

TOKYO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1906.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

President Roosevelt.—The Tokyo Press unanimously accords high praise for the open and vigorous assertion by President Roosevelt of his views concerning the San Francisco affair, in his Message to Congress. Among others the *Tokyo Asahi* expresses deep satisfaction in seeing its confidence in the President's personal qualities being more than justified by the manly stand he makes upon the question. The unfortunate affair has led to a stirring question for the Americans, which is to test the adequacy of their Constitution and presumably is to serve an opening for a stronger national organization of the Union. As to the naturalization law in favour of Japan, that was the only thing that has been lacking in placing the Japanese on the par with the European immigrants. Whether Mongols or not, the exclusion can not but serve as a barrier for keeping the Japanese further from the American heart than the other friendly nationals. When the President declares that he would secure fair, humane treatment for the Japanese, by employing all the permissible forces in his hands civil and military he rises, in our contemporary's eye to the heroic grandeur of vigorous manhood, in which the paper finds the guardian of the simple, straightforward Americanism of the Revolutionary days. It takes also the President's manhood to utter the vigorous language in reference to the seal question. Through joining in the treaty making on the subject is not of advantage to Japan, our authorities should assume as fair an attitude as the President assumes on the San Francisco question, and give satisfaction to America in that matter.

The *Kokumin* explains the utmost patience that the Japanese have exercised so far over the San Francisco affair by the profound confidence they have had in the just administration of the President, who has fully met their expectations as their friend by his thorough understanding of their position and strong vindication of their cause. In these days of equivocal diplomacy and government, it is relishing to our sense of manliness to have the Chief Executive of the great people come out so clearly with his yes and no. It only prays for the approval and support of his standpoint by all right-minded citizens of the Union, who are represented in the Japanese mind by the President. Should they disappoint us in our confidence in their sense of justice, the paper, for one, would not answer for the undesirable consequences. The Japanese are not invertebrates, and will know how to guard their own rights.

The *Tokyo Mainichi* does not hesitate to pronounce the President the living model of an heroic administrator, and expresses its admiration for his forcible character enhanced beyond measure. The one particular point of the message it delights over is that it favours the establishment of a naturalization law for the Japanese. The opportunity should not be missed by our people and authorities for seeing the enactment of that much desired law achieved. The delay of one year in the matter of our attaining the same treatment as immigrants as the Europeans would deter our interests by a decade.