

Yokio, Sept 12th 1874.

If your Government wants one or two
Monitors; these monitors are from 1000 to
2000 tons, and can sink any ship afloat;
many of them throw shot of 500 lbs weight
and in fighting time only show 12 inches
above water; are thickly plated, and can
throw streams of boiling water on an
enemy boarding. I offer you my ser-
vices and experience to procure the same;
and by the outgoing steamer will take
such steps as will select two from the
American fleet, one to come by the
Suez Canal, and the other across the
Pacific. In the event you decide
to purchase your Agent must leave
here without the public knowing what
he goes for.

Most respectfully & faithfully yours,
J. M. Hatchelder.

To His Excellency,
Okuma Shigenobu,
Okura-Rijo.