

IN ANSWERING REFER TO

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

NO. 2005/182-A-B-C-D-E.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR IN CHARGE
CHICAGO, ILL.

December 17, 1913.

Inspector in Charge,
Immigration Service,
Chicago, Illinois.

In the matter of HONG SLING, and family, who make application for the return privilege, I beg to report as follows:

Hong Sling seeks a pre-endorsement of his status as a merchant. He is well known to this office and to the business community, generally, in Chicago, as the manager of Sam Lung and Company, a Chinese grocery located at 431 So. Clark street. He has conducted that business for a great many years. In addition to the mercantile business he acts as passenger agent among the Chinese for the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. He is also president of the Hung Fong Lo, a corporation which conducts one of the largest chop suey restaurants in this city. Two white witnesses testify that he performed no manual labor during the past year, except that connected with his store business. He is a man of wealth and standing, and there is no doubt that he is entitled to the return privilege as a merchant.

The wife of Hong Sling, whose maiden name is Toy Shee, applies for the return privilege as the wife of a domicile merchant. It appears from the testimony that she was married to Hong Sling in China, and thereafter entered the United States as his wife at San Francisco, arriving on the steamship "Gaelis", in March or April, 1898. She has lived with her husband, Hong Sling, in Chicago ever since her arrival. There is no doubt that she is his wife and entitled to the return privilege on account of this relationship.

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The return privilege is sought for (Hong Wing Yo, or Harry Hong Sling, Hong Wing Gwong, or William Hong Sling, and Hong Mee Shu, or Jennie Hong Sling) as native born citizens of the United States. It appears from the testimony that these children are the children of Hong Sling and his wife and that they were all born at 324 So. Clark Street, Chicago. The birth certificate of each of the above named, showing birth at the address given, is inclosed herewith.

Mr. Chapman and Mr. Henson, the white witnesses, who testified to the mercantile status of Hong Sling, also testify to the fact that they have known these children ever since their birth and that they were born in Chicago. Dr. Joseph Brennemann, who officiated at the birth of William and Jennie, testifies to the fact that he did so officiate and to the further fact that they were born at 324 So. Clark street, Chicago. He did not act as physician at the birth of the older child Harry. These children have attended school in Chicago ever since they reached the school age. Thomas C. W. Jamieson, a principal of the Jones School, has submitted a certificate to the fact that Harry Hong Sling has attended the Jones public school from 1905 to 1913; William Hong Sling from 1910 to 1913; and Jennie Hong Sling from 1912 to 1913. Harry is now in attendance at the Lane Technical High School. All of these children speak the English of an American. There is not the slightest doubt that these children are bona fide American born children.

There is submitted herewith a group photograph of this family; a group also containing the photograph of an alleged nephew of Hong Sling. There is also inclosed a photograph of Hong Sling and wife with two children, Harry and William, taken in Chinese costume.

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I beg to recommend the case of Hong Sling, wife and three children
for favorable consideration.

(Signed) HOWARD D. EBEL,

HDE/LSS
Incl. 2187

Immigrant Inspector.

APPROVED and forwarded to the Commissioner of Immigration, San
Francisco, California.

(Signed) P. L. PRENTIS

Inspector in Charge.