

**OPPOSED BY THE SIX COMPANIES.**

Rev. Edward P. Payson of New York in a sermon delivered last Sunday took the ground that the Chinese are worthy of better treatment than they are receiving from this government. He spoke of their great energy and superior intellect. The Rev. Mr. Payson has evidently fallen into the same error that has characterized the arguments of others who oppose the Geary law. He thinks that it works a hardship on the individual Mongolian.

Several days ago THE TIMES explained that the Six Companies of San Francisco opposed the law because it would deprive them of the labor of thousands of Chinamen who were smuggled into this country and whose expense of food and transportation had already been advanced. The Six Companies are afraid for the mass of Chinamen in the United States to stand the registration test. Too many of them would have to go back to China for violating our immigration laws.

The Chinaman as an individual does not

care anything about the Geary law. As a consistent fatalist he would as soon be registered and photographed or even branded as not. But by the advice of the Six Companies he has declared the act humiliating to him and as a result soft-hearted Americans of waning patriotism are standing up for him.

If a lot of Germans or Irish or Italians should get into this country in violation of our laws of immigration they would be deported if detected. Every week immigrants are sent back from New York for some good reason. Yet the Chinaman, who is smuggled into the country by a company that imports him as a money-making implement, is called persecuted because the government, by an altogether reasonable method, proposes to keep track of its yellow residents.

In California, where the evil effects of a Chinese element are most noticeable, it is desired that the law be enforced.

The Rev. Mr. Payson, in his argument from the pulpit, said that the Chinese should be given more consideration because they had given gunpowder, the compass, spices and tea to the world. The Geary law has nothing to do with restricting the importation of these things and the payment of good American money to China for them. The whole question is one of the right of the national government to regulate the traffic of a nefarious organization known as the Six Companies, which, in violation of our laws, is making itself rich and establishing a government within a government.