

Translation.

Chuwo Shimbun.
Jan. 28, 1908.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES.

(Summary.)

While Ambassador Aoki, who has just returned from America, is uncommunicative as to the alleged proposal for a written agreement between Japan and America, the Chuwo Shimbun is of opinion that his recent utterances are highly suggestive of the recent tendency of the relations between the two countries. With profound regret the paper notes Viscount Aoki's statement to the effect that the antipathy for Japan existing in the United States is deep-rooted and that there is greater significance to the coming of the battleships than the outcome of home politics. The Chuwo has from time to time dwelt upon the suspicion called forth in a section of the United States by the recent rise of the Japanese Empire, which has an important bearing upon the expansion program of the American Navy, the Pacific cruise of the battleship fleet, the ship subsidy question in the United States and the rumor of a Japanese-American war.

The Chuwo takes this occasion to call the attention of the American people to the real state of things in Japan with special reference to armament. In order to show that Japan is anxious to promote peaceful pursuits, the Chuwo refers to the budget for the fiscal year 1908-9, in which the continued undertakings for the Army and Navy have been cut down to the extent of 90 million yen. On the other hand, the preparations for the grand exposition of 1912 are going on without any retrenchment in its fund. In conclusion the paper regrets to note that the suspicion and fear of the American people referred to above remain deep-rooted, owing to lack of information in America as to the real state of things in this country.