

Enclosure No. 2 with Mr. Wright's No. 98 of Nov. 9, 1906

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The Japan Daily Mail.

YOKOHAMA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1906.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* emphatically denies the story that the American Secretary of State preferred to Japan a demand for the arrest and punishment of the Alaska poachers. The news that such a demand had been made in the context of the San Francisco dispute naturally suggested that the United States Government was putting forward a Roland to face the Japanese Oliver, which would not have been a very friendly policy. But did many people believe the story? We do not think so. To us it seemed so incredible as to be unworthy of notice, and we were prepared for the contradiction now published.

Another extraordinary telegram has now been received as emanating from San Francisco. It says—as reproduced in our last issue—that the San Francisco incident has created in England a feeling of doubt as to whether the Anglo-Japanese alliance was not an unwise measure. Thoughtful English, the telegram continues, “fear the grave consequences of Asiatic control.” The *Fiji Shimpō* takes some pains to demonstrate the unreason of such a feeling among Englishmen. To us the demonstration appears superfluous. The telegram is ridiculous. It bears its own refutation on its face. For what prospect is there of Asiatic control being established by the admission of 200 Japanese children to the public schools of San Francisco? More and more as this story unfolds itself do we become inclined to detect the underhand work of the disgruntled correspondent. We have long been looking for this aftermath of the war. Since the day when a number of American journalists left the Far East vowing, as they themselves expressed it, “to get their knives into” the country which had concealed from their intrusive gaze military secrets that concerned the life or death of an Empire, it has been tolerably certain that they would struggle to carry out their vow, and the strong probability is that, if they did not actually help through the columns of the San Francisco press to foment this anti-Japanese feeling and to convert it into a concrete demonstration, they are at all events utilizing it now for all that it may be worth in their campaign of vengeance. Among these men there are some who rejoice in absolute freedom from scruples of any kind. They would not hesitate to concoct a telegram like the above, and their experience as journalists teaches them that to ascribe certain sentiments to an individual or a nation is a pretty sure way of implanting these sentiments in the bosom of him or them. That is probably the *provenance* of this silly but malevolent telegram.