

to this country from the south of China, the province of Canton, are largely of the farmer class. There are also large numbers of merchants who invest a large amount of capital for mercantile pursuits in this country.

Q. Why is it that the immigration comes from only one province ?

—A. Because that province has been longer open to trade with foreigners, and the people became familiar with them and learned much about foreign countries.

Q. How many, if any, have settled on land ?—A. A great number rent and a few buy land, I can hardly give you the average.

Q. Are they of the same class and from the same province as those who settle in British Columbia ?—A. Yes.

From same class as those who settle in British Columbia.

Q. How far does the desire to emigrate exist in other provinces ?—

A. There is no desire to emigrate in any of the other provinces, except Canton and Fuhkien. Fuhkien is a province in the neighborhood of Canton. The immigration from Fuhkien is only confined to the Straits Settlements and other Islands of the South Pacific Ocean.

Q. I am aware that you have very cold weather in China, what do you think would be the effect of the climate of Canada, where the winter is rigorous, on immigration ?—A. Chinese soon become acclimated but much prefer a mild climate.

Chinese soon get acclimatized.

Q. Have you any further information to impart ?—A. I would like to say this : That it is charged that the Chinese do not emigrate to foreign countries to remain, but only to earn a sum of money and return to their homes in China. It is only about thirty years since our people commenced emigrating to other lands. A large number have gone to the Straits' Settlements, Manila, Cochin-China and the West India Islands, and are permanently settled there with their families. In Cuba, fully seventy-five per cent. have married native women, and adopted those Islands as their future homes. Many of those living in the Sandwich Islands have done the same. This course depends wholly upon their treatment in any country they emigrate to. As a matter of fact they do not assimilate as readily as the German, Irish, English and other European immigrants who come here, as their civilization is so widely different from that of China. There is quite a large number of foreigners in China, but few of whom have brought their families, and the number is very small indeed who have adopted that country as their future home. You must recollect that the Chinese immigrant coming to this country is denied all the rights and privileges extended to others in the way of citizenship ; the laws compel them to remain aliens. I know a great many Chinese will be glad to remain here permanently with their families, if they are allowed to be naturalized and can enjoy privileges and rights.

Why Chinese do not readily assimilate explained.

Report of the Royal Commission on Chinese Immigration: report and evidence, 1885

Canada. *Report of the Royal Commission on Chinese Immigration.*
Ottawa: J.A. Chapleau and J.H. Gray, commission. 1885. archive.org;
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