

No. 47A, Bluff; Yokohama.
June 30, 1898.

My dear Count Okuma:

In common with all who know and esteem you, I am rejoiced to learn of your accession to the highest official position which His Majesty the Emperor can bestow. It would be a pleasure if I could go to Tokio for the purpose of offering congratulation, but my constantly increasing illness makes the journey impossible, and I can only write to express my happiness at this culmination of your public honors. There have been times, of late, when I feared I might not live to witness the crowning distinction of your career, and it gladdens me beyond measure that the event has come while I can still welcome it, and bear testimony to its powerful influence upon the political development of the country. Though I am bodily one of the most infirm of men, there is no weakness in the spirit with which I wish you all good fortune and the fullest prosperity and success in your eminent station; and my hope that health and strength will never fail you is as fervent and earnest as my faith in your courage, energy,

and intellectual prowess. For more than twenty-five years it has been my privilege to study your endeavors to promote true progress in Japan, and I now feel that with the inauguration of a Ministry moulded by you and obedient to your principles, a new and impressive chapter should open in the history of the empire.

With confidence and regard, I am

Yours most sincerely,

E. H. House.

東京牛込早稲田
伯爵大隈重信殿
閣下



To His Excellency, Count Okuma Shigenobu.
Waseda. Tokio.



House

POST
17
18