

C494

Tokai, May, 18th, 1875.

Your Excellency,

Sometime ago the thought struck me, that nothing could create more sensation than the reception, at the American Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, of a suite of furniture made entirely of Japanese material, from native design and by native hands, by ^{the} order and for the use of His Majesty, and the superior execution of which would secure for it the highest prize to its maker.

With a view to assure myself that Japanese workmen are capable of making whatever articles of furniture or ornaments that would be required for the carrying out of this project, I directed a common carpenter, living in my neighborhood, to make, for my own use, a few chairs and a sofa from sketches furnished him, and he has now made his first delivery.

I beg to hand your Excellency one of the chairs made by this man, with the request that it may be kept ^{by you} as a specimen of your own people's skill

which

His Excellency Okuma Shigenobu.

which to be developed in a way that cannot fail
to be most beneficial to the State, need only a little
encouragement from H. S. M's Government.

Hoping that I may before long have an
opportunity of touching again upon this subject
with your Excellency, They to remain,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient and
Devoted Servant.

Ch. W. Leland

大隈大蔵卿閣下

His Excellency

Mrs Okuma

C494

外務省

大隈之七の御上ごめんごめん

安未

本月十日の御上ごめんごめん
方通一業知事し 事以半回
アラズアア所持免年々吾心
民惣志品 事出 方々
大共志有 且吾破二
廿五年の御上ごめんごめん
リ志欲麦多進 為甲の
物成し成二介生 勉萬心未し

大藏省

趣 事御事知 満之 方々
厚意之方 謝
ソつと 面 御上ごめんごめん
心大 志 事 御上ごめんごめん
上

大隈 重信

千代ルス。然るにリゲンと君

一翰啓上致候然ハ来春米國費拉地費ニ於テ博覽會ノ催シ可有之旨聞及居候處其節ハ政府ヨリ御注文相成候御國人自製ノ器具一通リ御輸送相成リ出品有之候ハ、如何計リカ人知ヲ開達可致ヤ且ツ品物ノ他ニ勝レルヨリ製造人ニ採リ莫大ノ榮誉トモ可相成ト存候

抑御國細工人ハ何事ニ依ラズ人ノ需求ニ任セ器具又ハ裝飾物等ノ製造ニ至テ精巧ヲ極メ候様相覺ヘ過日自用ノ為ノ近鄰ノ匠人ハ命ジ雛形通リ睡椅及ビ椅子等製造為致候依テ見本トシテ全人製造ノ椅子等脚相呈シ候間御使用被下候ハ、大慶不過之候扱テ右製造ノ斯ル精巧ヲ極メ候ハ則チ日本一般ノ利益ナレバ貴政府ヨリ多少トナク御世話有之可然ト奉存候
右事件ニ付不日閣下ニ對シ再應申上度希望罷在候謹言

大藏省

東京

李仙得

千八百七拾五年五月十八日

大隈卿閣下

一 翰拜呈致シ候然ハ近々米國ヲイラゲルフイ
 ヤニテ博覽會ノ催有之候由ニ付拙者兼テ相考
 候ニハ日本皇帝陛下ノ命ヲ以テ外國風ノ家具
 器什ノ類ヲ日本人ノ考案ヲ以テ悉ク日本ノ物
 品ヲ用ヒテ日本工匠ノ手ヲ以テ製作セシメ之
 ヲ博覽會ニ持出シ候ハ、世人ノ賞翫ヲ得ル事
 實ニ比類ナク候半ト久シク相考居候事ニ候然
 ルニ日本ノ工匠ハ此様ノ目論見ヲ遂ルニ適當
 ナルヤ否ヲ知ラシ為ニ先達テ拙宅ノ近傍ニ住
 スル尋常ノ一職人ニ試ニ模型ヲ與ヘ椅子ト座
 床ノ製作ヲ命シ候ヒシニ此節美麗ノ品ヲ作りノ
 出シ申候隨テ右工匠ノ手際ノ精良ナルヲ露サ
 シ為右ノ内椅子一脚ヲ閣下へ進呈仕候此製造
 一タヒ萬國ニ聞ケ候時ハ國益ヲモ増進スルノ
 助ト相成可申此地位ニ至ラシメンニハ唯々我
 陛下ノ政府ヨリ少シク之ニ勉励ヲ加ベシメタ
 マフニ可有之ト存候拜具謹言

五月十八日

李仙得

大隈閣下

之限
了殿



長江

高第街

及

如
外

C494

