but not a cent in Chinatown. The Chinese spend \$7,000 a year for cleaning their streets.

Q. Do they own property there?—A. Not much of it; real estate owned by Chinese would amount to probably a million and a half.

Q. What proportion do they own in the Chinese quarter?—A. It is difficult to say. They have a considerable frontage on Commercial street, Sacramento street, Waverly place, and Dupont street.

Q. Do they build houses on leased land?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Mostly so?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do they pay taxes?—A. Yes, sir; they do.

Q. Do they submit valuations of their property from year to year?—A. They fill out their blanks.

Q. Do you supervise them in doing that?—A. No, sir; our attorney, Mr. Rierdon, usually attends to that.

Q. Won't you give this committee some information in regard to the Chinese Six Companies, as briefly as you can?—A. I will state there is no other country in the world where the Chinese emigrate to that there is any Six Companies or any such association. This is the only place, here in California. In the early days here, when we first arrived in this country, there was no Territorial government or anything else, in 1849. We had no mail facilities or anything of that kind, and there were 100,000 or so of immigrants that had come out here. We organized in the mines State societies. There were societies from every State represented here that were organized. As immigrants would come in, they would go to the headquarters of the State from which they came and register their names. Miners would come across the plain or around by sea and would register.

Q. We have, information before this committee that these organizations correspond to State societies; is that what you were coming at?—A. I want to state it right as to the functions of the Six Companies. When the Chinese began to come here in 1851 and 1852, they adopted the method of the Caucasians as they found them. They fell into the plans we had adopted. They appointed a merchant of their clan. They

are divided into six clans. Every Chinaman in the United States comes from one province in Canton; in that province there are six counties. These Six Companies represent these Six Counties. We had adopted a way of sending back the bodies and the Chinese fell in with the same idea. There is no other country that Chinese emigrate to that they send their bodies back. A Chinaman who arrived on a steamer in olden times, an inspector went on board and called out his district or county and he registered from that district; no fee is collected of them until a Chinaman departs. That ticket you saw him delivering to-day, he paid his society for; if he has been here 20 years he is protected and looked after all that time, and if he is sick and old he is sent back.

Q. I understand from a gentleman who has been endeavoring to get the president of the Six Companies to come here to-day, that he declined to come and that he asked you to come here to represent him.—A. He did; yes, sir.

Q. Now, why was that?—A. He did not like to come and asked me to represent him. The president of the Six Companies don't know anything about the Chinese question. They are very exclusive and are brought here for their merit and learning. They belong to that class in China. They belong to the district which the company they represent comes from. They have no knowledge of what is really going on outside. They are a class of men that is educated and they pay no regard whatever for anything except the discharge of the duties of their office.

Q. What is their office?—A. The head of each association; each association has a president, and then the Six Companies have a president who presides over them when they meet.

Q. What authority do they have?—A. None at all.

By Mr. LEHLBACH:

Q. Who elects them?—A. The members of the associations here in San Francisco and send over for them.

Q. And they take a man from the other side?—A. And bring them over here.

Q. How are they paid?—A. A salary; I don't know how much.

Q. This is all new with the committee; we want to get at it, and we think we have a right to summon each one of them.—A. That is all right, only they are a little reticent about it.

Q. How many Chinese are there here in the United States now?—A. There are not to exceed 75,000.

Q. How many in the State of California?—A. Fifteen thousand in this city and about 55,000 in the State.

Q. How do you arrive at that? It has been stated here that there are 35,000, I believe, in the city. What does your census give?—A. I don't know; it has not been given out. Before they closed the books here, I believe the marshal stated to the newspaper people that my estimate had about hit the mark. Afterwards in an interview with a newspaper man he said there would be 10,000 more; where he got it I don't know.

Q. You say 55,000 in California?—A. I hardly think there is that many in this State alone.

Q. And only 15,000 in the city?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is this the time of the year that they are mostly here?—A. Yes, sir; more here now than at any other time in the year; they are going home to China.

Q. How many in the United States you say?—A. Seventy-five thousand—about 75,000; that is what I would put it at.

Q. Are they increasing or decreasing?—A. Decreasing very rapidly.

Q. At the present rate of decrease, how long before they will get to be, say, a scarcity?—A. A scarcity?

Q. Yes, sir.—A. It will take 8 or 9 years the way they are going now, and have been going for several years.

Q. Are you favorable or unfavorable to the present law called the exclusion act?—A. The Chinese Government is favorable to the exclusion act itself; but they are very indignant at the Scott law, because it ignores as solemn treaty obligations as any nation ever made with another. There was no opposition made to the passage of the restriction act. No opposition was made to the restriction act of 1882 whatever.

Q. How about 1884?—A. There was no particular objection to that at all.

Q. The only one they objected to was in 1888?—A. Yes, sir. You know the committee must understand the Chinese Government are opposed to their people emigrating.

Q. What is the objection to the act of 1888?—A. Because it ignored solemn treaty obligations.

Q. In what respect?—A. You had given a solemn obligation that Chinamen should go to China under the old act and be provided with a certificate which would enable him to return, and that you should not enact any law which would redound to the disadvantage of the Chinamen.

The following communication from S. B. Pettengill was then presented by the chairman, and, on motion, was admitted in evidence:

THE CHINESE LABOR PROBLEM.

The Chinese question is of more importance to this country than its fitful agitation upon the Pacific coast has yet suggested. It involves the whole subject of labor—of cheap labor more particularly, and of the control of labor nominally free—and no one can consider its possible development without doubting whether our American civilization can be sustained upon the basis of such cheap labor as the Chinese are able to furnish.

There are several facts concerning the Chinese laborers who have come or might come to the United States which admit of little, if any, dispute.

First. They come from a country of practically unlimited resources of migration, which, if unrestricted, might crowd us so that there would be not only a Chinese quarter, as in San Francisco, but a Chinese half in all our towns and cities, and in many of them a Chinese whole.

They have already overrun several districts in the East, with the effect only upon China of increasing opportunities of multiplication for those who remain behind.

Second, the Chinese are distinctive and peculiar in their individual and national traits, and not disposed to assimilate with other people. They are so tenacious in this respect that, although China has been several times conquered and seized, they have usually impressed their own character upon the invaders. This fact, notorious 150 years ago, when Montesquieu wrote "The Spirit of Laws," was attributed by him to the substantial identity of their customs, laws, and religion, which together "formed the general spirit of the nation." Their legislators, he said, having in view as to their principal object, the peace and tranquillity of the empire, "confounded together their religion, laws, manners, and customs"—"all these were morality, all these were virtues"—so that to retrench but one of them would be to overrun the state. For their manners being their customs, and their customs their laws, and their laws their religion, and it being impossible to change all these at once, it becomes impossible to change at all. They have not been changed by conquest, but on the other hand, it has been the conqueror that has changed.

The Chinese lack the power of initiative which characterizes the Aryan races—an essential and requisite to self-government. As one of their leading statesmen has said, "they can not take the lead; they must live upon civilization of some kind or other—seek it out and attach themselves to it." Wherever they have overrun their national boundaries they have fastened themselves as parasites to the civilization which they found, and lived upon the lifeblood of the people who have harbored them. Such an attachment, it is needless to say, is peculiarly abhorrent to the American system.

No provision has been made in our Government for the presence of an alien population. Its framers who looked forward to the early abolition of the anomalous system of African slavery, contemplated the coming to these shores of those people only "who pant for the enjoyment of freedom" to become full-fledged citizens—a part of the Government as well as a part of the population.

Third. The Chinese, in consequence of their long hereditary training in poverty, in our sense of that word, are able to live under conditions which admit of no possibility of survival for the fit subjects of American citizenship. No class of laborers in this country can compete with them in wages without suffering a degree of degradation which is incompatible with the duties of citizenship, if not of morality and religion. It has been said indeed that laborers in this country must abide by the operation of that law of natural selection which acts so strongly on the life history of animals. This is a heartless degree, but fortunately it is not admissible.

The effect of natural selection, as Mr. Alfred A. Wallace has shown, depends mainly upon the self-dependence and isolation in which the brute creation lives; where there is no division of labor, no mutual assistance, and each individual must fulfill all the conditions of its existence. "Man," he describes, "as a being apart, since he is not influenced by the great laws which irresistibly modify all other organic beings." The law of survival, which inexorably destroys all who can not in every respect help themselves, is set aside in the case of man as the result of coöperation and the division of labor.

Professor Mitchell, in his lectures upon "The Past in the Present," also explains how this law is defeated among men by combinations of effort, the most simple illustration of which is the cripple on the strong back of his blind brother, and the two accomplishing a journey which to each separately would have been impossible.

"Civilization," he says, "in the result of such combinations, the outcome of the war which man in society wages against the laws of natural selection, and the measure of success is the fight in the measure of the civilization attained."

If the law of survival has any application to man, it is only in the state of nature, where men live like the brute creation, upon each other, not for each other. Among civilized people, the fittest to survive are not those who can survive upon the minimum wage. Civilization has its demands; its habits rapidly become its necessities, and in this country they have reached a point where it is not easy for wage-earners to satisfy them.

We can not have our labor performed as cheaply as it is possible for the Chinese to perform it, without minimizing the essential elements of our civilization.

Fourth. The Chinese, in accordance with the propensity already mentioned, have shown as yet no disposition, except possibly in a few isolated cases, to become a part of our self-governing population. They have come here as laborers for hire and the majority of them are employed under a contract system which admits of their being wielded en masses in the hands of capitalists or the large employers of labor and from which they have shown no aspirations to free themselves.

Apart from the fact that the Chinese have so completely engrossed certain rural and domestic occupations in California that they have become a necessity, the argument for their presence on the Pacific coast is, almost without exception, urged in the interest of capital. This was evident to the Canadian Commission which investigated the question a few years ago.

It is true that some persons who do not take their tone altogether from capital contend that the comparatively little number now in this country, causes no injury, that about this number are required to perform a certain part of the labor and that their performance of it enables other laborers to occupy higher stations with better wages. So far as this is true it is a demonstration that to this extent they have crowded other laborers out of the field.

In the testimony taken by the Committee of the Senate upon the relations between labor and capital, this fact is presented together with a hint of its effect upon labor in eastern communities. Manufacturing, as it was shown, had just begun upon the Pacific coast, and was well progressing when the large Chinese immigration set in. Labor had gone from the East to meet the demand, but when the Chinese came it was repelled back again, and caused a succession of disturbances throughout the country.

It is also urged in behalf of the Chinese that their labor is not cheap in any degrading sense, but on the contrary, they have received even higher wages than are paid in the eastern States for corresponding labor. This may be true, but it is only because of the adjustment that inevitably takes place in the rate of wages. The employment of labor is often a question of margins. The Chinese have only to underbid other laborers therefore, to win employment from capital, which may be satisfied if its competitive profits are very small.

Fifth. The Chinese in this country, with a few exceptions, live in the celibate state. The United States census of 1880 recorded a total Chinese population of 105,565, of which number only 4,789 were females. In Portland, Oregon, with a Chi-

nese population of about 4,000 that may be properly claimed as belonging there, many of whom go and come under contract to work on railroads or in canneries or hop fields, there were only 100 females in 1886, and of that number hardly 23 were respectable married women. Probably this proportion, one-fifth, fully represents the meager number of wives among the Chinese women in other places on the Pacific coast. In other words, not more than 1 per cent. of the male population can be living in the domestic relation.

The labor of this country must, to fulfill its complete function, consume as well as produce. It tends to the advancement of civilization to have any of its wants multiplied which are founded in nature, but not unnaturally developed, whether the supply goes under the name of necessities, the comforts, or the luxuries of life.

Since wealth consists of the means of supplying wants, the more numerous the wants of any community are, the larger is its possible amount.

The American or European laborer is the head, or, at least, the member of a family, so that for every producer or wage earner among them there is an average of perhaps five consumers.

If the solitary were not "set in families" by divine appointment, it is certainly by dictates of political economy. The excess of consumers prevents overproduction, which would result in diminished wages or lack of employment, and finally in famine and death. The Chinese do not merely supplant an equal number of American laborers, they supplant a population of five times their number that would add by consumption as well as production to the national wealth, and thus by the normal discharge of the labor function lead to peace and tranquillity.

In the present state and tendencies of our industrial development, these facts have great significance. From the beginning it was deemed essential to the success of our great social and political experiment that civilization in the United States should attain unwonted completeness; that the means of intellectual, moral, and religious culture, social stimulation and general prosperity, should not be shut up in cities, but distributed within easy reach of every inhabitant, so that the man who had never traveled beyond the limits of his native township or county might have an opportunity to become a truly cultivated and civilized being, with freedom to turn to any occupation that might suit his taste. This aspiration was in a fair degree realized within the first decades of our national existence, when the boy "whose life, in low estate began" to break, no "blows of circumstance" to breast such as now embarrass many who are born in lowly conditions. The world "was all before them, where to choose their place." A man who was born in a New England town where this benign distinction of our civilization was realized, recently said that conditions have so changed that if he were now a boy, thrown upon his own resources, with his way again to make in the world, he would hardly know what turn to take. A moment's reflection upon what is implied in this remark will suggest the extent of the changes that have been wrought in the structure of American life within half a century. Scarcely any change susceptible of statistical measurement signifies more than the relative increase of our urban population.

In 1790, a trifle less than one-thirtieth of our total population dwelt in the six cities of the Union. In 1880 nearly one-fourth was in the cities. Within 50 years the inhabitants in cities in each one hundred of the total population had increased from 6.7 to 22.5. The census of this year shows that the proportion has still further increased. One of the plainest conclusions from the Eleventh Census is that the cities of the United States are constantly growing at the expense of the country. This is shown in the total population of all the cities having more than 50,000 population. There are 58 such cities, and their total population is 11,740,118. In 1880 these same cities had 7,989,025 population. The percentage of gain is nearly 47, ranging from 357 per cent. for Omaha down to 4 per cent. for Albany. The percentage of gain for the whole country is about 24. So these 58 cities have grown twice as fast as the whole country.

Our system of railroad transportation, one of the principal factors in the development of the country, has done much more perhaps than any other single agency to destroy the equal opportunities which once existed in a multitude of self-supporting communities by sacrificing many of them to the absorbing greed of competing points.

The ability of capitalists through their control of the transportation system to render the domicile of masses of the people insecure, to corner the necessities of life, to sustain prices by limiting production, makes employment unequal and uncertain in the centers of industry, and subjects them to constant danger of disturbance.

As an incident of these changes, people of all classes are becoming familiar with characterizations of labor which in themselves are demoralizing. In all sections of the country, manual labor has begun to gather about it a modern crust of supposed baseness. Drudgery is no longer conceived as "divine" whatever the spirit in which it may be done. For the performance of certain tasks, a strictly menial grade of labor is now demanded. Agriculture even, which it was the policy of antiquity to elevate among the professions, is not exempt from invidious regard. The story of

Cincinnatus passing from his plow to victory, and from victory back to the plow, *triumphalis agricola*, has lost much of its interest.

The spirit is now being slightly or exceptionally enlisted in labor. How to make it humanely profitable, to gather into it feelings of gallantry and nobleness, has become of necessity a small part of the problem.

Another consideration that deserves a passing notice is that, by improvements in the implements and processes of agriculture and manufacturing and the general consolidation of business, a smaller number of laborers are required every year for the work of the fields and of the shops. It is only by advancing our civilization by multiplying the wants that are founded in nature, to be supplied by labor, that employment can be furnished to the increasing numbers of our own people. The spread at any point of a stationary civilization would have as one of its most immediate, if not disastrous, results the denial of opportunity to labor.

The development of the corporate power of capital has already reached a dangerous point. It has control of the national highways, its occupation of vast domain, its power to tax, its cynical contempt for law, all combine to give it some of the characteristics of ancient feudalism which held in check for generations the aspiring spirit of humanity. It lays "its iron meshes over the people, and they flutter beneath like birds under the net of the fowler."

It is plain to see that the introduction of Chinese labor on any considerable scale throughout the country must serve to increase the advantages which the capital and corporate interests already possess. With power to draw from the unlimited resources of China a class of labor that can underbid our citizen labor, that seeks no domicile in the country but is mobile as an army, without other than material aspirations and easy to wield, would not the ruthlessness of capital be whetted to beat down, crush, and extort as in the feudal age? Would not the general status of labor be lowered and its hopes diminished? Would not the growth of these communistic theories be stimulated which Riehl regarded as "the despair of the individual in his own manhood, reduced to a system." In the light of experience upon the Pacific coast these questions admit of but one answer. If capital were to gain such an auxiliary as China might furnish, there is no doubt that we should suffer all the ills which Goldsmith pictured in a land "where wealth accumulates and men decay."

In every community or stage of civilization there are plenty of people whose measure of physical, intellectual, and moral strength falls below the average standard to perform the lower grades of labor, and if they have opportunities of suitable employment they get through life pretty fairly without losing their virtue or self-respect. But if, by the surroundings of their existence, they are made to feel that the employment which is suited to them is of a degrading rank they either refuse to accept it or fall into its degradation to become the standing *crux* and problem of the benevolent or the subjects of state help or legal restraint. To deny to this inevitable class, the poor that we have always with us, their chance in life, by subjecting them to competition with Chinese cheap labor is as much opposed to public economy as it is to the dictates of humanity and religion.

The undeniable fact that the sentiment of the masses is against the Chinese wherever their presence is felt, is some indication that they are hostile to popular interests. It is characteristic of those who reflect the view of capital to ridicule and despise the popular feeling in reference to questions of public economy, but no one who has reflected much upon the real substance of good and bad in social existence can have failed to see that the unthinking movements of the populace are more likely to be correct than the understanding of the wise.

While the anti Chinese agitations on the Pacific coast have been attended here and there by acts of lawlessness and violence, they have represented in the main an earnest and sincere effort of the populace for self-preservation. Without any disposition to palliate these acts of enormity and violence, it may be said that the opponents of the Chinese, even in their rashest moods, have been moderate in their contention with a competitor which threatens not additions to their accumulated stores, but their right to live in the free and hopeful pursuit of happiness, when compared with the determined lawlessness with which corporations and capitalists have often struck down and destroyed their rivals.

It is not necessary, as Roscoe Conkling once said, "to point to the men or the class of men whose acts in this regard still fester in the infamy of years."

S. B. PETTENGILL.

At 4.30 o'clock p. m. the committee adjourned.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., *December 8, 1890.*

At 11 o'clock a. m. the subcommittee met in the appraisers' building, Representative Lehlbach in the chair. Present: Representatives Lehlbach and Stump.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES A. GARTER—Recalled.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. I believe there was a statement you desired to make to the committee, Mr. Garter?—A. I simply wanted to state that the restriction act passed in May, 1882, suspended Chinese immigration generally for 10 years after the passage of that act. The Scott act, which was passed in October, 1888, was entitled an act supplemental to the former act, and contains a repealing clause which repealed all the provisions of the original restriction act inconsistent with the provisions of the Scott act. This last act, called the Scott exclusion act, applies exclusively to Chinamen who had previously been residents of the State, or might thereafter be residents of the State, so that after the expiration of 10 years from the passage of the first restriction act there will be a permanent exclusion of Chinamen who have been residents of the State; but other Chinamen will be free to emigrate into the United States, unless there be further legislation.

STATEMENT OF FREDERICK A. BEE—Recalled.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Are you prepared to answer the question as to how many Chinese have arrived in this country since the restriction act?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please give the committee that information as briefly as possible.—A. Here are the arrivals and departures from the time the exclusion act went into effect, August 2, 1882, up to December 31, 1887: Total departures, 61,552; total arrivals, 34,028; excess of departures, 27,524. I wish to state to the committee that 23,000 of these people held certificates from the custom-house when the Scott act passed and had not returned to this country.

Q. Twenty-three thousand?—A. Yes, sir; a little over 23,000. This will show the committee whether the restriction act really does restrict. Since the Scott act of October 1, 1888, up to January 1, 1890, the number of Chinese that arrived was 1,449; departed, 9,617. Excess of departures over arrivals, 8,168. From January 1, 1890, up to November 29, 1890, that is, up to this month, total departures up to the 29th of November, 7,056; arrivals, 2,463, in the same time; leaving excess of departures over arrivals, 4,593; total excess of departures over arrivals since the exclusion act of 1888, 12,761; that is, since the Scott act went into effect. There is one other matter I would like to call the committee's attention to, and that is the matter of the transients at this port. I do this because there is a document filed in the Treasury Department at Washington, in which the late Collector Hagar stated, in a letter addressed to Senator Stewart, that the number of arrivals here since the passage of the restriction act was 45,665, and departures 13,414.

Q. Since when?—A. Since August 18, 1882. There were counted in that in 1883, 2,806 that arrived here in transit and did not land at all, and the same way in 1884, 1885, 1886, and 1887, making 15,065 in all.

Of that number there departed from this port to Victoria nearly 7,000 Chinese. The larger number went under contract to work on the Canadian Pacific Railroad. During the same time over 6,000 left this port to work on the Hawaiian sugar plantations and the balance went to Panama, Cuba, Peru, and other ports. The number of transits between Cuba and China was a little over 2,000, that was one way, and about 1,200 the other way.

Q. What does he give the number of departures at; I am referring to the late collector?—A. Thirteen thousand four hundred and fourteen.

Q. You have given the number of departures at 61,000?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How does that discrepancy occur?—A. I never took occasion to go to the bottom of his facts. Life was too short during the time of his office.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. How long was the time of his office that life was so short?—

A. Four years.

Q. Is 4 years a life, or why was his life shorter than any other man's life?—A. He made this statement very nearly the end of his office. I contradicted it at once and sent on the statements.

Q. Then, you contradicted it without any data? You said you didn't examine it?—A. Oh, I didn't understand the question probably. I want to be understood that the figures of the late Collector Hagar and mine were so far apart that it was an utter impossibility to make them balance; that is the only aspersion I desire to cast upon him.

Q. Why should your figures be more accurate than his?—A. I board every ship that comes in and take down the number of passengers that arrive.

Q. Doesn't he do that through his officers?—A. They are supposed to do it.

Q. Do you say they didn't do it?—A. I say they do it; yes, sir.

Q. Then, why should not his figures be as accurate as yours?—A. Because they included in the statement all those that arrived in transit and did not land.

Q. You have the accurate figures of these; suppose you deduct that from the others and then tell us why your figures and his did not agree?—A. I never cast any balance between his figures and mine because he never paid the slightest attention to the arrival and departure of Chinese when the act first went into effect. The arrivals he gave pretty accurately for the first 2 years. After that there was a large number of transients arriving, and he included, I suppose, these transients, I have read over here.

Q. The statements you have given of arrivals and departures only date from the Scott act of 1884?—A. They date from the restriction act of 1882.

Q. You have covered the same period of time, have you?—A. Yes, sir.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. I could very well see how the discrepancy might arise in the arrivals, but what I can not well understand is the number of departures. You have given the number at 61,552, and in that same period I understand he gives it at about 12,000?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. I can't see how that is. There should not be such a discrepancy.—A. Such is the fact. I think I have a copy of the letter as published in Washington. I board each ship that comes in with my secretary and board every ship that goes out. The purser furnishes me a list of the

arrivals and also those in transit. We have a book like this. I copied this for your information. The steamer *Gallie* arrived August 22 with 346 passengers, 5 for Panama, 12 for Havana, and 31 for Victoria. Three hundred and forty-six of these landed here out of 414. The *Gallie* arrived then September 17 with 157, and here is where they went to different points. September 30 the *China* arrived with 109 passengers, 315 for Honolulu, 19 for Panama, and 4 for Havana, making 447.

By Mr. STUMP :

Q. Will you tell me whether your figures and the present collector's agree?—A. Yes, sir; there is no discrepancy to speak of, except he don't keep any record of the departures of transients. I don't think they are registered; I keep a record of all transients arriving and departing. The collector has a system of transients which you may want to know something about.

By the CHAIRMAN :

Q. You say there were 61,552 departures within a certain period. Do you call those departures that come over here destined to another part of this country, or come in transit to British Columbia?—A. We keep a record of those.

Q. Are they included in this number?—A. No, sir; not in those going direct to China.

Q. This 61,552 are persons who departed from this port to China direct?—A. Yes, sir; from May 6, 1882, the passage of the restriction act, instead of August, 1882.

By Mr. STUMP :

Q. Will you look at your list of arrivals for 1890 and give me the sum total according to your statement?—A. Up to November?

Q. Up to December.—A. I have not got it to December; there were 7,056 departed.

Q. Now, according to the present collector the departures were 6,186. How do you arrive at the discrepancy? Do you say your figures are correct, or are ours correct?—A. I say they are substantially correct, except he keeps no record of the transients that depart.

By the CHAIRMAN :

Q. Don't this discrepancy arise from the fact that you put in the people that leave this port and come here from British Columbia?—A. We put in all the transients that go to China from any port whatever; some 2,000, as I stated before, from Havana alone.

Q. Wouldn't your figures in a way be misleading? Suppose since August, 1882, you say there were 61,552 departed from this place?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. That would lead people to suppose, without an explanation, that those were Chiuamen in the United States; but a great many of those could have come from British Columbia in transit, couldn't they?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many?—A. I don't know how many exactly from Victoria, I could not say as to that, it would require going over all the waybills or passenger lists; but the transients are under the control of the consulate in connection with the custom-house?

By Mr. STUMP :

Q. You say that the departures, according to your count, is how many?—A. Seven thousand and fifty-six.

Q. Look at the statement furnished by the collector to this commit-

tee and say how many actually departed according to his count?—A. Six thousand one hundred and eighty-six.

Q. Now explain that discrepancy?—A. I can not, sir, except it may be the transients.

Q. It may be the transients?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you say that he has not kept the number of transients?—A. I don't think they are registered at the custom-house in the books; they register every Chinaman that leaves but not the transients.

Q. Give me the account of arrivals during the same period?—A. For this year?

Q. Yes, sir, for the year 1890?—A. Up to November 26, 1890, 2,463.

Q. This is 2,561?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Which is correct?—A. I don't know, sir. I keep my record as near correct as possible; I have compared all these.

Q. What is the count of arrivals for the year 1889?—A. I haven't got them separate. I took the arrivals from October 1, 1888, and then commenced with January, 1889, and ran down to December 17, the last ship leaving in December, which would bring it to January 1, 1890.

Q. How many?—A. Excess of departures over arrivals?

Q. I am asking you how many arrivals there were?—A. One thousand four hundred and forty-nine.

Q. The collector here gives us the number of arrivals at 971. What is the reason of that discrepancy?—A. I can't say except it may be some ship he has not got in.

Q. You don't think the collector here keeps a correct account?—A. I didn't say so.

Q. That is what you are saying?—A. I am giving this by my record.

Q. Will you be kind enough to tell me what the departures were for 1889?—A. I have made up my data from October 1888, 1889, and 1890.

Q. You have brought data here for this committee. Can you approximate how many arrived here in 1890 and 1889, looking at your own account?—A. No, sir; I could not without figuring up the different columns.

Q. Then from the data you have furnished this committee you are not able to state how many arrived in 1889?—A. I can by adding up the different columns and going through my books to figure them up.

Q. I find they have given the account of transients from the custom-house. Let us now examine your transients. How many went to Havana by railway since October 1, 1888?—A. If you will permit me to explain—

Q. You say we haven't kept a correct statement; now I want to show you we have an accurate account of transients.—A. When a transient departs overland I have nothing further to do with it; but when the Chinese depart in transit at the wharf the custom-house does not register them on the books as we do.

Q. I have got it from the custom-house books here and I will give you the information if you are unable to give it to me. From Havana there were transients by railroad from October 1, 1888, 325 Chinamen.—A. Yes, sir; that data they got from my office; that is Chinese coming overland from Havana.

Q. Yes, sir.—A. They come under a bond; I have the *modus operandi* here of the filing of the bond. The consulate has control of these persons, presents the tickets to them at the docks, and they depart on the steamer and they are not registered on the custom-house books.

Q. Can you give me the amount of Chinese landed in San Francisco since October 1, 1888?—A. No, sir; I can not.

Q. I can give it to you. So you see the data furnished us by the custom-house shows that they do examine into that.—A. Exactly.

Q. Can you give me the number of Chinese landed in transit at San Francisco that arrived by vessel for the same period?—A. I can by going over my books at the consulate.

Q. That you haven't furnished us?—A. No, sir; I didn't know you wanted that.

Q. Yet you state the custom-house did not take any account of the transients at all?—A. I say they didn't register them in the custom-house books at the docks.

Q. Do they keep their custom-house books at the docks, or in the proper office?—A. When the ship leaves they register every Chinaman departing.

Q. Don't they take the papers that are given them in transit and enter them in books at their office?—A. Very likely.

Q. Then the difference you want this committee to understand is they don't do the figuring at the docks, but do it at their office up town?—A. I believe the custom-house is keeping their records as correctly as it is possible to keep them; but I keep my records.

Q. Tell us whether you have any information to give the committee about petitioners in habeas corpus cases who have given bond to abide the decision of the court, and in the cases where they are remanded. We find large numbers have been remanded. Could you tell us where to find these Chinamen when the order for remand comes; what becomes of the man?—A. The matter of habeas corpus cases, although it is generally understood by the statements of the press that I have a great deal to do with it, I assure you and the committee I have nothing whatever to do with it, and never have had.

Q. Aren't you aware that when the time comes for the Chinaman to appear to be remanded to the country whence he came, that he is not to be found and is not forthcoming, and that the bonds that are given are utterly worthless?—A. I have no doubt in the world there are a great many cases of that kind, and I have myself called the attention of the district court, particularly, in reference to the matter; I think it was 2 years ago. Chinamen came here and claimed their names were being put in bonds by parties who were not connected in the slightest manner with their store. I made the statement to the commissioners and clerks and also to Judge Hoffman. At that time he requested me to examine the bonds of all these habeas corpus cases and I told him I would do so.

Q. Could you give any information aiding and assisting the administration of justice in regard to the return of these parties to the proper authorities to be remanded; what suggestions would you make in that regard, if any?—A. I would like to answer your first question fully. I examined these bonds fully for some weeks. I regard about 90 per cent. of them as being worthless, and they were filed in every case and they would bring the Chinaman into court again and have a new bond filed. Soon after I was given to understand they had adopted a plan of their own and would not require my services any longer.

Q. Don't you know that the petitioner in the case is secreted and taken away, particularly in the cases where the bonds are worthless?—A. I have no knowledge of that. I have nothing to do with the habeas corpus business, or giving bonds in any manner whatever, but I have my own idea how the thing has been done.

Q. Who is generally the counsel for the petitioners in these cases;

there is one firm, I think, by the name of Reardon, isn't there?—A. Yes, sir; he is our attorney.

Q. Who is generally the counsel for the Chinamen who get out these habeas corpus cases? They send for Mr. Reardon more than anybody else, don't they?—A. I don't know as to that; I presume he has a large number.

Q. And he is also your counsel?—A. Yes, sir; we have a contract with him and pay him a salary, so much a year, and under our contract he is allowed to take any outside business he desires. We don't interfere with that at all—business that does not interfere with us.

Q. It is a fact—a coincidence, nevertheless—that your counsel is also counsel for these petitioners?—A. In a great many cases; yes, sir. There are as many as a half dozen attorneys who do that business.

Q. That is really avoiding the decrees of this court, isn't it?—A. I would say so. How far the attorneys are to blame in the matter is a matter of which I have no opinion. There have been a great many cases. The cost of each case to the United States is about \$22.50. How much they pay the attorneys I have no means of knowing, but the cost where they are on bond is, I think, \$22.50 or \$20.50.

Q. It is your duty as consul here to protect the Chinamen as far as possible?—A. Yes, sir; I have nothing to do with landing them or taking out writs of habeas corpus, however; never have had, except when an international question arises. I have taken several cases to the Supreme Court of the United States under the treaty.

Q. When you, as their consul and friend, go aboard the ship and you find a Chinaman who probably has not correct papers, and who desires counsel, do you ever recommend?—A. We very seldom do that, except where we are satisfied the man ought to land, and the collector has refused to let him; then we write our counsel a letter—probably six in a month.

Q. And who do you generally recommend?—A. Our own attorney, and we pay him a salary. On the other hand we have reported to the collector against hundreds who had no right to land. The consulate returned to China 165 females, in less than 2 years, who had no right to land here.

Q. Do you mean you are instrumental in doing that?—A. Yes, sir; we investigated their cases and reported to the collector that they were being brought here for illegal purposes under the Page act of 1875, and we also notified their friends that if they attempted to get out a writ it would be at their peril.

Q. We desire the presence of one of the presidents of the Six Companies. How shall we secure it?—A. Send an invitation and he will come.

Q. Where shall we send the invitation to?—A. Seven hundred and twenty-two Commercial street; no, I think it is 728. Now I do not wish to question the statements of the collector's office at all, but it seems to me the steamship company has a record of the tickets sold and the men going to China. Now you may want to know something of the transit of Chinese, I would like to explain it here.

Q. We have that account?—A. The question has been up in Congress several times that they arrive here and disappear and never are heard of again. Now, under the present system, which Mr. Phelps is carrying out in reference to bonds, he has no trouble to find out who are good bondsmen and who are bad. The Chinese bondsmen are well-known and when a name is put down it is very easy to find out whether the party signing the bond is a member of a certain firm or not. He has

been very thorough in reference to his official acts in reference to the Chinese and he has adopted every plan possible. I refer now to Collector Phelps. I don't believe there was a bond forfeited up to—well there was a charge to the grand jury by Judge Hoffman in which he stated that up to the time of making that charge two or three or four bonds had been forfeited and paid, but no more.

By Mr. LEHLBACH:

Q. I would like to ask which of these tables is likely to be the more correct. How do you obtain these figures, merely by asking?—A. When I board a ship as the ship comes in I go to the purser's office, and he gives me a list of the arrivals at San Francisco, and the number that arrive in transit; that I enter in the books. When the ship departs I go to the steamship office and request a list of the number of tickets sold.

Q. When a ship departs doesn't the collector, through his agents, take down the name of each Chinaman?—A. In a book, yes, sir.

Q. And the place where he comes from and his occupation?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Don't you think it would be impossible on the part of the custom-house officials, where they enter in a book the name, the age, the residence, and the occupation of every person that departs, to make a mistake as to the number?—A. I don't see how they could.

Q. And wouldn't their tables in fact be more reliable than where you simply ask the number of tickets sold and do not actually know whether the men have departed or not?—A. The only way I can account for that is the tickets sold to transients. In that book at the wharf they don't take the name of the transient, his business and so forth; but they keep a list in the custom-house of those in transit, and he probably has a correct list of that.

Q. I can very well see how a discrepancy might arise in relation to the transients that come here; but I can not very well see how the custom-house officials should make a mistake in regard to the departures, where they have taken the utmost precautions; I do not know how it may have been formerly, but if the system was carried on as we have witnessed it I don't see how they can possibly make an error in the number that goes.—A. It exists, no doubt; I got mine from the steamship agents; that is all I can say; I have no other way of getting it.

Q. You merely ask the number of tickets sold. I should think if there is a discrepancy between the two methods of finding out the number of departures, the number given by the Collector is certain to be the more reliable?—A. Very likely; I have to depend upon the steamship company. When they report to me that they sold so many tickets I enter it on my books; it may be and I presume it is a fact that Chinese buy tickets numerously to go on a ship and do not go until the next ship I have no doubt that is the case, but I have the books of the company to show in verification of my own.

Q. You have stated the number of departures since May 6, 1882 as 61,552. How many of these 61,552 will you state were Chinamen who resided in the United States so that we could get at the actual number who departed who were residents of the United States.—A. I could not state that.

Q. Could you approximate it?—A. I don't think I could, the exact number that resided in the United States.

Q. Isn't it a fact that a great many of these 61,000 that departed from here were men departing in transit, those that come from British

Columbia and different ports?—A. Very likely, sir; I got my departures and for over twelve years have gotten them from the steamship companies.

Q. They depart for China from this port from all over the country?—

A. I don't think the custom-house had instructions to take down those departing without certificates from the passage of the act of May 2, 1882. I don't think they had instructions to take the names of every one until November of that year. During that time I think there were a great many departed which they had no record of. I know that the surveyor estimated in his report to the Secretary of the Treasury that there were 1,500 that they had never taken the names of. My books showed 3,800, I believe, that had gone, but they didn't, until they had received instructions, take the name of any Chinaman that had departed; that is, those without certificates. Every man that had a certificate was recorded; but those that didn't have a certificate were not recorded in books from May until November, I think.

Q. You have watched the methods of the custom-house officials here since 1882? What is your observation as to the attempt to enforce the law at the present time?—A. Up to the present time?

Q. No, sir; at the present time?—A. I think of all the collectors we have ever had since the act was passed, the most thorough and most energetic and most successful in enforcing the law is Mr. Phelps. I think he is succeeding beyond all the rest put together.

Q. Do you think the officials at the present time are using all the precautions they can to prevent fraud?—A. I think every precaution possible is being taken. I think there is nothing left undone by Collector Phelps that will aid in carrying out this law, and he will tell you on the stand that he gets the aid of the Chinese consulate in every case where he has any doubt. In every instance where we have any information of anybody attempting to land by fraud he gets aid from us. I am representing a Government which is opposed to every man leaving; but they have a right to leave Hong-Kong, and nobody has any power over them.

Q. Will you explain to the committee the duties of the presidents of the Six Companies?—A. Yes, sir; I will explain fully.

Q. And give us the history of them?—A. The Six Companies?

Q. Of the six companies?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And of their authority, etc?—A. The Six Companies were organized at an early day here. The first organization was about 1852, I think; that is, there was no incorporation at that time. When the Americans arrived here we found everything in a chaotic state; for instance, there was no law, no mail service, no officers, nothing; we organized at that time headquarters from the different States. The southern men and northern men came together then for the first time. I was in Hang Town diggings in '49 and '50, and we organized the New York association. Adjoining us were the North and South Carolina associations.

Q. Tell us about the Chinamen?—A. These men who act in the capacity of the representatives of the Chinese Six Companies were transferred to this city and were merchants. There are six counties in Canton, and the Six Companies represent the sections, represent the clans of these counties. They are divided into clans, the families in one district will be composed of one name, say Sing for instance; the president of that district has his headquarters here and any member of that district who comes here is registered in a book when he first comes. If he gets into a difficulty or trouble, and needs aid or gets sick and

wants attention, he reports it to his company and they extend him aid, which is purely a benevolent association. When he goes away he pays a small fee. The smallest fee collected now is \$2.50 up to \$7.50. Some associations have not as many members as the others and the head money, as the newspapers call it, is collected on the dock. They go to the company's office and are registered as departing for China, for instance, on the *Gallie* last Saturday.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. Is that an annual payment?—A. No, sir; that is the only payment they ever make; if they have been here 20 years, and the company have spent hundreds of dollars on them, the only payment is this payment of this head money as it is called. He only pays that once and never pays a cent until he goes away. They send back all their poor, decrepit, and aged. This last steamer that went last Saturday, I think they sent on her at least 80; then they act as arbitrators; in case two Chinese merchants get into a difficulty and can not settle, the two associations representing these firms go before the Six Companies' presidents and bring their books and accounts and settle their accounts. If they do not agree in the settlement, then they have recourse to the courts. There is nothing binding on them. The gentleman who testified here the other day that the Six Companies had imprisoned a man for 6 months testified to that which was not so. He can not point out the man nor the case. The city police has a man in the city jail now to settle up this matter of the fisherman.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Is that the object of the Six Companies?—A. Yes, sir; they are purely benevolent associations, they never brought a man to this country or contract with a laborer; there is not a man in the State who can say he ever hired a laborer from any one of the Six Companies.

Q. They were organized in 1852?—A. From that time on to this.

Q. When did the Chinamen first come to this country?—A. They came in large numbers in the latter part of 1851.

Q. In 1851?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. There were Chinamen here before that?—A. There were very few; I think the first ship left China in the winter of 1849-'50 or '51, somewhere along there.

Q. Were not very many here in the sixties, the latter part of the sixties?—A. A great many.

Q. Why wasn't it more necessary to organize themselves then into companies at that time?—A. They were all organized in the sixties. They were organized in 1852 and 1853, 8 years before that.

Q. But not here in this city?—A. Their headquarters were transferred to this city about 1853 or 1854 and then they incorporated.

Q. I understand that they were in existence before that but they were not incorporated until 1852?—A. Until 1852, 1853 or 1854; I forget the year they were incorporated.

Q. Are they incorporated under the laws of this State?—A. Yes, sir, at that time; but now the laws provide that a majority of the directors must be citizens.

Q. How are the presidents of the Six Companies selected?—A. They are selected for their executive ability and learning by their own company. They send to China and the names of several are presented to this association. He may be selected from this city as some have been. He is president for the ensuing year or two years, as the case may be.

Q. Suppose you have six companies here, how many people will belong to it, several thousand?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Five thousand?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do they have a voice in the selection of the president?—A. The directors select the president.

Q. How many directors are there in each company?—A. I don't know as to that. There are what are called consulting directors, merchants who represent the district here generally, the ones who advise the new men.

Q. How are these companies formed? Are the presidents and the directors the choice of the majority of the members of the company, or is it a close corporation?—A. I don't think they have much to say about it.

Q. Who does it in the first place?—A. The merchants who come from that district. The laboring men of course, as they work in the country, send their surplus money to their uncle here; that is, of the same family. These merchants will get together and select a new president.

Q. And are the directors generally the merchants?—A. I don't know as they act as directors at all. The Six Companies get together as a whole. Six, and then there is one who is chairman of the six. They are the board of directors in fact.

Q. I will be perfectly frank with you. I merely wish to get at the truth, as there is some mystery about it to me. I am not a lawyer, but I will ask you a plain and direct question. We have had information before this committee that large bodies of men are under the control of merchants. That is, if a man wants 500 or 600 men to work for him, a contractor on a railroad for instance, he applies to a merchant who furnishes him the men?—A. Yes, sir; that is true.

Q. That is not only the case here but in Oregon and Washington?—A. Yes, sir; that is true.

Q. My supposition has been, as far as the testimony we have taken goes, that these very merchants that furnish the men are the controlling influence in the Six Companies?—A. Oh, no, sir.

Q. They are the directors?—A. No, sir; they have nothing to do with the Six Companies.

Q. But the merchants select the president?—A. They have no more to do with the Six Companies than an American merchant or California merchant right here on Market street to-day, who is a Mason. The president of the Masonic Association here or of the Odd Fellows has no control over that merchant; neither has the Chinese Six Companies over their merchants in any respect whatever. The contractor who wants laborers goes to one of these mercantile houses and if he will sign a contract becoming responsible to furnish the labor, he furnishes the goods and grub and feed for them, and every one of them are paid their own money and out of that he takes what is due him.

Q. The evidence we have obtained from the Chinamen themselves is not exactly in accord with that. They do not obtain their own money. The contractor obtains the money and makes out an account and keeps out the amount of food that he has furnished to each laborer and gives the balance to the man. He says he gives them the same amount that he has contracted for, whatever that may be.—A. That is true.

Q. Practically it will be giving them the amount of money I admit.—A. Yes, sir; if they don't do it there is a row.

Q. These Six Companies act as arbitrators, don't they?—A. At times they do.

Q. In the collection of debts?—A. When a firm gets into a difficulty

or a Chinaman claims a certain firm owes him a certain amount of money and the firm denies it he brings them to the notice of the president of his district and they inquire into it simply.

Q. What remedy has the Chinese laborer?—Suppose he was contracted out at a dollar and a half or two dollars a day, and the merchant that contracted him out to the company, instead of giving him the amount of wages, retained more than they should have.—A. He will bring them to the attention of his company.

Q. The Six Companies?—A. His own company; and they will bring it to the attention of the Six Companies, and the contractor will have to pay over to his man what is due him. The contracts are always made in writing and most all of them submitted to me, and the bank in which the men are to be paid their wages is generally waited on to see if the contractor is good for the amount. They don't trust their own people as to that. They see that the contract is made in such a way that they must provide for the payment and through a very solvent house. I understand what you are coming at, as if they are acting in the capacity of courts and trying their own people. The Highbinder's Society, which we have done everything under God's heavens to try to abolish, probably try their own members, etc., but we have no control over them. That belongs to the local authorities; but the proposition that the Chinese Six Companies ever try a man is simply absurd.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. What do you mean by "they don't try a man?"—A. As far as acting as courts and dispensing criminal law.

Q. They certainly act as courts of arbitration in money matters?—A. Yes, sir, certainly; just as we do in our own matters.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. When they act as a court do they do so with closed doors?—A. No, sir. Witnesses are brought in; when they are trying to settle a matter between themselves they try to get at the bottom of the facts as much as they can. They have had a half dozen meetings with reference to these fishermen, who have been defrauded recently, and have been at our consulate to assist them. We have men who run to China as well as you have people that go to Canada. We do not pretend to be the only honest people on earth. Canada is full of Sunday school superintendents and many of the people that run away have cues, but they are just as honest as our own people in their dealings. There is a book containing the names of 50 merchants who say they have trusted millions and millions of Chinese and have never lost a dollar.

Q. Do the presidents of the Six Companies, when they try a case of arbitration between two merchants, or between a laborer and a merchant, ever use intimidation and go as far as to use violence to carry out their decree?—A. No, sir; the powers of the Six Companies are overrated very much. I could take a mob of Chinese to-day and demolish all their houses if they gave me cause to do it. They have no power over the Chinese at all, as far as the intimidation goes.

Q. Do all Chinamen residing in California belong to either the one or the other of these Six Companies? A. I think there are very few exceptions. A Chinaman must go to this company when he goes away and register and pay his dues.

Q. When a Chinaman departs from this country he pays to his company a sum varying from \$2 to \$7?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How is this money collected?—A. When he comes to register he goes to the headquarters of his company before buying his ticket,

and tells his president that he is going to China and wants to be registered. Then and there he pays his \$2.50 or his \$7, as the case may be, and his name is put on the register.

Q. Suppose a Chinaman who was a member of one of these Six Companies intended to leave this country for China and refused to pay his \$2 or \$7?—A. There is no way of collecting it.

Q. Is he allowed to depart?—A. Yes, sir; he certainly is.

Q. If he is allowed to depart and it is a voluntary thing on his part, how does it happen that at the gang plank where the Chinamen go to the vessel the companies have an agent stationed there and every man has to show a ticket, which I should consider was a sort of a receipt?—

A. He does show a ticket that he has paid his dues; but if the Chinaman comes down there and has not paid there is nothing in the world they can do to prevent him from going on board. I have put scores of them on board myself. If they object to his going on board and I am there I put him on board myself.

Q. I know if you are there; but isn't it a fact that if a man goes on that gang plank, and should not have his ticket with him, would he not be refused admittance?—A. They will stop him and try to collect his dues, which is perfectly just, from the fact that they have probably spent hundreds of dollars on him and it is perfectly right for them to try to collect the little due from him.

Q. I am merely trying to find out whether they ever try to stop a man or whether they exercise authority to stop a man who has not paid his dues.—A. They try to collect it, but it entirely rests with him whether he pays it or not. There is no way of enforcing it. It is simply a debt he owes his association, and then there is another party who stands there who represents a class that don't pay anything.

Q. How are the officials and directors of the Six Companies compensated for their work?—A. They are paid a salary.

Q. How much salary do they receive?—A. I do not know, nor never have known.

Q. Have you ever attempted to ascertain?—A. No, sir; I never have asked them that all. If they are brought before you they will make the statement.

Q. Do you know the name of the present presiding officers of the Six Companies?—A. I have them in my drawer at my office but I would not attempt to repeat them. They are new men every 2 or 3 years.

Q. Are these men generally selected from persons who have resided in the United States?—A. Yes, sir; and men of ability. They select the brainiest men they can get hold of.

Q. We have had a witness on the stand here, a representative of one of the newspapers, who has stated that the Six Companies resort to intimidation; that they will imprison men; and he stated a case here of where a man was imprisoned and when the police broke open the doors—that the hearing was being held with closed doors, and that admittance to our police force was refused—when they broke open the door the Chinaman ran to them for protection; that he was in fear of his life.—A. Very likely.

Q. And that they compelled him to pay money, which he said was not due, and the court, composed of the presidents of the Six Companies, was used as a matter of blackmail in extorting money from the person whom they had there at the trial?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you believe that has ever been done?—A. No, sir; I don't. I believe he probably owed an honest debt to some one and they were trying to collect it from him. Of course he would call it blackmail.

Q. Do you believe they went to that extent?—A. No, sir; I don't believe anything of the kind. The papers stated he was confined as much as 6 days.

Q. Do you believe he was confined as much as 6 hours?—A. No, sir. When a man is a defaulter and he is going to abscond the party to whom he is indebted brings him before the Six Companies.

Q. What right have they to do that?—A. None at all, but they simply do that to arrange it without the cost of going into court.

Q. Do you think a system of that kind should be tolerated in this country?—A. I don't think it is any worse than our own system. If we have one of our own people that is going to leave for some other country that is indebted we go to the court and take out a warrant and arrest the absconding debtor. The Chinaman goes to his company and asks them to bring that man there and make him pay his bill before he leaves, but they have no power on earth to enforce it, and it is very seldom that they have these cases. I don't think they have one in 3 months. In the last 2 months 3,000 have departed from here, and I don't believe in that time they have tried to detain one that has not paid his debts. I think there were one or two arrests of Chinamen who absconded in the last 2 months.

Q. By the authorities?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Our own authorities?—A. Yes, sir; our own authorities.

Q. Was that brought about by the merchant to whom he was indebted or by the officials of the Six Companies?—A. They never cause anything of that kind; it is the party to whom he is indebted.

Q. Don't you think a system like that could be greatly abused?—Yes, sir; no question about it.

Q. By persons who composed the board of directors or are presidents of these Six Companies?—A. You must understand this: Here the party who is brought up has a friend there in his own president, who is looking after his defense. He brings up his witnesses to show that this man don't owe a dollar. They don't act as one man against him. The company that makes its charge against him has its own president and the man against whom the charge is made, his company has its president there to defend him.

Q. What chance would a man have who did not belong to one of these companies?—A. He would not have much of a show. I don't know of any that don't belong to the company, but as to there being a court and settling debts and trying criminals it is perfectly absurd. Nothing of the kind has ever happened among them or is being done or has ever been attempted to be done.

Q. The majority of the Chinese belonging to either one of these companies, are they not likely to submit to a decree or finding as you might call it in a matter of arbitration, if the amount might be insignificant, even if the finding were unjust, rather than to antagonize such a powerful organization as that?—A. I don't think so, sir. He has just as many friends in the organization as the complainant has.

Q. I understand that; but suppose the leading merchant sues a laborer or brings a case up before the president of these Six Companies of a laboring man who had no influence; suppose he claimed that he was indebted to him \$20, \$30, or \$40, and the president, through the personal influence of the merchant, who might have had a voice in putting a president there, declares against the laborer; wouldn't he be apt to submit rather than to antagonize both the merchant and the president, and isn't that really the case?—A. No, sir; very few cases come up in our courts. Cases of where a man is accused and is brought before the

Six Companies in matters of arbitration are very rare; I want that understood. He has just as many friends there, and just as staunch friends, as the accuser has, and unless he can make a plain case he never acquiesces, and they have no way to enforce it. The party can arrest him before leaves, if he is going to leave the country, and bring him into court. This has been done.

Q. Since your residence here in San Francisco how numerous are cases in the State courts where one Chinaman sues another? Have they been very numerous?—A. No, sir; very rare.

Q. Very rare?—A. Yes, sir; very rare.

Q. And it is because the difficulties are generally settled by these societies?—A. No, sir; I don't think it is. They have their obligation so surrounded before the debt is created. If a Chinaman is going to work for a merchant under contract he is doubly sure before he goes to work that he is going to get his wages, and the consequence is that a merchant must either abscond, like this crowd has done in the last 3 or 4 weeks, or else he must pay up, and he has got to show good cause for withholding the obligation for the men.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. You have likened the arrest of the Chinaman going away to the defaulting debtors of our own country who are going away?—A. I said they took the same course.

Q. Have the Six Companies a sheriff?—A. No, sir.

Q. An executive officer?—A. They have an interpreter, who is an interpreter for the company.

Q. Yes, sir. Now, how do they compel the appearance of the defendant or a prisoner before the Six Companies?—A. They have no means of compelling the person to come there.

Q. How does the person or the defendant in these cases know he is even desired to be present before them?—A. There is usually an agreement signed; an agreement between the debtor and the creditor; they agree to submit this matter to their separate presidents for arbitration; there is no compulsion about it, as far as I know; he can go before them if he wants to, but there is nothing to compel him to go there.

Q. The case has been cited of a man who did not want to appear?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How did they get him there?—A. The probabilities are that he was a rascal and wanted to escape without paying his debts.

Q. He would not want to go before them, would he?—A. They would go to the president of his company and say "he must pay his debts before he goes away."

Q. How does the president act?—A. He tells him to come before the Six Companies.

Q. Suppose he refuses to come then?—A. They can not compel him to come, but probably do their best to get him to come.

Q. Do you know of any cases where they refused to come?—A. No, sir; there are so few of them; I do not think there are a half dozen arbitrations in a year.

Q. So this is a court where there is no compulsion or where there is no way of compelling the appearance of the debtor in court?—A. Not any more than there is in the Odd Fellows Society or the Druids.

Q. Don't they have officers to summon debtors?—A. No, sir; not of my own knowledge. Each company has its headquarters and the interpreter, and the Six Companies have a head interpreter.

Q. You have stated the dues are paid only once, and are payable

and collectible on the departure of the Chinamen from this country?—

A. Yes, sir; that is it; there is never a dollar collected from them until they leave.

Q. Then I understand a Chinamen derives all the benefit of this benevolent society of the Six Companies without any tax levied upon him at all if he never returns to China?—A. None at all, sir.

Q. Then it is a tax they have to pay for the privilege of returning to China?—A. It is a tax they pay before they do return. They go to their company headquarters here and register and pay their dues which they owe their company. It matters not whether it is 1 year or 20 years.

Q. When are these dues assessed?—A. They are never assessed at all only when a man is departing from the country.

Q. Who are the men who are stationed on the gang plank when a party is about to depart for China?—A. Those are the interpreters of each company.

Q. Those are the men you have referred to before?—A. Yes, sir; as being interpreters; secretaries, they call themselves.

Q. The secretaries?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why do you need an interpreter between one Chinaman and another Chinaman?—A. They collect the tickets of each association at the dock you see; you saw that being done; then he takes them to his headquarters and checks them off in a book as having departed.

Q. Why do you call them interpreters? An interpreter is a man who translates one language into another?—A. Yes, sir; they speak English usually.

Q. The Chinamen?—A. Those men who stand on the gang plank.

Q. But they are only interpreters.—A. That is all.

Q. And it is the interpreter that summons the Chinamen to the board of arbitration, or informs him that there is a board of arbitration, is it?—A. I don't think he has anything to do with that at all. Each company has an interpreter and who speaks English, and he does the business of the company.

Q. Are the presidents of the Six Companies the runners who go around among the Chinamen and summon them, or are they a seclusive body?—A. I don't think there is anyone acts in that capacity.

Q. How does the plaintiff and defendant know their case is coming up or going to be heard on a certain day?—A. As I stated before, it is well understood that the debtor notifies his president, and the person is notified that the case has been brought to their attention.

Q. How are they notified?—A. I have not the slightest idea.

Q. Do you not think that it stands to reason that there must be some executive officer to serve the notice of these trials?—A. I don't know of any such papers ever having been served.

Q. You have stated in the trial of these cases that every one who is interested is entitled to have witnesses. Who brings in the witnesses, and what are the means of compelling their attendance?—A. I never was present at one of these meetings, and I could not say.

Q. You say these merchants do a large business in this town?—A. Yes, sir; I think they do a commerce of 11 or 12 millions.

Q. You say they have no cases in the courts of the country?—A. Very seldom, I think.

Q. And all their business is transacted before the presidents of these Six Companies?—A. No, sir; I never said that.

Q. What other tribunal have they among themselves?—A. I don't know of any. I answered a question that very few cases of Chinese

against Chinese were brought in our courts. I don't know whether that is to their discredit or credit.

Q. Who summons the witnesses for the defendant? Take the party we have heard about, who was confined 6 hours, did he have his witnesses present? You have stated as a fact that such was the case. How do you know he had process for his witnesses, or that his witnesses were notified, and that his witnesses did attend?—A. I have no means of knowing how it was done.

Q. Then you are stating things that you have no personal knowledge of.—A. As I stated before, I never was present at an arbitration.

Q. Can you imagine a court that has no binding effect, that has no process to compel the appearance of the defendant, and no process to compel the attendance of witnesses in the behalf of the defendant?—A. I don't recognize them as courts nor I have not stated that they acted as courts. I stated this: That the presidents of the companies sometimes arbitrated between two parties in reference to an account between these parties. As to subpoenaing witnesses or having officers search Chinatown and bring in witnesses, I have no knowledge of it.

Q. And yet you have a knowledge that these Six Companies do, every 2 years, send to China and bring men who are to act as presidents of these companies?—A. They sometimes send to China and they sometimes take them from here.

Q. Are they compensated by fees?—A. They draw a salary.

Q. Where does this fund come from?—A. From the dues that is collected when the men leave.

Q. A man may have any amount of litigation before the Six Companies and never pay anything until he leaves?—A. The Six Companies will provide him a lawyer to defend himself with before the courts and he pays nothing for the lawyer. The Six Companies pay it all.

Q. Now, about your making deposits for Chinamen and seeing their contracts; what is the fund, and what is the amount of the fund belonging to the Six Companies, upon which these drafts are made?—A. I never stated that they made deposits. I stated a great many of the contracts made with merchants are supervised by me, and I decide whether the securities given are good or not.

Q. You say all these expenses are paid out of a fund. What is the extent of that fund?—A. The Six Companies have nothing to do with the merchants.

Q. How much fund is there now to the credit of the Six Companies to pay the expenses you speak of? Answer the question, please; do you know?—A. I have no means of knowing.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Have you any idea?—A. I can't say. They collected probably from the last ship several thousand dollars dues from so many that went away.

Q. Now, the Six Companies make their award? is that award any more than worthless paper?—A. No, sir.

Q. Suppose they award that one man owes another \$1,000, and they put it down as their decree, what is that more than worthless paper?—A. None at all, as I stated at first. They have no way of enforcing it. They can go into the courts and sue as well as they could before; they have no means of enforcing that.

Mr. STUMP:

Q. I understood you to say that the companies have some fishermen

who have been behaving badly. How did you get these men imprisoned?—A. I say we had a man in prison who was supposed to be connected with the defaulter who ran away owing the fisherman.

Q. That was a case heard before the Six Companies?—A. The man was assaulted on the streets and fled to the police for protection, and we requested the chief of police to hold him in prison for protection, and till such time as we gave him notice to let him go, and the consulate is taking testimony as to the amount of money due.

Q. That is the process, then, by which our courts here hold this man under?—A. Yes, sir; that is, there is no process. He is a voluntary prisoner. He is very glad to be in jail.

Q. Do you know what a voluntary prisoner is? I never heard of such a term in my life. It sounds to me like a straight curve.—A. He is voluntarily in jail to-day.

Q. What about that case?—A. His life was threatened by these fishermen. He was the foreman, and he had no place to go to, and went to the police for protection, and they have locked him up. We have sent a telegram to bring back the party who fled, and we have notified the police to hold the man until the party comes back so he can be tried.

Q. Who are the fishermen, Chinamen?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who is a highbinder?—A. Well, a highbinder is a rough; a Baltimore plug ugly.

Q. I am much obliged to you for that. We understand each other for the future. Tell me, do the highbinders go in societies?—A. Yes, sir; they have numerous societies.

Q. What are the names of some?—A. Chee Kong Tong.

Q. Are these benevolent societies?—A. No, sir; their nature is against everybody.

Q. They are against everybody?—A. Yes, sir; especially their own people.

Q. Are there complaints made to our courts against these outlaws, like there were against the Baltimore plugs?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. In what court?—A. They are arrested generally and tried and convicted.

Q. But I mean against the societies. We have only got down to societies now, not individuals.—A. Thereby hangs a tale.

Q. Will you unfold it?—A. Some 14 years ago the Highbinder societies were all broken up.

Q. By whom?—A. Led by the missionaries here, aided by the Chinese merchants. Since that they have organized again and have become all powerful. I was authorized, about 5 months ago, by my attorney, Mr. Rierdon, to go to the chief of police and tell him that the merchants had sent us, merchants of undoubted financial standing, to say that if he would start in and raid, and tear to pieces these highbinder associations, and capture and arrest all that he could in connection with it, the mercantile community would stand in and indemnify him against any suits brought against him for damages.

Q. What do you mean by their being all powerful?—A. I mean that they are so organized. Understand by that the organization is in clans, one clan against another; they pretend to be Freemasons and all that sort of bosh; they pretend to be rebels, and they pretend to be everything but what is the honest fact in reference to their organization.

Q. Do you mean by all powerful from force of numbers?—A. Not so much as that.

Q. As by what?—A. As by their character, their designs.

Q. Explain to us how they are all powerful; if not by numbers, by acts, by intimidation, or what?—A. Intimidation.

Q. Are they all powerful by reason of intimidation?—A. I can not remember of course of any of their assessments, and never was present at any of their meetings, but I am told by responsible Chinese that they are sworn, take an oath, and pledge each other to stand by each other through thick and thin. If one of them is arrested, plenty of witnesses will come forward and swear an alibi for him if possible. They will get a grudge against a member of another association and swear him to the gallows or into State prison for life.

Q. Do you know of their ever having taken life?—A. Oh, yes, they shoot each other, much to my gratification.

Q. Don't they shoot others?—A. I don't know of their ever having made a mistake.

Q. If they are such outlaws, why is it, if they confine their intimidation to themselves, that they are such a terror to good and well-disposed Chinamen?—A. That is a conundrum I have been trying to unravel for 10 years. They terrorize the members of our Merchants' Exchange, for instance. They make them join from intimidation.

Q. What steps do they use?—A. They are there and they join; I have not heard of threats, but they must have been threatened; or there must have been intimidation.

Q. Threats to take life?—A. They threaten them or go around and blackmail them.

Q. How do they threaten them?—A. Make them pay so much.

Q. How do they make them pay?—A. Every one of these associations have hatchet men and iron-bar men. I am giving you the facts.

Q. That is what we want. What do you mean by the hatchet man?—A. He does the assaulting.

Q. The cutting up?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the iron-bar man does the knocking down?—A. I suppose so; yes, sir.

Q. How often have you known the hatchet man to exercise his functions as executioner?—A. Last Saturday I heard a policeman testify here about one being found with a coat of mail.

Q. You don't know of any murders having been committed by these men?—A. I have seen their names in the papers and I have heard of shootings. They are a bad crowd and I believe they can be broken up if the police exercise proper vigilance.

Q. Don't their intimidation go to the extent of their intimidating our police authorities?—A. No, sir; not in that way.

Q. How many of these men belong to this society of Highbinders?—A. There are about 1,200 irresponsible people who belong to the Highbinders in this community who have no visible means, and could be convicted of vagrancy. The largest association here is the Chee Kong Tong. They have about 300 in their organization.

By the CHAIRMAN :

Q. Where is their headquarters?—A. Their headquarters is in Spofford alley between Clay and Washington streets.

Q. Have they officers?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who is the president of the company? Who are the officers?—A. I don't know who they are.

Q. We want these names, and will have them right here before us?—A. I will try and find out the names of them. Of course the real man will deny being the president.

Q. What number is it?—A. It is right in the middle of the alley on the right hand side.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. Give us the name of some person; we want to see a Highbinder.—A. I don't know the names of them myself, I am very glad to say. This man when he comes before you now will tell you he is a member of a freemason society, and will tell you the nicest story you ever listened to.

Q. We have been told how far they were benevolent societies for mutual protection.—A. That is as far as that mutual protection goes.

Q. Is there any benevolent element in their institution?—A. I never heard of any.

Q. The only beneficial organization you claim is through the Six Companies?—A. When a Highbinder dies he will have the largest funeral in the town.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Is that because they are so glad to get rid of him?

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. I understand the Highbinders say that they are the beneficial society and the Six Companies are the extortioners?—A. That is not my understanding. It is a new thing to me. They are a pretty bad set.

Q. So you tell us the presidents of these Six Companies are brought from China to act as arbitrators?—A. No, act as presidents.

Q. And that when they come here they act as arbitrators?—A. Oh, no; they don't come here for that purpose at all. I say these are benevolent societies and have a president and secretary and that they are solely and purely benevolent. That occasionally, in the settlement of an account between those of their own race, they bring the matter before the president of their company to settle their difficulty in the way of arbitration. There is nothing binding upon either party. He can go into the United States courts afterwards without any regard to what has been done inside the company's rooms. That is simply as far as they can go or as far as they do go.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Do I understand from the statement that you have made here that the Six Companies never resort to intimidation or force to compel a Chinaman to pay his dues in this country before he is allowed to depart to China?—A. I do say so; yes, sir. What force is used when he gets to the gang plank, they want him to give some good reason why he should not pay his dues. If he is a poor man and has a yellow ticket in his hand he has no dues to pay. There are two classes of tickets. The yellow ticket indicates that he is being sent back, and that he is poor, and that he has no dues to pay.

Q. Do the Six Companies or their presidents advise with the immigrant when he comes, and is refused permission to land by the collector of the port, as to the manner in which he shall proceed to obtain a writ of habeas corpus?—A. I never have known of any case where he got advice from the Six Companies. A Chinaman who arrives here and is refused a landing goes to his union, so to speak, his clansman, who is a merchant, sends him word that he is detained and refused a landing. The six companies probably never hear of it. His uncle gets a lawyer and brings him ashore and goes on his bond. They call each other cousins and brothers; they are all belonging to the one family.

Q. Then he is a member of one of the Six Companies, is he?—A. The merchant?

Q. The man that lands here?—A. He is not a member until he does land.

Q. Until he registers?—A. No, sir; not until he lands.

Q. He is not a member in China?—A. No, sir; there are no Six Companies there. This is the only country in the world where there are, as I stated Saturday.

Q. But the person to whom he applies for assistance; is he a member of the Six Companies?—A. I don't know as to that; it is his uncle who has money to pay the lawyer and costs in court.

Q. There has been evidence in this committee that, especially a few months ago, whether it is the fact now or not, I don't know, that many of these habeas corpus cases are really started before the Chinaman leaves China. The papers are made out and lawyers are secured here to prosecute his claim?—A. I have heard that testimony.

Q. Do you believe that there is anything in that?—A. I don't see how it is possible. The collector and myself, as Collector Phelps can tell you, we discovered what we thought to be a syndicate to bring Chinamen over on false papers and we broke that up. I never heard of a Chinaman commencing a suit before leaving China. I never heard of a case of that kind.

Q. You don't believe that there is anything of that kind?—A. No, sir, I don't. There is plenty of time when they get here to do that. The ship is here 14 or 15 days and a writ can then be taken out. The courts have copies of the records of the Six Companies and they can see whether the man was ever here before. If he was he would have his name on the Six Companies' books.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. Are your Six Companies benevolent associations?—A. Yes sir, entirely.

Q. Does that only go to sickness and pecuniary distress?—A. Each one of them had a hospital where they take their sick, until 18 month ago.

Q. It does not go to financial distress then?—A. They never have anything to do with the financial difficulties of their own people.

Q. They don't advance money to them?—A. No sir. There is not the most cordial feeling between the consulate and the Six Companies.

Q. Are you aware whether the Six Companies advance money to a Chinaman who has goods and wants to borrow money?—A. No sir; the banks do that.

Q. Do the Six Companies ever advance money for the prepayment of passage to the United States of their own countrymen?—A. No sir; they never have done so.

Q. If a report was made to the Six Companies that there is a man on board a ship who is entitled to land; wouldn't they, as benevolent associations, procure his landing if it were possible?—A. No, sir; not to the extent of having anything to do with a case of this kind.

Q. They are not as benevolent as I supposed them to be?—A. They are not as benevolent as they ought to be.

Q. It stops?—A. It stops at a certain line.

Q. Tell how benevolent they are and tell where the line stops?—A. I can't say how beneficent they are. I know this, that at times they come to the consulate, and ask us to get a rebate from the steamship companies.

Q. I am talking about the Six Companies.—A. The Six Companies come to us and ask us to go down and see the steamship company, and find out how cheap they can take 200 or 300 old men back to China, and I go down and make arrangements, and they provide the money for them, and give each one of them \$5 in Mexican money before they go on board. Then the steamship companies sell the tickets at \$35 instead of \$51. In the last two months I think they have sent back 300; oh, more than that, probably 450.

Q. Now, to sum up the beneficence of the Six Companies, see whether I have your testimony correct. The Six Companies are interested in securing the departure of Chinamen from this country, as that is the only way they derive any fees at all?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. The more that can be induced to go home the greater their emolument?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that is their source of revenue, and their only source?—A. They have property.

Q. And this money they so collect is solely used for the purpose of sending the sick and disabled back to China?—A. No, sir.

Q. So that the whole duties of the Six Companies, as you have testified here, is solely relating to the departure of Chinamen from this country?—A. No, sir.

Q. The hearing of cases, the making of awards that can not be enforced, and sending Chinamen back to China, is what you have stated; all the duties you have given us.—A. I will go to my office at times, and will find a letter from some sheriff from some county or from some State in which a white man has murdered a Chinaman. They request me to go to his company and send an interpreter to be there at the examination.

Q. That is your duty as consul?—A. I communicate with his company. I send an interpreter and then, in a great many cases, as the police will tell you, offer a reward from \$200 to \$600 according to conviction. That is the reward that the Six Companies give for the capture and trial and punishment of the prisoner, and if the district attorney wants help they send money to hire an additional attorney to assist him. These Six Companies, until a year and a half ago, each had a hospital where sick men could go, but they passed an ordinance some 2 years ago that no Chinese hospital should be in existence within the limits of the city and the county of San Francisco, and of course the police abolished the hospitals; in the meantime, the Chinese purchased property and let a contract for \$75,000 to build a hospital, and the board of supervisors immediately passed an ordinance that they could not build a hospital within the lines of San Francisco County. Now those are their functions.

Q. Who appointed you?—A. The Emperor of China. I am now serving my fourth term.

Q. Would it be your duty as consul, when a Chinaman is arrested here and wants the protection of his Government, to apply to the Emperor of China and his officials to protect them, or do you go to the Six Companies?—A. I do it myself.

Q. How?—A. By process of law.

Q. By process of law?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. I understood you always went to the Six Companies as representing them?—A. Oh no, sir.

Q. Then what is the use of the Six Companies?—A. They are of no use to me.

Q. If you as consul take care of the Chinamen by reason of the power given you by the Emperor of China, why is it you don't attend to the

Chinamen yourself instead of applying to the Six Companies?—A. I don't apply to the Six Companies. The Chinese Government don't appoint me the head of the hospital or benevolent institutions here. I have no more to do with the Six Companies than any American merchant on Market street.

Q. Are there many poor, indigent Chinese?—A. The hospital figures will show that.

Q. What hospital figures will show that?—A. The city, county, and almshouse.

Q. Do you tell us there are Chinamen now in the hospitals of San Francisco city and county?—A. It is very rare they ever get in.

Q. You said first you wanted to build a hospital, and now you tell us there are no indigent Chinamen?—A. I say there are a few in the hospitals and some in the pesthouse. In the almshouse I don't think there are any.

Q. Now, isn't it a fact that a Chinaman very seldom goes into one of our hospitals, very seldom gets into one of our jails?—A. A great many of them get into jail.

Q. What is the proportion of the Chinese that are unable to provide their own livelihood and become a burden on the State?—A. There is not 1 per cent. ever becomes a burden on the State or the county. There is not the half of 1 per cent.

Q. Is there any?—A. Sometimes there are some in the hospital.

Q. Give us the per capita?—A. I don't think I have ever known of ten Chinamen in a year in any of the benevolent public institutions.

Q. Have you ever known of five being there?—A. Yes, sir; in the city and county hospital.

Q. Weren't they taken there from accident?—A. No, sir; they were sick. I attended to it and had them put there myself. The resident physician let them in on my recommendation.

Q. They were sick?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Sick paupers?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you have known as many as five?—A. Five or ten; I don't think there have been ever more than ten in all this population here.

Q. And yet you wanted to build a hospital that cost how much?—A. Seventy-five thousand dollars the contract was. That was to combine the whole Six Companies' hospitals into one.

Q. Are not the Chinamen decreasing very rapidly here?—A. There never has been so many vacant houses in Chinatown as there are now.

Q. So in the course of 5 years won't the Chinese be almost entirely removed from this country?—A. Yes, it would remove the laboring class, and the merchants would have to go.

Q. Why would you advise the investment of so much money? It would probably take 2 or 3 years to build that hospital and very soon the Chinese would all be gone?—A. We don't know anything about the Scott act. We supposed this Government would stand by its solemn treaty. We supposed that those that were residents here on the 18th of November would be protected.

Q. Have the Six Companies really got the money to build that hospital?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you have some knowledge of their resources?—A. They would not have made the contract unless they had. They bought and paid for the block, I think.

Q. Then they have command of large means?—A. Take the whole Six combined, when there have been a large number of Chinamen depart from the country they have funds. This showed that they were

willing to spend their funds for the benefit of the Chinese and carry out their benevolent intentions.

Q. Isn't it really a rich corporation?—A. I can't say that it is a rich corporation. I don't know as to their financial status at all. I never made any inquiry.

Q. Who keeps their books?—A. That I don't know. They publish a report of all their disbursements and receipts and it is posted all over Chinatown.

Q. Have you any?—A. It is stuck up all around Chinatown; the entire amount paid out and the entire amount collected and what is on hand, and what is done with it.

Q. Could you bring us a copy of that?—A. I don't know but what I could.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. How long have you been Chinese consul here?—A. Twelve years last November.

Q. You were appointed by the Emperor?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How was that appointment brought about? Were you recommended to the Emperor by people here?—A. Yes, sir; that is, by the mercantile community, the Chinese.

Q. By the Chinese merchants here?—A. Yes, sir; and they had heard of me through their members as defending their own people. I was appointed by Senator Morton to defend them before his committee.

Q. And then you were appointed consul at the recommendation of the Chinese merchants of this town?—A. Yes, sir; so to speak.

Q. I understood you to say that the Six Companies had hospitals here at one time?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Each company had a hospital for itself?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where were these hospitals located; in Chinatown?—A. Yes, sir; different parts.

Q. Were they located in places constructed as hospitals should be?—A. Oh, no, sir; they were rented.

Q. In cellars often?—A. One was in a cellar on Clay street; that is, a half basement.

Q. With the knowledge that the authorities had here of the condition of the Chinese hospitals when they were in existence, wasn't it highly proper on their part to prevent it?—A. The authorities will tell you I called their attention to it time and time again to abolish them; and they were aware that the Chinese, as soon as they were abolished, would build a new hospital. It is 3 miles out here where they purchased their block, but when the contract was let and it was put on record the board of supervisors passed an order preventing and prohibiting the building of the hospital.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. Wasn't the proposed site of the hospital in a very thickly settled portion of the city or county?—A. I believe the nearest house was the Old Ladies' Home. There are no streets nor houses within a considerable distance. Although I never have been on the ground, I know where it is.

Q. What were the character of diseases you treated in your hospital?—A. Every kind.

Q. Leprosy?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Smallpox?—A. Yes, sir; any disease.

Q. Are not these the prevalent diseases among Chinamen?—A. Leprosy?

Q. Yes, sir; aren't there lepers among them?—A. Oh, yes, now and then; very rarely. This book will show you there is less disease in the six blocks according to the population.

Q. Aren't nearly all Chinamen diseased with diseases peculiar to cohabitation with their women?—A. No, sir; not to my knowledge. I know nothing about that. There are very few women here who are prostitutes.

Q. Isn't that the reason they inoculate the whole population; a few women could inoculate the whole of the Chinese population?—A. I don't know as to that. That is not my function. You will have to have a policeman to find that out.

By the CHAIRMAN :

Q. When a Chinaman dies here his bones are returned to China?—A. After two years.

Q. After two years; they have funeral services here?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And in case he is destitute is he buried at the expense of the Six Companies?—A. No, he is buried at the expense of his association, cemetery association to which he belongs. There are six or eight or nine of them here.

Q. Who nurse the sick?—A. His cousins or his relatives; he don't get much nursing.

Q. Who furnishes the food?—A. I don't know as to that.

Q. Where does the benevolence of the Six Companies come in?—A. They furnish food for their own society. Nobody dies of starvation to my knowledge. The only place in the world they ship their bones back from is California. They don't do it in Honolulu or Victoria or at Panama, or at any other place I know of.

Q. Is the Six Companies a beneficial or a charitable association?—A. It is both.

Q. You say a Chinaman who is sick and who is deserted by his friends has no claim upon the Six Companies?—A. I did not say that.

Q. I understood he was left to be buried by the cemetery association?—A. There is no trouble about burying him; his relatives bury him; they are all members of that cemetery association.

Q. Can the relatives draw on the Six Companies for money to provide medicines and things of that kind?—A. No, sir; I don't think they can.

Q. Isn't that the period of a man's existence when a benevolent society should come in, if it comes in at all?—A. I think so, but I don't think they go that far. They used to take care of their own people, that they had in their own households.

Q. Suppose a sick Chinaman, belonging to these companies, should apply to his company for aid and assistance while sick, would he have any right or claim to demand money to nurse and care for him?—A. I presume he would have. I don't know of any case of a man applying of the Six Companies but what he has gotten it.

Q. Do you know of any case where they applied that they did get it?—A. I don't know as I can state a case. I have called their attention to sick Chinamen to take care of them until I could get a hospital. They are averse to going into a hospital.

Q. You did that as consul?—A. No, sir; I did that as a benevolent act, so to speak. My duties have nothing to do with that.

Q. And did the Six Companies respond in these cases?—A. I don't know.

Q. Then you made an application and did not interest yourself suffi-

ciently to know whether their wants were attended to?—A. When their attention is called—

Q. Tell us about the case you have cited. You said you informed the Six Companies and did not know after that whether they looked after him or not; or what became of him?—A. I don't know.

Q. Did your benevolence extend to any great extent? It seems that you did not see that the Six Companies did it, or you did not see by virtue of your position as consul that they were taken care of?—A. My commission as consul has nothing to do with sick Chinamen or hospitals, nor anything of that kind.

Q. Are you so close to the Chinamen that you have anything to do with bringing murderers to justice?—A. I stated here that the sheriff of a county or a district attorney would write to me. I would call the attention of the company, to which this murdered man belonged, and they usually responded by offering a reward, or sending an attorney, or assisting in the prosecution.

Q. And here is a man who is sick in bed dying without any food or assistance—A. Which I have no interest in officially—

Q. But you do exercise some interest, and state to the Six Companies that that case is there and ought to be looked after, and yet you can not tell this committee that he was taken care of, or what became of him?—A. I called the attention of the company to which the party belonged in several cases.

Q. That is probably like the Six Companies.—A. Do you expect me to go to the Six Companies and get the money and take it to the sick man?

Q. Not at all, but I supposed you had sufficient interest.—A. I supposed I had sufficient influence, and not interest, and when I told them about the sick man that they would attend to him.

Q. And then you really know of no case even where the Six Companies have been called on to take care of a sick man that they have done so?—A. I don't know; I never followed them up.

Q. And yet you call them benevolent institutions?—A. I do, yes, sir; nothing less. They are. There must some one take care of the sick.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Haven't you heard of cases right here in San Francisco where a Chinaman has been injured and has been allowed to die for the want even of food and water?—A. I don't know that I ever heard of a case of that kind. When a Chinaman has a leg or an arm broken, if you take him to an American surgeon you have to take him forcibly.

Q. Who attends to their sick; do they have medical assistance; do they have their own doctors?—A. Yes, sir; they have doctors.

Q. Do the authorities send a physician in the Chinese district to examine the condition of affairs?—A. Yes, sir; there is a doctor by the name of Coyne who examines all the death matters of Chinamen and accounts to the board of health with all the diseases they die of. He would be a very proper witness for giving you information in regard to that.

Q. Have the Six Companies an attorney to act for them?—A. Mr. Rierdon acts for them when they want him.

Q. He acts for the Six Companies?—A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. And also attorney in the habeas corpus cases. He does a large proportion of this habeas corpus business?—A. He has a great deal of

it, yes, sir. Our contract is that he shall do such legal business as the consulate requires of him, and any business outside of that he has a right to take.

Q. Does he get a fee from every Chinaman for filing their petitions in habeas corpus cases?—A. I suppose he does, but cases coming under the attention of the consulate which have to be tried in the United States courts and the court at Washington he gets no fee from us, only his salary.

Q. Do you know the present population of the Empire of China?—

A. No, sir; I don't know.

Q. Have you any idea?—A. No, sir; I have not.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Have you ever heard here in this city of Chinamen being picked up in the streets in a starving condition and taken to the city hospital?—A. I have heard of Chinamen being put out of the houses on the sidewalk who were sick and no one to attend to them. In these cases I have brought it immediately to the attention of the health department whenever they have come to my knowledge and had them taken to the hospital.

By Mr. STUMP:

Q. To the city health department?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Not to the Six Companies, the benevolent associations?—A. I have gone to the hospitals, the city hospitals.

Q. You don't go to the Six Companies, who were so desirous of taking care of him?—A. I didn't hunt up who his relatives were.

Q. You never have taken the trouble of going to 728 Commercial street?—A. No, sir.

Q. How far is 728 Commercial street from the place where these 6 Chinamen were thrown out on the street?—A. Probably a quarter of a mile.

Q. And you would not go even half a mile to tell the benevolent association?—A. They have just as much right to go into the city hospital as anybody else.

By the CHAIRMAN:

Q. Are these Highbinder associations considered injurious to the Chinese population by the Six Companies?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. They commit acts of violence; they compel honest Chinamen to pay money as blackmail; they are engaged in all sorts of business such as that class of the community would be, as you term "Plug Uglies"?—A. Criminals.

Q. Criminals; why does not an organization which is benevolent in its character and which has within its membership, according to your statement, nearly all the Chinese residing in this country, break them up?—A. That is a conundrum I have been trying to answer for ten years. The Six Companies and the merchants, as I tell you, have repeatedly said that they would stand in and indemnify the chief of police for any damages that might be brought against him for the breaking up of these societies. It has got to be done outside of the law. You have to raid them, throw them into the streets and arrest those found there as vagrants. There is no other way to reach them unless to wait until they commit a crime.

Q. Do you think these Highbinders have been employed to do acts of violence by merchants for the purpose of collecting debts due them?—A. No, sir; I have never known of a case of that kind. They

are employed to carry out acts of violence by their own association. They live, and their whole organization is kept up, by blackmail. They have a perfect system of blackmail and collecting from the immoral elements, and the chief of police has undertaken to break up all houses of that kind and undertaken to cut the revenue of that kind off. I am of the opinion they can be broken up and have always been of that opinion, and to-day am as firm as I ever have been. If you will extend the extraterritoriality law over this country as they have in China we will send them out of the country and break them up.

By Mr. STUMP :

Q. Is that the only source of revenue the Highbinders have in this country, levying blackmail as you have stated?—A. They even have done it on the merchants, on anybody; I am told they have done so; I have never seen it done.

Q. Blackmail is always levied by threats?—A. I presume so.

Q. They threaten a merchant with what?—A. I don't know what they threaten him with. They have a mortal fear of them, I know.

Q. These merchants they try to levy blackmail upon aren't they engaged in an illegal business of some kind themselves of which these highbinders have some knowledge?—A. I could not say as to that. I don't think so. The Chinese merchant here stands pretty well.

Q. When we saw the immigrants boarding a ship we saw no dues paid as they went up the gang plank; they all seemed to be furnished with tickets?—A. Yes, sir; the dues are paid at the headquarters of the association and he is given a little ticket that his dues are paid. You will see others going up who don't pay a cent. If I had been there I would have pointed them out to you. Those are yellow tickets.

Q. They are obliged to have one ticket or the other?—A. Yes, sir; I think so; I don't know exactly about it.

Q. What was the consequence if he didn't have one ticket or the other?—A. They might tell him he was a mean fellow for trying to slip off without paying the company his little dues after all the protection they had given him. As to that I don't know, however. I don't speak the Chinese language.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE PATTISON.

By the ACTING CHAIRMAN :

Q. Please state your name.—A. George Pattison.

Q. Do you hold a position under the Government?—A. Chinese inspector.

Q. Under the collector of this port?—A. The collector of customs of San Francisco.

Q. Will you state to the committee what transpired in connection with your official duties in detecting the Chinese who went to Mexico and immediately endeavored to cross into the United States, and how that was prevented?—A. Acting under instructions from the collector of customs I took passage by the steamer *Newburn*.

Q. When?—A. On the 25th of April of this year. The steamer was bound for Mexican ports—all Mexican ports, I might say; she does not touch at any American ports. At that time she had in transit 50 or 52 Chinese, who were transferred from a Chinese steamer in San Francisco to be sent to different ports in Mexico. I shipped with them, and arriving at Ensanada, the first Mexican port, 15 of the Chinese