

MONGOLIAN ASSURANCE.

If all the late information concerning the doings of the Six Companies of San Francisco is true, the authorities can not be too severe in carrying out the provisions of the Geary law.

The Six Companies, in an appeal to the government for a delay in enforcing the law, confess that they have brought many hundred Chinamen to this country on labor contracts which are far from being carried out. The companies further admit that many of the Chinese were brought into the country on fraudulent papers, all of which cost them a heavy investment on which they have not yet realized. The plea for a suspension for six months is made by the companies in order that they may get more money before the Chinamen are deported.

It is difficult to understand what sort of a notion of this government is entertained by the diplomatists of the Six Companies. They have probably formed an idea of our merciful natures by a comparison of our chronic lenience toward murderers and other high criminals with the severity practiced in China. But the United States as a government is rigid in the exercise of laws protecting the nation. The Six Companies have not only laid themselves open to punishment on their confession, but they have harmed the cause of their hirelings in the United States.

Secretary Carlisle will not be moved by the plaintive appeal for clemency because the companies are about to lose much money on account of the Geary law.

The government of China can not find ground to raise an international question in the Geary matter. The law is not exactly in accord with the usual spirit of our customs, but China does the exclusion business more completely than the Geary law does and can not complain. Therefore the great government of Asia can not object to our measures for keeping account of its subjects here. The Geary law is a measure that may prove efficacious in settling an important problem.