

gration was a growing and threatening evil. It showed that the number of Chinese in the United States was one hundred and seven thousand. In 1882 when the law suspending Chinese immigration was passed, there were one hundred and fifty thousand Chinamen here. In eight years, the number had decreased twenty-five per cent. If that ratio of decrease should continue, the year 1914 would see the last Chinaman disappear from our land. With these facts at hand, Congress certainly would have no occasion to reenact the existing offensive law. The relations of the United States with China had become strained. Our government had not asked China for a new treaty before she enacted the Scott law. She might now repeal the law, and legislate as would become an honorable, treaty observing nation. She might have done so but she did not.

The Chinese exclusion bill was introduced into Congress. Again it was on the eve of a presidential election. Against the protest and vote of many congressmen the bill passed. Not only was the Scott law reenacted, but to it were added new and drastic provisions. This law compels every Chinese workman in the United States to go to the collector of internal revenue, prove his title to remain in this country, and apply for a certificate—a sort of ticket of leave. The burden of proof is all thrown upon the Chinaman. He is assumed to be not entitled to remain. In order to obtain a certificate, he must prove that he came to this country prior to 1882; that he has resided here continuously since that time. White witnesses are necessary to satisfy the law. Colored men are not considered credible. If he is unable to get the conclusive evidence necessary to prove that he has been here through this long series of years, he is thrown into prison where he must remain at hard labor for a year, and then he is expelled from the country. The United States had again broken her treaty. Forgetting her advanced civilization, she imitated the example of despotic Russia. Upon this large class of men whom she had prom-

ised to treat as she had treated Englishmen and Germans, she now imposed these offensive requirements. One hundred thousand men here at the invitation of our government must carry around with them this certificate and present it on demand. One hundred thousand men in free America must be tagged like so many dogs.

We send our missionaries to China with the Bible. Upon its open page the Chinaman reads: "Thou shalt not lie." And he remembers that the nation from whence the Bible and missionary came has broken its solemn promise.

If England should treat the United States as the United States has treated China; if she should discriminate against our citizens for no greater cause than that for which we discriminate against the subjects of China, our government would declare war, and every true American would be ready to resent the wrong. But China is not a warlike nation. She will not retaliate. She will only remember.

While the Chinese are not desirable citizens, yet among them are found no Mafia, no anarchists. While some Chinamen come to this country in violation of the law, yet more illicit immigrants come to the United States from Europe than from China. While our government should legislate in regard to Chinese immigration, yet it should do so in the spirit of nineteenth century civilization.

The United States as the teacher of nations can ill afford to deal unjustly with any people. Until the violation of our treaty no country held so high a place in the esteem of China as did the United States. China has shown herself capable of advancement. Catching the spirit of our civilization, she built railroads and telegraphs. Breaking loose from their moorings, her merchants' ships sailed the seas. To-day she tolerates all forms of religious worship. To-day missionaries go unmolested to all parts of that broad empire preaching the gospel of the Son of God.

Every American may point with pride to