

189  
AGENTSCHAP  
DER  
Nederlandsche Handel Maatschappij,  
YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama, March 1878.

Excellency,

I respectfully beg  
to submit the following to your  
Excellency's consideration.

With this country the  
Netherlands have had commercial  
intercourse for many hundred  
years and during all that time  
the complications, unavoidably  
connected with trading in general,  
have been exceptionally rare and  
mostly of an insignificant character.  
If I may be allowed to lay before  
Your Excellency my personal  
experience of a good many years  
together with what has been  
reported to me by my predecessors,  
I believe I am right in saying,  
that not only very few complaints  
if any, have been brought against  
merchants

His Excellency  
Muma Shigenobu  
Minister of His Imperial Majesty's  
Financial Department  
Tokio.



merchants of Dutch origin by your countrymen, but that the prevalent opinion amongst all classes in Japan with regard to people of the Netherlands is a very favorable one. -

If the above is true in general, the more so it is with regard to the institution, which I have the honor of representing at the present moment.

The Netherlands Trading Society, - Agent for the Government of the Netherlands as regards the expedition and sale of the products of the East-Indies and also in connection with the purchase of equipments, arms, stores &c. for the Civil and military services, I am proud to say, stands very high in credit and public estimation in Japan and wherever its name is known, and is moreover by means of its considerable resources and extensive connections all over the world in a position especially to afford to the Government of Japan the opportunity of purchasing the articles of foreign manufacture, required by the Departments, at the very lowest prices, at which good quality



quality and suitability are obtainable. -

However up to the present time the Japanese Government did not frequently avail themselves of the good offices of the said company, although some time ago an order on Lundry materials, required by the Arsenal of Yokosuka, has been executed by this Agency and the Head-office at home to the entire satisfaction of the officials governing the said establishment, and repeatedly assurances have been received leading the manager of this branch to the supposition, that the Society would be favored with further confidence. -

Regarding the sphere of action of the Society I may be permitted to state that, being able to compete with any mercantile institution in the East, the Directors are prepared to execute orders from the Government or Army and Navy, requisites, as equipments, arms, ammunition, cloths, blankets &c, - on machineries for architectural, technical & chemical works, telegraphs, railways, manufactories &c, on farmer's instruments



instruments and agricultural ma-  
chineries, in chemicals and medicines  
&c &c, whether manufactured or  
best obtainable in Europe or America,  
upon such terms as will prove  
practicable without rendering  
the fitness and good quality of  
the supplies problematical. They  
are likewise prepared to act as  
Agents for the Government of  
Japan in financial matters  
as well as for the sale in foreign  
markets of Rice and other pro-  
duce.

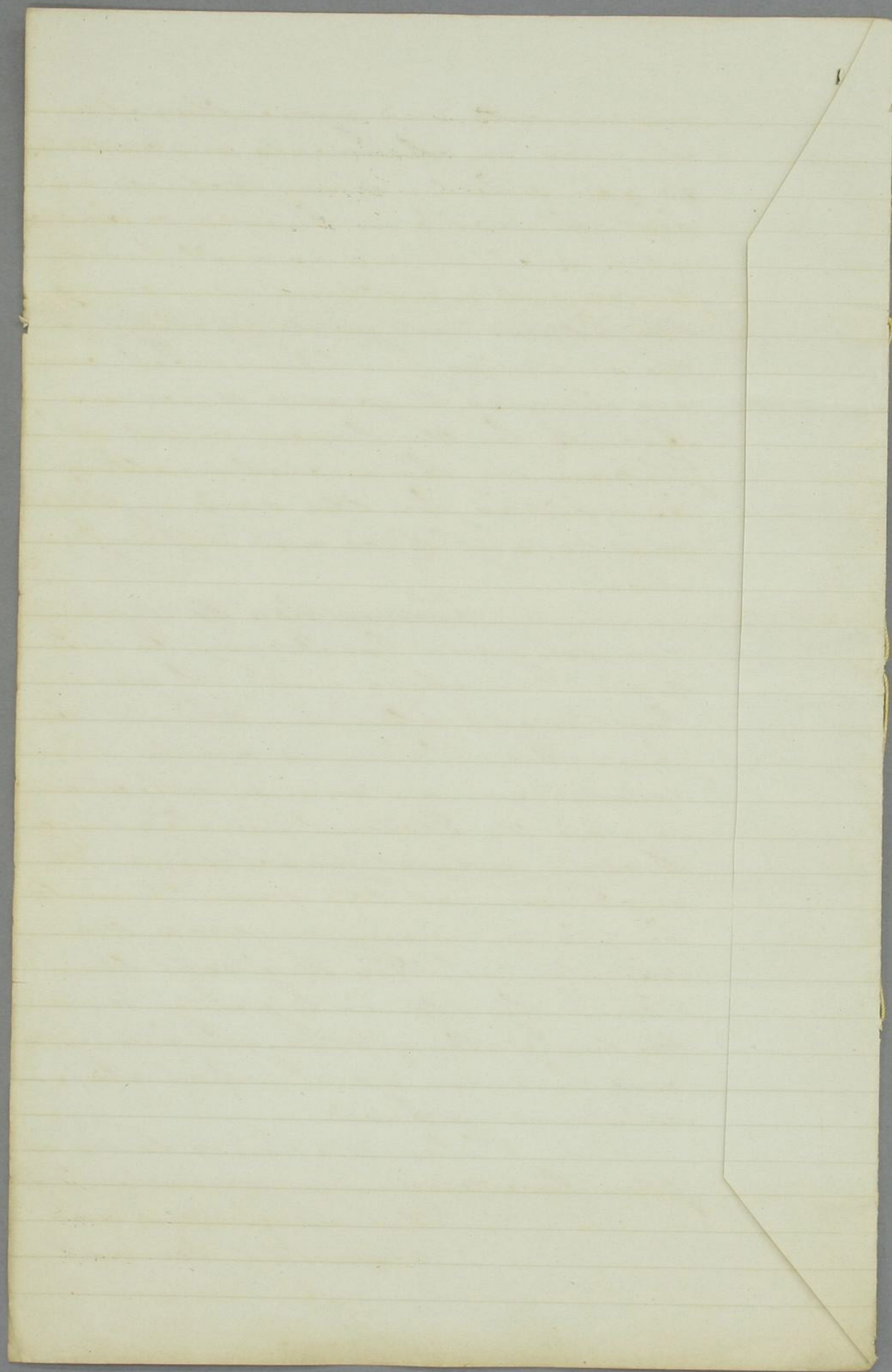
I now beg to urgently  
request your Excellency to con-  
sider the above and, if your  
Excellency's opinion should be  
favorable, I have no doubt, that  
relations may ensue, which will  
enable the Netherland Trading  
Society, whilst practising its  
vocation, at the same time to  
benefit in many respects the  
country of His Majesty the  
Tennō by its integrity and  
the principles of straightforwardness  
and fairness, upon which its  
existence is based.

I have the honor to be of  
Your Excellency

The most obedient and  
respectful servant

M. van Amstel







1890/11  
在横濱蘭五番「エム」ダームスヨリノ来翰譯

謹シテ一書ヲ呈シ聊卑見ヲ開陳シテ以テ閣下ノ電覽ニ供ス  
抑モ我荷蘭國カ貴國ト通商貿易ヲ開キシ以來今日ニ至ルマテ  
既ニ數百年間此間諸商賣ニ関シ紛乱錯雜ヲ生セシノ少ナキ  
ハ其比ヲ見ザルモノニシテ仮令セ止ヲ得ヌ一二ノ紛乱ヲ生セ  
シテアリシト雖モ瑣々タル小事ニ過キカリシ而已  
幸ヒニ余ヲシテ閣下ニ申陳スルコトヲ許サシメハ余敢テ云ハシ  
是迄余カ多年來親シク實地ニ就テ經驗セシ所ノモノト我先輩  
ノ余ニ報道セシ所ノモノトヲ以テマハ仮令セ如何ナル詞訟訴  
訟ナルニモマヨ是迄貴國人ヨリ我蘭商ニ對シ法庭ヲ煩セシ  
願フル僅クナル而已ナラス蓋シ又貴國人民ハ上下皆俱ニ荷蘭  
ノ人民ニ付テ説ヲ為スヤ極メテ蘭人ヲ稱賛スルニアリト云フ  
モ敢テ証ユルニアラザルナリト信ス





以上開陳スル所果シテ信ナランニハ今余カ左ニ論述スル所ノ  
高社ハ更ニ然ルヘキハ固ヨリ論ヲ跋タス  
抑モ當蘭國高社ハ荷蘭政府ノ代理人ニシテ東印度産ノ諸産物  
ヲ輸送販賣シ加之又全政府ノ為メニ文武ノ両途ニ供用スル武  
器糧食等凡百ノ物品ヲ購求スルノ代理人タリ其日本ハ勿論其  
他宇内此高社ノ名ヲ知ル地方ニ於テ信用ノ深ク衆庶ノ稱賛ノ  
厚キ甚タ大ナリト云フベシ且ツ当社ハ資本ノ巨額ナルト宇内  
各國トノ交通手廣キトヲ以テ特ニ日本政府ノ為メニ其諸官廳  
ニ於テ要求スル外國製ノ諸物品ヲ極低價ニテ購求シ以テ政府  
ノ用ニ供スルヲ得ベシ但シ其品質ハ上等ヲ擇ク能ク用途ニ適  
應スルモノヲ以テスベシ是余カ誇言ヲ吐露スル所以ナリ貴國  
政府ニハ未タ当社ノ貞實ニ付テ利益ヲ享ケシテ數回ナラサリ  
レト虽氏曾テ横須賀造船所ヨリ注文ヲ受ケタル雜品ノ如キハ

当支店ハ申スニ及ハス本國ノ本店ニ於テモ精々念ヲ入レタル  
ヲ以テ造船所主管ノ諸官員至極満足ノ色アリ向後モ尚ホ注文  
ノ命ヲ当社ニ下スヲアルベキニ付豫メ其旨ヲ心得置クベキ  
ヲ當支店ノ支配人ニ盪フヲ再三再四ニ及ヒタリ  
抑モ当社ノ事業タル東洋ニアル諸高會ノ何レヲ問ハス之ト能  
ク競争シ得ルヲ以テ当社ノ頭取等ハ兵器、彈藥、軍服、<sup>フ</sup>ランケッ  
ト等凡百ノ海陸軍用品ト、建築、藝術、化學、電信、錢道、製造所等所用  
ノ諸機械ト、農具、諸機械ト、化學作用物品及ヒ製藥ホ百般ノ機械  
物品ニ就テ幸ヒニ貴政府ノ注文ヲ受クルアラハ謹ンテ尊命ヲ  
遵奉スルアラント欲ス  
凡ソ此等凡百ノ機械物品ハ何レモ皆歐州カ若クハ米國ノ製造  
ニ係リ此兩國ニ於テ最上良品トナスモノヲ擇ク豫メ約束ヲ設  
ケテ以テ貴政府購買ノ後其機械物品ノ質分善惡等ニ付疑ヲ懷



クナク用途ニ供シテ必ラス実效ヲ奏スルモノヲ以テスベシ  
尚又当社ノ頭取等ハ理財上ノ事件ト海外ノ市場ニ於テ米其他  
諸産物ノ販賣方トニ関シ日本政府ノ用達ヲモ勤メント欲ス  
切ニ冀クハ閣下以上余カ開陳スル所ノモノヲ熟考セラレシ  
ヲ以上ノ件々万一閣下ノ意ニ叶フアラハ我蘭國高社ハ不相替  
其常務ヲ取扱ヒ併ヤテ忠実正直ヲ尽シテ以テ凡百ノ事件ニ付  
日本天皇陛下ノ邦國ヲ益シ交際ヲ永遠ニ保ツヤ論ヲ竣タス蓋  
シ忠実ト正直トハ当社ノ拠テ以テ今日ニ存スル所以ナリ謹言  
千八百七十八年三月六日  
在橫濱蘭五番

エム、ダーメス

大藏卿大隈重信殿閣下