

No. 11 Hirakawa cho
Tokio 31st March 1875

Gen Kimasa Shirai Esq
Gaimusho

My dear Sir

With much regret, and not unmindful of the many Kindnesses I have already received from you, I address to you this letter, to ask for your assistance in what I am going to lay before you; and without further preface I will as concisely as possible state the case.

I am officially informed that the Office, in which I have been employed during the past six months, is virtually closed; and therefore my services are no longer required. I abstain from all expressions of regret, which this announcement causes me, and pass on to the subject,

which is the reason, of my
addressing to you this letter.

I understand that it is
contemplated to send from this
Country, to Australia, a Commission,
for the purpose of exhibiting, at
the forthcoming Melbourne
Exhibition, articles of Japanese
produce, and manufacture &c., and
I am desirous of obtaining the
appointment of Secretary (or to
serve in any way in which my
services will be useful) to the
Commission.

Being in doubt as to the best
means to use for obtaining the
appointment I desire, and as I
think no time should be lost in
applying for it, I address myself
to you, to ask you if you will so
far assist me in the matter, as
to take an early opportunity of
laying my case before His Excellency
The Minister of Finance, and to bespeak
his interest in my behalf.

As I have lived for some
years in South Australia, I
know a great deal about the
Country; also many of the leading
Colonists, and I think that I
could fill the position I am
saying for, with advantage to
the Commission, and with
credit to myself.

If you approve of my
proposition, will you render me
the assistance I desire, and
forgive me for thus troubling
you.

I remain

My dear Sir

Your obedient Servant
Robert Laze