

Niigata Maru

Yokohama

March 9th 1877

His Excellency

Okuma Shigenobu Esq^r

Minister of Finance

Tokio.

Sir

I take the liberty to write to you, to express my thanks for the great honor conferred on me and my ship, by personal visit of your Excellency and suite yesterday. I intended to do myself the honor of calling on your Excellency today, and express ~~my~~ thanks to you in person, but having a great deal of business to attend to I have had to forego that honor.

Knowing that your Excellency takes a very great interest in the Maritime development of your country, and especially in the

well being of our company. I have had a painting made of my ship the "Niigata Maru" which I take the liberty of sending herewith and crave your Excellency's acceptance, as it is the first ship our company have despatched to Europe, and as I am entrusted to the command of it. I would esteem your Excellency's acceptance a great honor.

Trusting that your Excellency will enjoy the great blessing of good health, and that on my return from England, I shall again have the honor of seeing your Excellency on board the Steamship "Niigata Maru" for a short cruise down the bay.

I beg to remain

your Excellency's

Obedient Humble Servant

Wilson Walker

昨日閣下随官ト共ニ親シク余ガ船舶ヲ訪フコトアリ余ノ面
目将ク何ラカ之レニ加ヘン余今一書ヲ閣下ニ寄セラシテ此事ヲ
拜謝ス

余本日親ツカラ拜趨以テ聊カ謝辞ヲ述ベント欲スレ共如
何セシ事務ノ繁劇ナル余ヲシテ素志ヲ違スル能ハサラシム
熟惟ミルニ閣下ハ貴國航海ノ業ニ関心セラレ、至大至廣殊ニ
我社ノ安寧ヲ計ラレ、極メテ多キニ居ル余今新潟丸ノ船圖
ヲ製シ以テ閣下ニ送呈ス希ハクハ莞納アル

我社未ク改州ニ船舶ヲ送りシコトナク此度初メテ新潟丸ノ出資アル
リ且ツ其艦長ハ即チ余ナルヲ以テ亦大ニ面目ヲ得ルコトアル
ベシ伏シテ祈ル閣下千萬恙ナク永ク将来ノ幸福ヲ保クベシラ余
英國ヨリ帰港ノ上港内巡遊、為メ新潟丸ヲ閣下ニ再會センコ
ト願フ謹言

大藏省

於横濱千八百七十七年

三月九日

ウエルソン、ウオーケル

大藏卿大隈重信殿

閣下

