

618

No.

Oriental Bank Corporation.

Yokohama 18 Feb 1878

All letters to be addressed and  
Remittances made payable to  
"THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION"

Dear Mr. Okuma

I have been requested  
by Mr. Russell to inform you  
that the Hongkong Government  
have at last given their  
attention to the question of  
legislating the Japanese Trade  
Law. Our Managers in  
Hongkong wrote to Mr. Russell  
by the last English mail to say  
that the Governor intended  
to be present at a meeting  
of the Banks (which was to  
take place on the day the  
steamer left) at the office of  
the Oriental Bank Corp.  
to consider whether the

Trade silver should be accepted  
as legal tender in the Colony  
at par with Mexican dollars.

The French mail is due  
here tomorrow and I hope to  
hear the result of the meeting  
which I will communicate  
to you at once.

I regret to say that Mr.  
Russell has been very unwell  
for some little time, and he  
is therefore unable to write  
himself, but I trust to see  
him again in the Office  
in a few days.

Yours very truly

E. J. Reid

618

No.

Oriental Bank Corporation.

Yokohama 2 March 1878

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"THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION"

Dear Mr. Okuma

Mr. Russell requests me to inform you that at the meeting of the associated Banks (referred to in my letter of 28 Feby) it was decided not to take any immediate steps in the matter of legalising the Trade Law, and for your information, I enclose copy of a letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary on the subject.

Yours very truly

E. Reid

Copy.

Hongkong 19<sup>th</sup> Feb  
1878

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Colonial Secretary.

Sr.

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular letter of 16<sup>th</sup> inst enclosing for our consideration and opinion copy of a letter from the Consul for Japan requesting the recognition of the Japanese Trade Dollar as a legal tender in this Colony.

While acknowledging the suitability of the Japan Trade Dollar to form a valuable adjunct to the currency of the colony we have the honor to submit that pending the decision of H. M. Government with regard to the Coinage of a British Dollar and the legislation of the American Trade Dollar (as recommended by the Chamber of Commerce and the representatives

of the various Banks here) we  
are not at present prepared, and  
in fact deem it premature, to  
advocate the adoption of the  
Japan Trade dollar as a legal  
tender. —

We have the honor to be Sir  
Your most obedient  
Servants,

(S<sup>d</sup>) For Oriental Bk Corp<sup>n</sup>  
S<sup>d</sup>, C. M. and H. M. Managers  
For Char<sup>d</sup> Mercantile Bank  
S<sup>d</sup>, W. S. Nicholson Acty. Agent  
For Char<sup>d</sup> Bank of India  
S<sup>d</sup>, R. J. Harper Manager  
For Hong Kong Shanghai Bk.  
S<sup>d</sup>, J. M. Jackson Chief Manager  
For Nat<sup>l</sup> Bk of India  
S<sup>d</sup>, G. V. Thomas Acty. Manager.

弊社ロスセル氏之依頼ニ依リ謹テ一書ヲ呈シ以テ左ノ件々ヲ  
報道ス

香港政府ニテ終ニ日本貿易銀ヲ合法貨幣トナスコニ意想ヲ傾  
ケタリ

香港ニアル我銀行ノ支配人ヨリ英國郵船ヲ以テロスセル氏ニ  
寄セシ前便ノ報スル所ニ依レハ同地ノ鎮臺ハ諸銀行衆會ノ席

ニ出テ、同地ニ於テ日本貿易銀ヲ洋銀ト同價ニ合法貨幣トシ  
テ採用スベキ利害得失ニ付テ俱ニ討論衆議セントノ意ナリト

尤モ此衆會ハ右郵船彼地出帆ノ当日東洋銀行ニテ相催ス由  
佛回郵船明日着港ノ当日ナレハ定メテ衆會ノ模様結局モ聞知

スルヲ得ベク尚ホ其節ハ不取敢報道スル所アルベシ  
遺憾ナカラロスセル氏ハ近日來病ニ臥シ其レカ為メ自身筆ヲ

大藏省

採リ書ヲ送呈スルアタハス尤モ不日本復出店スベシ謹言

千八百七十八年二月二十八日

横濱東洋銀行

イ、ゼイレード

大隈公

弊社「ロスセル」氏ノ依頼ニ依リ謹シテ左ノ件ヲ報道ス

二月二十八日之拙翰ヲ以テ閣下ニ報道セシ諸銀行ノ衆會ヲ以テ日本貿易銀ヲ合法貨幣ト為ス<sub>ト</sub>ニ付テハ苟モ急遽ノ處分ヲ為スベカラザル<sub>ト</sub>ニ衆議一決セリ

別紙諸銀行社負ヨリ在香港英政府書記官<sub>ハ</sub>送リ<sub>ニ</sub>一書翰<sub>ヲ</sub>寫ラ添付シ以テ閣下ノ電覽ニ供ス謹言

横濱東洋銀行

千八百七十八年三月二日

イ、ゼイ、レード

大隈公

大藏省

屬

我輩銀行社負ハ本月十四日附ノ回文ト我輩社負ノ衆論ヲ問ハシカ為メニ在日本領事ヨリ此地ニ於テ日本貿易銀ヲ合法貨幣トシテ採用セシムニ付テ寄送セシ依頼書ノ屬トヲ貴下ヨリ送セラレシモノ拜受謹讀セリ

抑モ日本ノ貿易銀タル當植民地ノ通貨ニハ適中スルト雖氏熟ク考フルニ曾テ當地ノ商法會議所先ニ諸銀行ノ代理人等ヨリ申立シ「デリチワシ、ドルラル」(英國ノ弗)鑄造ノ儀モ「アメリカン、トレイド、ドルラル」(亞米利加義)採用ノ一モ兩ツナカラ未タ本國政府ノ決議セサル所ナレハ我輩社負ハ目今日本貿易銀ヲ合法貨幣トシテ採用スベキ一ヲ主張スルノ意ナキノミナラス實ニ之ヲ採用スルノ期太早シト思考ス依テ具陳スル一此ノ

大藏省

如シ

東洋銀行支配人

シ、モルランド、カ

チヤタルド、マルカン、マイルバンク管事代理

ダブリユー、エフ、ニコルスム

チヤタルド、バンク、オフ、インディア支配人

アール、ゼイ、ハーペル

香港上海銀行支配人

トーマス、チヤクソン

ナシヨナル、バンク、オフ、インディア

シ、イ、タムソン

千八百七十八年二月十九日

在香港英政府書記官宛