

"Japan Times", June 29, 1907.

JAPANESE PRESS.

General Kuroki and America.—

In congratulating General Kuroki upon his successful trip and safe return, the *Tokyo Asahi* takes the opportunity of reiterating its discussion of the American question. There can be no denying that our interest was sacrificed to the recovery of a treaty right when the settlement of the school trouble was effected by a stricter restriction of our immigrants to Hawaii. The revision of the U.S. immigration law by Congress, finding as it does its justification in a treaty provision, was of course beyond our power of protest. Nor can the claim of equal treatment with other civilized nationals, as voiced by Count Okuma, be satisfied until a radical revision of the standing treaty be effected. If America, however, should decline to comply with our proposal, and the matter should come to the end of the time limit, we should have made no progress in the solution of the difficulty. Hence the paper would counsel the claimants of the equal treaty treatment to restrain their eagerness and think out the most successful means to their end. On the other hand, the paper would ask our American friends, in the name of civilization, of humanitarian justice, and of expression of friendship, why, while they gave such royal treatment to General Kuroki, they could not bring themselves to extend the same warmth of feeling toward the compatriots of the brave soldiers that made Kuroki what he is. So long as the reason of their antipathy to our immigrants be not made clear, the Americo-Japanese relations will continue strained. This matter though highly deplorable dwindles in importance when compared with the cases where the favourable provisions of existing treaties with Powers are hindered from full application. The paper has in mind the cases of the English colonies, which either refuse to apply the Anglo-Japanese treaties to their relations with this country, or in case they are applied, make exception in the matter of immigration. Even with the general revision in 1911, the paper is not hopeful on this point. This crippled operation of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, combined with the hindrances offered by a single state of the U.S. to the national discharge of its treaty obligations, result, to the paper's deep regret, in narrowing the world for free trade communication of nations. Is the Western civilization that shuts this people out of half civilized quarters of the globe, still in an imperfect stage of its development? Or, is it that Japan is too low in the scale of civilization?

incl. No. 5 with No. 325

July 10, 1907.