

614

#200 Yokohama 8th Dec. 1887

Your Excellency

During the interview I had the honor of having with you some time ago, you mentioned certain obstacles on the line of the railroad you propose to build, that you expected to have great trouble

His Excellency

Count Shigenobu Okuma

Tokyo

in overcoming.

The problem as presented by your Excellency has occupied my thoughts not a little and has greatly interested me professionally.

The surveys of the road were expected to be completed on or about the 1st December, and your Excellency expected them to be able to judge of the merits of the line determined on by your engineer. Should a solution of the difficulty (other than a tunnel) not have been found, I would esteem it a great favor to be allowed to look over the maps, as I might possibly be able to suggest a method whereby expensive tunnel construction could

be avoided.

There has recently appeared in America a book which I think would interest your Excellency, dealing as it does with the relative merits of English and American railroads. I have made a short synopsis of the work (and of which I have had a translation made), and I beg to be allowed to present the book etc. to your Excellency.

Awaiting your reply, I remain
very respectfully
your obedient servant

Ad. Rasloff