

THE EXILES FROM ASIA.

Chinese Statistics Show a Small Immigration.

According to the official estimate of the Chinese Consul the number of Chinese immigrants to California this year has been comparatively small. Consul Bee estimates the total of arrivals at 17,707. During the same period 8178 Chinese returned to Asia, leaving a balance in favor of their colony here of 9529. Of this number many were old residents returning from a visit to their relatives in China. The majority of the new arrivals were laborers, who had been hired to work on the Southern Pacific and Oregon railroads. Lately there has been an active demand on the Pacific coast for Chinese labor, and there are three agents in Hongkong and Canton procuring laborers and shipping them here. Every ship so far has brought a consignment, and 400 are due by the next steamer. Contracts can be readily made for Chinese laborers at \$1.50 a day, whereas two years ago that class of workmen could be hired at 90 cents a day, without board. Owing to the high rate of wages ruling here there has been no emigration of Chinese to the Eastern States, where the demand for cheap skilled labor has several times been increased by strikes among cigar-makers and others. A large number of Chinese have sailed from this port to Honolulu, but the emigration in that direction is accounted for by the removal of the authorities at Hongkong to clear ships for Honolulu. There are no Chinese Government students in this country at present. All Chinese students who were in American Colleges have been recalled and apportioned to the civil service of their own country. The Chinese authorities appear to be satisfied with the experiment of sending their young men abroad to learn the languages and arts of the white races, for the system will soon be amplified, and another delegation of students dispatched to the Universities and factories of this country and Europe. The efforts of the Chinese to extend their commerce have not been very numerous or successful this year. The steamer *Ho Chung*, which visited this port and created somewhat of a sensation, never returned to alarm the public by suggestions of an invasion of Chinese steamers. The *Ho Chung* is now in English waters, having been freighted with merchandise for some bazaar which her agents propose to open in London.