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Apr 21/02

59 Wall Street.

My dear Count Okuma

I have taken
the liberty of giving
young Mr Birge
of Buffalo a letter
to you. He is the
son of a very
wealthy wall
paper manufacturer
but who has
literary tastes & as
he is a graduate
of

of a university
& a young man
of some talent
who will write
about Japan
I thought it
might interest
you to put him
straight & possibly
make some things
ordinarily difficult
easy for him.

I am much
interested in

the develop-
ment of the
pro-Japanese
sentiment in
this country.
While I know
that my father's
opinions on these
lines were criticized
by merchants &
people in business
a long time ago
the virility of
the Japanese
nation

has proven itself
& needs no inter-
preter Still it
is of importance
to do all that may
be & as this
young man comes
from an active
city - Buffalo -
on the great northern
lakes - even a
slight notice
that you might
take of him w
be of value - more

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more than this
I would not ask
- his father
& in manufac-
turing business
- Wall paper on
a large scale - but
* the young man
being of literary
tendencies I
felt you could
readily receive
him if nothing
else & turn him
over to some one
- who

who will inform
him correctly as
to Japan's present
aids or at all
events what
you think the
American public
might ~~wish to~~
usefully know

With great
respect I am
Yours very truly
W. L. Gendie

Mr. William C. Le Gendre,

*Representing
Messrs Brown Brothers & Co.
59 Wall Street,
New York.*

