

"Japan Mail"
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Further telegrams from San Francisco give particulars of the latest development. It appears that the proprietors of five intelligence offices whose chief function is to supply Japanese domestic servants sought renewal of their licences, which were just about to expire, but the police refused the applications on the ground that the applicants are not United States' citizens. The Japanese appealed to the Treaty which guarantees to them the privileges of trade and business enterprise, but the police are said to have replied that the treaty provisions do not affect police administration. This question will be taken into the law-courts, where doubtless a just decision will be rendered. Meanwhile the action of the police is said to have caused a good deal of excitement among the Japanese residents. In truth it seems that the citizens of San Francisco are suffering from a temporary aberration of intellect. The acts of hoodlums and labour-agitators are not to be judged too gravely, but the line taken by newspapers is another matter, and if these unhappy incidents lead to permanent estrangement of two old friends like Japan and the United States, journals of the type of the *San Francisco Call* and the *New York Herald* will have a great deal to answer for.

With regard to this particular question of licences granted to aliens, it appears that a similar veto exists in New York, and, if so, the probability is that the Japanese complainants will be cast in their suit. After all, the much-boasted liberty of America does not too well support the test of practice.