

Yokohama 15 January 1875

Kingdon Schwabe & Co.  
Yokohama.

— Sir,

I take the liberty of sending for Your Excellency's inspection a set of photographs of the Exhibition building of Vienna, while in process of construction, by the Iron Works of Duisburg which are represented in Japan by my firm; and would beg permission at the same time to mention - that these works have been for some time past furnishing iron bridges for the Railways in Portugal, as well as for the Dutch Govt in Java - that the large bridge across the Elbe near Hamburg, and another across the Donau at Vienna, besides numbers of others across the Rhine came out of this Establishment -

I would moreover call your Excellency's attention to the fact that the Duisburg iron works have recently been entrusted by the Dutch Government with an order for the large bridge near Rotterdam for which tenders were also made by many English Contracting Companies, but which were nearly double the figure at which the order was granted

I mention these facts in order to convince  
Your Excellency that the Duisburg iron works  
hold a very high reputation in Europe,  
second to none, for their capability of  
executing orders with despatch, accuracy,  
and Economy, and that as we are  
the Special Agents of this Company no  
Commissions of any kind would be  
charged on orders passing through our  
hands.

I have the honor to be  
Your Excellency's  
Most obedient servant

N. P. Kingdon

To His Excellency  
Okuma Shigenobu  
Minister of Finance  
— + + +.

謹啓 閣下御覽ノ為メビイナ博覽會建築進業次序  
 造嘗寫眞デニスバルグ鉄業本社ヨリ差送候ニ付則テ  
 奉拜送候  
 前書社過年中ポルケユガル國於而鉄道下鉄橋建築  
 蘭國政府ノ為メヂヤバニ於テハンブルグ近隣イルブ川ニ  
 廣大ナル鉄橋建築ビインナニ於テモ同ク鉄橋建築  
 其他佛國ラエン川ニ在ル処ノ數多鉄橋ハ皆ナ  
 本社ノ建築ニ候  
 全近年一千八百七十四年中本社蘭國政府ヨリ信用  
 セラレロツタルダム川近隣ニ廣大ナル鉄橋建築ノ委  
 任ヲ受ケ某節英國人建築社中等ノ積價ハ  
 本社ノ積價ニ希ント二倍依テ建築ノ許容本社  
 ニ下命ナリ  
 前書デニスバルグ鉄業社ハユーロッパニ於而高名ナル社  
 ニシテ如何ナル大業建築ナリト甚速巧者經濟及  
 請合ヲ以テ成切可仕候  
 前文ノ糸埃地ノ事ニ候間奉言上候在下拙等ハ  
 同社中ニ候間口錢手数料ホハ以然無是事ニ候  
 恐ニ敬白

一千八百七十五年一月十八日

キングドン  
 スワツブ再拜

大隈參議

呈閣下