

one seeks the solution in the introduction of a yellow race; able to stand a tropical climate and intelligent enough to undertake those special avocations which in temperate climates would be filled by Europeans.

There can be little question as to the yellow race which is called upon to take a share in the *Tridominium* of the eastern half of Africa: it is the Indian—the Sikh, the Parsi, the Hindu, the Hindi, the Khoja, the Mennon, the Kattshi (Outohee), the Goanese and the Tamul. The Arab is condemned as hopelessly lazy, arrogant, ignorant, vicious and unskilled. The Chinese is an undesirable immigrant for many reasons, which it is not necessary to specify, and besides does not appear to be well suited to the African climate. The yellow race most successful hitherto in Eastern Africa is the native of Hindustan—that race in divers types and of diverse religions which, under British or Portuguese aegis, has created and developed the commerce of the East African littoral.

The immigration of the docile, kindly, thrifty, industrious, clever-fingered, sharp-witted Indian into Central Africa will furnish us with the solid core of our armed forces in that continent, and will supply us with telegraph clerks, the petty shopkeepers, the skilled artisans, the cooks, the minor employes, the clerks, and the railway officials needed in the civilised administration of Tropical Africa. The Indian, liked by both Black and White, will serve as a link between these two divergent races. Moreover, Africa, opening this vast field to the enterprise and overflow of the yellow races of the Indian Empire, will direct a large current of wealth to the impoverished peninsula, and afford space for the reception, in not far distant homes, of the surplus population of Southern Asia.—*Public Opinion.*

LEAVES OF TREES AS FODDER.

The United States Consul at Chemnitz, in a recent report, describes the experiments made by farmers on the Continent last year to feed their cattle on the leaves of trees. The French, he says, have taken the lead in the moment. They recommend exclusively the leaves of the hazel, aspen, ash, elm, and willow. The leaves, after being gathered, are spread on the barn floor to the depth of three to four inches, and are turned once a day. They dry in from three to five days, according to the weather, when dry they are piled up ready for use. It is profitable to prepare each day's supply 24 hours beforehand. There is mixed with the leaves to be served each day a small amount of chopped-up turnips, leaving the whole to ferment. Just before feeding, clover, hay, or lucerne is sometimes added. This food has been found especially good for milch cows. Young shoots and branches of trees, with their new leaves, are picked off every five years and fed to sheep. These animals are very fond of the aspen, because of its resinous and sweet buds. Willow leaves and bark mixed with oats are regarded as a very pleasant, nutritious, and strengthening food for horses. It is not good to feed the leaves green; in fact, the cattle prefer them dried. Again, they should be served only with other fodder. When the leaves are young they contain a large quantity of nitrogen. As the season advances this grossness, as do also their nourishing properties. It is said that July and August, when the leaves are full grown, is the best time for harvesting them. Experiments were made with potato leaves, but the results were unsatisfactory. They should be used only in times of great scarcity, and only then to save the live stock. The potatoes deprived of their leaves suffer much more than is made up by their leaf value for fodder. The Consul concludes:—"All this trouble in Europe is taken to find substitutes and to save cattle, and yet 2,000,000,000 bushels of the best food for man and best burden the granaries and

barns of the United States. Why do not the European farmers take our maize? It is infinitely better than their best substitute, is one-third as dear as rye or wheat, and, in the testimony of their own chemists almost as nutritious, though twice as dear as potatoes it is more than four times as nutritious."—*The Times.*

THE RELATIVE HEALTHINESS OF TEA AND COFFEE PLANTING.

This subject has recently engaged a good deal of attention. Probably notice was first attracted to it by the statement made to our London Correspondent by the Secretary of the Standard Life Assurance Society, that it materially affected the question of reduction in the rate for Life Assurance in Ceylon. Subsequently we have seen the same cause assigned in our Correspondence columns as affording some excuse—or rather reason—for the alleged increase of a disposition among our planters to take more frequent holidays and relaxation than used to be the custom with those engaged in coffee planting. Now if there can be any good foundation for this contention we should be the last to dispute its wisdom. "All work and no play," we know results in "making Jack a dull boy." It cannot be for the welfare of any country that its industries should be open to such an indictment. It is, however, questionable, we think, if this can altogether be sustained against tea. We are quite prepared to admit the *prima facie* fact that the preparation—as apart from the cultivation—of tea, imposes a duty upon our planters to which they were not in former days subjected. When coffee was king all, or nearly all, the course of preparation was a distinct pursuit. The planter had little or nothing to do with this, and the word "factory" was unknown in estate procedure. But after all a planter can, and does, only work for so many hours daily. The coffee planter passed most of these among his coolies, exposed to the burning rays of the sun. Some of the time so passed is occupied by the tea planter in the factory, and he naturally selects that part of the day during which his predecessor probably suffered most from the heat of out-door supervision. Which of the two conditions would be more likely to injuriously affect health? If the tea planter is incautious enough to expose himself to external chilling by a sudden change from the air of the factory to that outside, of course it can be realized he incurs serious danger. But on comparatively few occasions need this risk be encountered. If disregard be shown to commonsense precautions we can hardly be expected to sympathize much; and if it be observed, it is open to considerable doubt, we believe, if the tea planter has not the better of the coffee planter in the situations compared. Nor should one additional circumstance be altogether overlooked. It was well-known that when the coffee trees were in full blossom and the air was charmed by and with a heavy perfume, fever often became prevalent on estates. So well-known a danger was this, that European ladies often endeavoured to reside away from coffee plantations at the blossoming season. We have never heard that the wives of our tea planters are driven by any cause arising from tea cultivation to such an exodus. Of course the husbands or fathers whose duties compelled their remaining upon the coffee estates at the particular season mentioned must have suffered in some degree, and we doubt if, as a whole, fever is now so common on estates either among superintendents or coolies, as it was in the days of coffee planting. We by no means desire to curtail legitimate amusement among our younger generation of planters; but we doubt if the