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Correspondence
Book 106

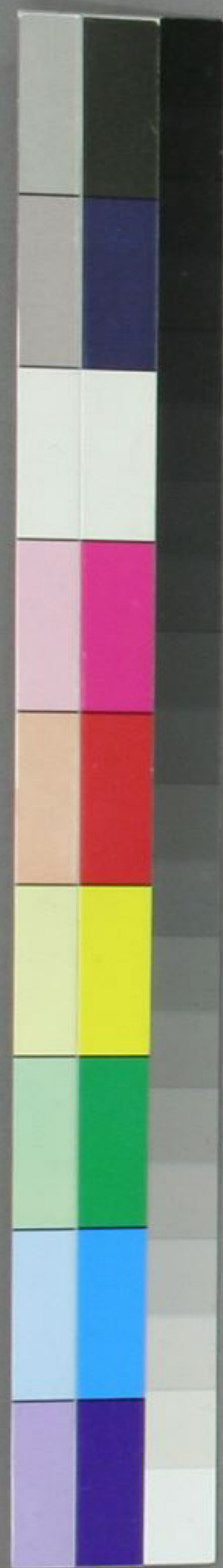
Yokio, Oct. 7th 1874.

Your Excellency,

I note that the political horizon at Peking is anything but quiet.

The Emperor of China decreed by the "Imperial Council" Sept 10th disgracing Prince Kung for impudence & neglect to his Emperor & Counsellors. Sept 11th after a degradation of only twenty four hours duration from Imperial Prince to Provincial Prince, he was again reinstated as Prince of Beileh, in consideration of meritorious services heretofore rendered to his Government which deserve to be placed on record, and was cautioned to increase his respect to his Emperor, and his exertions to solve present difficulties, and honor his present position.

The restoration of Prince Kung as the head of the peace party is strong evidence that the rumor of the Emperor, his Counsellors, & Li Hing Chang were offended at Prince Kung for his peace tendencies and ^{that} they ~~would~~ refuse to receive Okubo as Ambassador was true. It now seems that that as the power upon the throne has decided to receive Okubo that



a satisfactory settlement will soon be made between Japan & China without a long diplomatic audience.

Fearful evidence of speculations are being uncovered at Peking in relation to the Opium Tax Collections.

Li-Hung-chang is very active; but an unusual nervousness is noticed in his actions.

The Tantai of Soou-kiang (Gen. Ward's patron) has arrived at Shanghai, and is forming a military camp of 20,000 men near the mouth of the Yangtze for drill, and making forts to protect Shanghai.

十三號

江上几梅子

W. B. Barber

Notes

9th October 1894

As to state of Political
Affairs of the King