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Tokai, July 8th 1854.

Your Excellency:—

I have the honor to respectfully forward, through your Excellency, an application for six weeks leave of absence from tomorrow, the 9th instant. The suspense in which I am left as to the fate of my friends in Formosa, both American and Aboriginal, who have volunteered their services to the Japanese Government on my representations that I would proceed to China early in June, and from whom I have heard nothing since the

26th of May, has so affected
my mind that I feel that
I need the relief asked for.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient Humble Servant,

Ch. W. Le Gendre

His Excellency

Okuma Shigenobu,

Minister of Colonization,

Sh. Sh. Sh.