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No. 2. Nagasaki, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1874.

Your Excellency:—

I am in receipt of your despatch No. 2, Nagasaki series. In reply I beg to state that, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April General Saigo, Captain Cassel and myself met at my house, and during the interview I was informed by General Saigo, in presence of Captain Cassel, that the latter gentleman would leave the next day in the "Yokio Maru" for Amoy; and he requested that officers to meet him the next morning on board of said steamer. This interview having actually taken place and arrangements for the departure of the steamer made, I sent Capt. Cassel orders to leave

in compliance with the orders of the Chief Commissioner, but without the latter's countersignature, which omission I stated I would repair some time during the day. In the afternoon Mr. Interpreter Roe communicated to me the rough copy of the translation of your Despatch No. 1, Nagasaki Series. I was then waiting for the visit of the Chief Commissioner, but, without delay, I proceeded on board of the "Toku Maru", where I procured from Captain Cassel and Lieut. Nasson their despatches of the 27<sup>th</sup> April, copies of which I have already had the honor to forward to you with my despatch No. 1 Nagasaki Series. At the same time, seeing that, under the circumstances, it would not be advisable for me to issue any order to the officers under me upon the verbal authority of the Chief Commissioner

alone, I took back from Capt. Cassel the order I had given him in the morning without the countersignature of the Chief Commissioner, saying that, after it had been countersigned, I would return it to him. Having returned to my house, I met there the Chief Commissioner, and while we were discussing the subject of the protest of the American Minister, and after we had sent for Captain Cassel and Lieut. Nasson to join us, we heard that the steamer "Toku Maru" had left. This was about ten o'clock; and the order which I had withdrawn from Captain Cassel two hours before is still in my hands. I beg to hand you herewith the original of the same.

I have the honor to be  
Sir, Your Most Obedient Servant,

*Am. W. Lafont*

His Ex. Okuma Shigenobu.

etc. etc. etc.

Nagasaki, April 27<sup>th</sup> 1874.

Captain Douglas Cassel,  
U. S. J. M.'s Transport "Yuko Maru".  
Nagasaki.

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> of April, I beg to inform you that, owing to injuries received by the "Hokai Maru" during her trip from Yokoi to Nagasaki, you have been transferred from that ship to the "Yuko Maru", in which vessel you will leave Nagasaki for Amoy at twelve o'clock today, or as soon after as possible.

and proceed to carry out  
the instructions you have  
already received.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Ch. W. Lawrence

Approved, 新加坡總督

High Commissioner, etc.