

Confidential  
In haste

355  
A

Hibiya, Tokyo.  
Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 1874

Dear Mr. Howell

Your letter of this date is at hand. In reply I beg to state that the statement appeared in the Herald of last night as to the printing machinery to be purchased by the Government, and amount of our reserve bullion seems to be based upon something else than <sup>the real</sup> fact - perhaps calculated to trifle with the financial credit of the Empire. But the readers - some of them - might be misled thereby. So that, as suggested by you, I now have pleasure of officially

informing you of the following fact  
which you can safely publish  
in your paper - viz:

The amount of the reserve  
Fund (called Zumbée) is at the  
present moment no less than  
25,000,000 frms in both gold  
and silver - more than seven  
tenths <sup>of the whole</sup> ~~of the whole~~ being represented  
by gold - We have not  
yet touched this reserve fund  
on account of the existing  
circumstances - and hardly  
intend to take recourse to  
the same -

As to the printing Machinery  
mentioned, I must <sup>state</sup> that any  
one who may have known  
any thing about the con  
tract made in Frankfort by

3

Mr. Nooyens with Messrs. Dondorf  
etc. would not for a moment  
imagine the statement to be  
true, for the machinery <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~  
promised at that time (1869)  
to be sold to the Govt. by the  
said Printer should the Govt  
desire so to do, and it is  
a long since that the Govt  
has determined to purchase  
the machinery in order that  
any paper money (Bank  
notes and bond and stocks and  
the like) might be printed  
at home by the help of such  
machinery, and also ~~that~~  
the <sup>existing</sup> paper money <sup>when became old</sup> may be soon  
exchanged with the new which  
we intend to print ~~the~~ with  
the machinery above mentioned.  
Even if the machine was  
intended

Mr. Thompson with whom I had  
the pleasure of meeting at  
the meeting of the Association  
at the Hotel de Ville (1869)  
has been so kind as to  
write me a letter in which  
he has expressed his  
wishes that the  
Government should  
issue a new issue of paper money  
etc - which is not the case, it will  
not be ready for 12 months to  
come. Hence the author of  
such articles mentioned by  
you must be one who may  
uselessly try to hurt our credit  
by artificial means. But  
the sower will, in time, reap  
his first fruit!

With respects I am  
always yours  
Yoshida Kiyonari  
cc. cc.

P. S. M. Okuma joins me  
in expressing thanks for  
your good intentions  
in these matters.  
Y.K.

本日付ノ其額改爲手書然此取ノ「へラ  
 比」新字紙中より政府より利行器械買  
 入之儀再ニ政府準備地<sup>金</sup>高ニ採<sup>レ</sup>タル箇  
 條ハ事實ノ不撥アルニ非ス恐ラクハ日本大  
 義者ノ信義ヲ愚弄セシテ殊モトナレバ候  
 併ニ看讀ノ者感ハ之レカ<sup>レ</sup>得ニ疑忌ヲ生スル  
 哉<sup>ニ</sup>難<sup>シ</sup>ハ其取<sup>ル</sup>義<sup>ニ</sup>任セ<sup>テ</sup>事<sup>ノ</sup>實<sup>ヲ</sup>報  
 知<sup>ス</sup>タ<sup>シ</sup>モ官<sup>ニ</sup>無<sup>ク</sup>過<sup>ス</sup>若<sup>シ</sup>社<sup>ニ</sup>新<sup>ニ</sup>字<sup>紙</sup>ハ<sup>ハ</sup>裁  
 セ<sup>テ</sup>公告<sup>可</sup>有<sup>ク</sup>之<sup>ル</sup>其<sup>レ</sup>方<sup>今</sup>準備<sup>金</sup>高<sup>ニ</sup>合<sup>ス</sup>限

大藏省

合テ裁<sup>キ</sup>千<sup>五</sup>百<sup>萬</sup>圓<sup>ニ</sup>下<sup>ス</sup>共<sup>ニ</sup>内<sup>金</sup>債<sup>ハ</sup>  
 總<sup>高</sup>ノ<sup>十</sup>分<sup>ノ</sup>七<sup>ニ</sup>額<sup>一</sup>不<sup>申</sup>其<sup>日</sup>現<sup>今</sup>ノ<sup>事</sup>  
 議<sup>ニ</sup>當<sup>リ</sup>此<sup>準</sup>備<sup>金</sup>一<sup>萬</sup>萬<sup>圓</sup>ノ<sup>額</sup>ハ<sup>決</sup>定<sup>セ</sup>ル<sup>事</sup>  
 之<sup>又</sup>右<sup>ノ</sup>以<sup>テ</sup>持<sup>助</sup>ト<sup>ス</sup>ヘ<sup>キ</sup>所<sup>存</sup>ハ<sup>決</sup>定<sup>セ</sup>ル<sup>事</sup>  
 其<sup>取</sup>又<sup>利</sup>行<sup>機</sup>械<sup>一</sup>條<sup>ハ</sup>千<sup>八</sup>百<sup>六</sup>拾<sup>九</sup>萬<sup>圓</sup>  
 上<sup>野</sup>氏<sup>ト</sup>「<sup>ト</sup>「<sup>ト</sup>社<sup>中</sup>」<sup>ト</sup>ノ<sup>約</sup>定<sup>ス</sup>ル<sup>事</sup>  
 第一<sup>其</sup>利<sup>行</sup>機<sup>械</sup>政<sup>府</sup>ニ<sup>於</sup>テ<sup>ハ</sup>内<sup>金</sup>債<sup>有</sup>之<sup>ル</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>  
 其<sup>取</sup>後<sup>ノ</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>其<sup>日</sup>社<sup>中</sup>ノ<sup>中</sup>出<sup>資</sup>在<sup>ル</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>其<sup>日</sup>  
 ニ<sup>テ</sup>モ<sup>存</sup>在<sup>ス</sup>ル<sup>事</sup>無<sup>ク</sup>知<sup>ル</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>其<sup>日</sup>社<sup>中</sup>ノ<sup>中</sup>出<sup>資</sup>在<sup>ル</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>  
 以<sup>テ</sup>行<sup>用</sup>イ<sup>タ</sup>ス<sup>ル</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>其<sup>日</sup>社<sup>中</sup>ノ<sup>中</sup>出<sup>資</sup>在<sup>ル</sup>事<sup>ハ</sup>

横尾





355  
B"  
Saturday Ev<sup>g</sup>

My dear Mr. Yoshida

I received your  
letter just in time this  
afternoon to make it the  
subject of a paragraph  
in my paper of this even-  
ing. The question is one  
of vital importance at  
this moment, as my

reports of weakness in the  
Japanese finances would be  
eagerly received in China &  
would also be transmitted to  
London where it would  
produce a bad effect. What  
bores me in this place is  
to see the carelessness &  
indifference to results  
with which statements of  
this nature are put forward

But the press in Japan,  
like many other things both  
here & elsewhere, has got  
into bad hands, and  
makes needless trouble  
& contention instead of  
doing good alone - as it  
should seek to do. I  
rarely reply to adverse  
statements made against  
my paper or myself, because  
they are made by men



of no character or position,  
or reputation for truthfulness.  
But reports calculated  
to injure the credit  
of the Government should  
certainly be contradicted  
when this can be done  
justly.

Yours faithfully  
W. S. Howill.

---

The bearer of this, my cousin, Mr. G.  
Howill, whom I would introduce to you, will  
give you your letter.

今夕出版社新装版の掲載款條之  
概意は左様なるが、稿本は午後正  
落中世世此の旨を以て是等回ハ其大  
切なる件より日準備金銀五五  
之報告ハ支那之希少なる所より  
又就郵一七右報告ハ其旨ハ其  
害は甚大確一と申す概之余ハ此  
事件ハ心苦也ハ其何なる。然極  
里ハ申す如世深ハ注意せらる出版

大藏省

此後段後悔死世然し此日亦多於  
新装版出版ハ何ハ所在ハ其旨  
ハ付端也ハ却テ不善なる風習也  
得新装版上必要なる事備也生ガ  
ルガエハ過失者也端ハ申款せず

夫し不運意も一ハ其旨也改るも在  
知らざる、人之對之当社、新装版  
ニ及ニ其端復ホ抗ハる者ハ其旨  
中難申致

然し此日事政府之信用ハ害世人也



乙一 報文書ヨレハ可成ハ之レト扱ニ  
中ニ存一紙 謹言

千八百廿二年 九月 廿日

ホーウエン

吉田清成 敬

進呈正御氣持奉 在 御覽ニ付 此ホーウエン  
ノ上ヨリ 今ノ上ノ 是報ハ 正御氣持奉 奉  
上

大藏省



ホウライ工

元印  
分  
書  
田

赤  
子  
書  
目  
書  
地