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Enclosure with Mr. Wright's No. /2/ of December 11, 1906

Translation.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S EFFORT.

(Editorial Notes, Jiji, December 1, 1906)

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According to the Washington correspondent of the London Times, it is believed that President Roosevelt has little sympathy with the anti-Japanese action in California. His Message to Congress may favor the naturalization of those Japanese who desire to become American citizens. It is also reported that President Roosevelt may propose measures for remedying the defect in the Constitution by which the Federal Government is powerless to exercise its right of veto against injustice done by a State. Though at the present date we are not in a position to predict whether or not this conjecture will be realized, yet it does not admit of any doubt that the inability of the Federal Government to take any measure to remedy the affair that has arisen in California and which is regarded by the President as an act of injustice is due to the lack of necessary provisions in the constitution of the United States. The fact that the President is powerless to do anything with a locality that has openly trampled upon a treaty with another nation, which requires the unqualified observance of the whole nation, is a matter having an important bearing upon the prestige of the United States, and of far-reaching consequences. It would indeed be more than a question of excluding the Japanese.

ALTOGETHER A DIFFERENT QUESTION.

Whether or not to extend the right of the Federal Government to veto any unjust act of individual States is a legal problem to be settled within the United States, while the actual rights Japan has acquired by treaty are not to be guaranteed only when the Statutes of the United States have been revised. It was about the middle of October that the Japanese children were expelled from the public schools of San Francisco. A month and a half has elapsed since then, and the school children are still without means of getting an education. The argument that the trouble is limited to one locality has nothing to do with the immediate necessity of recovering the rights stipulated in the treaty. The treaty concluded by the chief rulers of Japan and the United States, as well as the principles of humanity recognized the world over, will not permit us to wait for the revision of the statutes or for the decision of the courts. Though the whole Japanese nation appreciates the sincerity of the President and the Central Government of the United States as well as of the American people in general with the exception of California, yet it is our hope that, aside from the national legal problem, the San Francisco affair will be settled squarely and promptly.