

Memorandum
on the items concerning
the early treaties with Japan and the first Japanese Embassy in 1860
from the "Perfected Treaty series"
and
"Notes from Japan Regarding the Treaty of Yedo"
in possession of the U.S. National Archives and Record Administration

By Yoshinori YOKOYAMA, October 22, 2019
Professor, Historiographical Institute, the University of Tokyo
yokoyama@hi.u-tokyo.ac.jp/yoshinori_y@nifty.com

This paper aims to prepare and report the investigation of the early treaties, relevant documents, and belongings in NARA I, II on November 1, 2018. This visit was realized under the supports of Mr. Muragaki Takashi and Ms. Miyahara Mariko.

This is a part of the research results of the joint research project of the National Museum of Japanese History "A Re-examination of History of East Asian International Relations of the Transitional Period from Early Modern to Modern: A Comparison of Japan, China, and Siam" (2016-2018).

Abbreviation:

BGKM: [*Dai Nihon Komonjo*] *Bakumatsu gaikoku kankei monjo* (University of Tokyo, 1910-)

Archives I (NARA DC)

1. Treaty of Kanagawa

National Archives Identifier: 299806

U.S./Japan Treaty of Peace, Amity and Commerce, March 31, 1854 ("Perry Treaty"); [Perfected] Treaty Series#183; Record Group 11, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC

Treaty of Kanagawa is officially the "Convention of Peace and Amity between the United States of America and the Empire of Japan" (*Nichi-bei washin jōyaku*).

Subject index of the Treaty series and the Executive agreement series (July 1, 1931) was compiled by the Department of State and is used as the numerical list of "the perfected treaty series" in alphabetical order, giving the Treaty Series (TS) number, the signatory country or countries, the date of signature, and the subject or title. As for Japan, they are

- #183 Japan March 31, 1854 Peace, Amity, and Commerce.
- #184 Japan June 17, 1857 Commerce and Consuls
- #185 Japan July 29, 1858 Peace, Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation
- #186 Japan January 28, 1864. Import Duties
- #187 Japan and Other Powers. October 22, 1864. Simonoseki Indemnities.
- #188 Japan and Other Powers. June 25, 1866. Japanese Tariff
- #189 Japan July 25, 1878. Commerce
- #190 Japan May 17, 1880. Shipwreck Expenses
- #191 Japan April 29, 1886. Extradition
- #192 Japan November 22, 1894. Commerce and Navigation.
- #193 Japan January 13, 1897. Patents, Trade-marks, and Designs.
- #194 Lew Chew July 11, 1854. Friendship and Commerce.

Cf.

Compact of Friendship and Commerce between the United States of America and the Royal Government of Lew Chew (*Ryū-bei Kyōyaku*).

National Archives Identifier: 19027412

File Unit: TS #194 AO:

Compact, in English and Chinese, with Presidential Proclamation and U.S. Instrument of Ratification.

M1247 is the Microfilm Publication Number which has the publication title as "Perfected International Treaties (RG11)". This is consisted of 64 rolls of microfilm arranged by Treaty Series (TS) number assigned by the Department of State.

roll13 contains #173-#186

roll14 contains #187-#201

Comment:

The original version of the treaty of Kanagawa kept in Japan was consumed by fire in the Yedo Castle in 1859.

The most reliable texts of treaties of Japan were compiled in “旧条約彙纂” [Kyū jōyaku isan] (Compilation of the expired treaties, 1930) by Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The facsimile of the other one kept in US is in The *United States Congressional Serial Set* Vol. No. 770, Session Vol. No. 14, 33rd Congress, 2nd Session, S. Exec. Doc. 79 pt. 2

Transcribe:

「約條」

約條

亞墨利加合衆國と帝國日本兩國
の人民誠實不朽の親睦を取結び、
兩國人民の交親を旨とし、向後可
守ケ條相立候為、合衆國より全權
マテユ・カルブレト・ペルリ^{人名}を日本に差越し』
日本君主よりハ全權林大學頭・
井戸對馬守・伊澤美作守・鵜殿
民部少輔を差遣し、勅諭を信し
て雙方左の通取極候

第一ケ條

一、日本と合衆國とハ其人民永世不
朽の和親を取結び、場所人柄の
差別無之事

第二ケ條

一、伊豆下田・松前地箱館の兩港は、
日本政府に於て亞墨利加船薪・
水・食料・石炭欠乏の品を日本』
人ニ而調候丈は給候ため、渡來の儀
差免し候、尤下田港は約條書
面調印の上即時相開き、箱
館は來年三月より相始候事
一、給すべき品物直段書の儀は、
日本役人より相渡可申、右代料は
金・銀・錢を以て可相辨候事

第三ケ條

一、合衆國の船日本海濱漂着の時扶助
致し、其漂民を下田又は箱館に護送
致し、本國の者受取可申、所持の品物も同
様ニ可致候、尤漂民諸雜費は兩國互ニ』

同様の事故不及償候事

第四ヶ條

- 一、漂着或ハ渡來の人民取扱の儀は他國同様緩優に有之、閉籠候儀致間敷、乍併正直の法度ニハ伏從いたし候事

第五ヶ條

- 一、合衆國の漂民其他の者とも、當分下田・箱館逗留中長崎に於て唐・和蘭人同様閉籠め窮屈の取扱無之、下田港内の小島周り凡七里の内は勝手に徘徊いたし、箱館港の儀は追て取極候事

第六ヶ條

- 一、必用の品物其外可相叶事は雙方談判の上取極候事

第七ヶ條

- 一、合衆國の船右兩港に渡來の時、金・銀・錢並品物を以て入用之品相調候を差免し候、尤日本政府の規定に相從可申、且合衆國の船より差出候品物を日本人不好して差返候時は受取可申事

第八ヶ條

- 一、薪水・食料・石炭並欠乏の品を求る時ニハ、其地の役人にて取扱すべく、私に取引すべからざる事

第九ヶ條

- 一、日本政府外國人江當節亞墨利加人江不差許候廉相許し候節ハ、亞墨利加人江も同様差許可申、右ニ付談判猶豫不致候事

第十ヶ條

- 一、合衆國の船、若し難風に逢さる時、下田・箱館港の外猥に渡來不致候事

第十一ヶ條

- 一、兩國政府ニ於て無據儀有之候模様ニより、合衆國官吏のもの下田ニ差置候儀も可有之、尤約定調印より十八ヶ月後ニ無之候而は、不及其儀候事

第十二ヶ條

- 一、今般の約條相定候上は、兩國の者堅く相守可申、尤合衆國主ニ於て長公

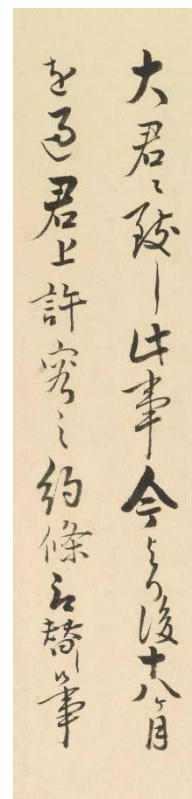
會大臣と評議一定の後、書を日本
大君ニ致し、此事今より後十八ヶ月
を過*1、君主許容の約定取換し候事』
右之條日本・亞墨利加兩國の
全權調印せしむる者也
嘉永七年三月三日*3

林 大學頭 (花押*2)
井戸 對馬守 (花押)
伊澤 美作守 (花押)
鵜殿民部少輔 (花押) *3

(collation by YOKOYAMA)

- *1 The Japanese phrase '十八ヶ月を過' in the 12th article of Kanagawa treaty, meaning "after 18 months" (see, figure) is different from the prevailing text now in Japan, i. e., '十八ヶ月を過ぎずして', which provides as "within 18 months." Indeed, the corresponding phrase of the English version is "the ratifications shall be exchanged within eighteen months.".
- *2 '花押' is a signature in Japanese style.
- *3 There is no countersign of M. Perry in the Japanese exemplar.

figure: a part of the 12th article of Kanagawa Treaty in 33rd Congress, 2d Session. Senate. Ex. Doc. No.79. Vol.II (appendix p.14)



2. Treaty of Shimoda

U.S./Japan Convention of Commerce and Consuls, June 17, 1857; Treaty Series #184, Record Group 11, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC

Comment:

It is said that the original of this treaty on the Japanese side was also destroyed by fire in the Yedo Castle in 1859.

According to “旧条約彙纂”, the Treaty of Shimoda, concluded with T. Harris on June 17, 1857 at Shimoda, is the second treaty between Japan and the United States. The 8th article stipulated that the true meaning shall be found in the Dutch version of the articles.

The Japanese text of this treaty in “旧条約彙纂” is as follows;

帝國日本に於て亞米利加合衆國人民の交を猶處置せん爲に、全權下田奉行井上信濃守・中村出羽守と合衆國のコンシュル、ゼネラル（官名）、エキセルレンシー（敬称）、タウンセンド・ハルリスと、各政府の全權を持って可否を評議し、約定する條々左の如し

第一條

日本國肥前長崎の港を亞米利加船の爲に開き、其地に於て其船の破損を繕ひ、薪水食料或は缺乏の品を給し、石炭あらは又夫をも渡すへし

第二條

下田并箱館の港に來る亞米利加船必用の品、日本に於而得かたき分を辨せん爲に、亞米利加人右の二港に在住せしめ、且合衆國のワイス、コンシュルを箱館の港に置く事を免許す

但此箇條は、日本安政五午年六月中旬、合衆國千八百五十八年七月四日方施すへし

第三條

亞米利加人持來る所の貨幣を計算するには、日本金壹分或は銀壹分を、日本分銅の正きを以て、金ハ金、銀ハ銀と秤し、亞米利加貨幣の量目を定め、然して後吹替入費の爲、六分丈の餘分を日本人に渡すへし

第四條

日本人亞米利加人に對し法を犯す時は、日本の法度を以て日本司人罰し、亞米利加人日本人へ對し法を犯す時は、亞米利加の法度を以てコンシュル、ゼネラル或はコンシュル（共に官名）罰すへし

第五條

長崎・下田・箱館の港に於て、亞米利加船の破損を繕ひ、又は買ふ所の諸缺乏品代等は、金或は銀の貨幣を以て償ふへし、若し金銀共所持せざる時は、品物を以て辨すへし

第六條

合衆國のエキセルレンシー（敬称）、コンシュル、ゼネラル（官名）は、七里境外に出へき權ある事を日本政府に於て辨知せり、然りといへとも、難船等切迫の場合にあらされハ、其權を用ふるを延す事を下田奉行望めり、此に於てコンシュル、ゼネラル（官名）承諾せり

第七條

商人より品物を直買にする事は、エキセルレンシー（敬称）、コンシュル、ゼネラル（官名）並其館内に在る者に限り差免し、尤其用辨の爲に銀或は銅錢を渡すへし

第八條

下田奉行はイギリス語を知らず、合衆國のエキセルレンシー（敬称）、コンシュル、ゼネラル（官名）は日本語を知らず、故に眞義は、條々の蘭譯文を用ふへし

第九條

前箇條の内第二條ハ記す処の日より、其餘は各約定せる日より行ふへし
右之條々日本安政四巳年五月廿六日、亞米利加合衆國千八百五十七年六月十七日、
下田御用所において、兩國の全權調印せしむるもの也

井上信濃守花押

中村出羽守花押

3. Treaty of Yedo

U.S./Japan Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Commerce and Navigation, July 20, 1858; Treaty Series #185, Record Group 11, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC

Comment:

1) Treaty of Yedo,

Concluded on July 25, 1858 (the 19th day, 6th month, 5th year of Ansei) at Yedo, by Townsend Harris, the American plenipotentiary, and Inoue Kiyonao, Prince of Shinano, and Iwase Tadanari, Prince of Higo, the Japanese plenipotentiaries, together with the Trade Regulation.

In the English version, no signatures of the Japanese plenipotentiaries can be found. This is different from the English text of the Treaty in “旧条約彙纂”.

2) Ratification Instrument of the Treaty of Yedo and relevant documents of US.

The Ratification by Japan was done on March 19, 1859 (the 15th day, the 2nd month, the 6th year of Ansei). The cosignatories were Ota Sukemoto, Councilor, Prince of Bingo and Manabe Akikatsu Councilor, Prince of Shimoosa. In the ratification instrument, it was declared that three delegates of Mizuno Tadanori, Nagai Naoyuki, and Kato Shozaburo, would be sent to Washington DC to exchange the instruments. But this ratification instrument was also consumed by fire of 1859. Meanwhile those two councilors and three delegates were purged and punished.

In 1860 the new ratification instrument was restored with a new signatory (Wakisaka Yasuori, Councilor) and it appointed new three delegates (Shinmi, Muragaki, and Oguri) to bring it to the U.S. The date of ratification was, however, not modified and the original date of 1859 was maintained.

The authentic diplomatic documents collection (*Bakumatu Gaikoku Kaneki Monjo* [BGKM], vol.22 no.151, p. 479) quotes the both texts of the ratification instruments of 1859 and 1860. See fig. 1. The ratification instrument of 1860 was exchanged to the Secretary of State Cass on May 22, 1860 at Washington DC. See fig.2

Black Lacquered Box of the ratification instrument and its red cord with tassel.

The above-mentioned ratification instrument of 1860 was kept until recently in another black lacquer box with the Imperial crest of the chrysanthemum. See fig.3.

But the original box had neither crest nor any mark. It is ascertained by the Japanese documents “*垂行御用留*” [Akō goyō dome].

fig.1 the last spread of the Ratification of Japan.



By courtesy of Mr. Muragaki and Ms. Miyahara
[Treaty Series #185, RG11]

Transcribe:

The last sentences in the Japanese ratification instrument is as follows:

右條約十四ヶ条は、帝国日本においてハ、井上信濃守・岩瀬肥後守に委任し、亜米利加合衆國全權兼コンシュルゼネラル、トウンセント・ハルリスと安政五年六月十九日江戸府において議定調判し、此度新見豊前守・村垣淡路守・小栗豊後守に命し、華盛頓府において為取替兩國互に相守可申もの也

安政六己未二月十五日

大日本帝國

外国事務老中

脇坂中務大輔（花押）

源家茂口（經文緯武）

(provisional translation by YOKOYAMA)

Fourteen Articles of this treaty were committed to Inoue Kiyonao, Prince of Shinano and Iwase Tadanari, Prince of Higo to negotiate with Townsend Harris, Consul General and Plenipotentiary of the United States, and concluded at Yedo on July 29, 1858. Now Shinmi Masaoki, Prince of Buzen, Muragaki Norimasa, Prince of Awaji, and Oguri Tadamasu, Prince of Bungo were sent to exchange the ratifications at Washington DC to keep them mutually.

fig.2 Certification of exchange of the ratification of the Treaty of Yedo (in the Archives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Important Cultural Property of Japan).



<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/annai/honsho/shiryo/akebono/image/11.jpg>

fig.3 The Imperial crest of the chrysanthemum on the top of the black lacquered box which used to contain the ratification instrument until recently (fig.1). Another lacquered box with no crest was originally used when the instrument was delivered to the U.S. in 1860.



By courtesy of Mr. Muragaki and Ms. Miyahara
[Treaty Series #185, RG11]

Archives II (College Park)

Notes from Japan Regarding the Treaty of Yedo

4. "Letter from Shogun Takugawa Iyemochi"
dated the 16th day, the 1st month, the 7th year of Ansei Period
(7/Feb/1860)

National Archives Identifier: 6883722
RG59

Series: Notes from Japan Regarding the Treaty of Yedo

Comment:

This letter was read out by Shinmi and translated by Namura, Dutch translator, in front of the President Buchanan on May 18, 1860 in the White House. Shinmi presented it to Him by hand.

This gilt letter in paulownia case was contained in a black japan box.

The codex of this letter was transcribed and published by the University of Tokyo. (BGKM, vol.34 no.95)

Transcribe:

うやうやしく亜墨利加合衆国の
大統領のみもとにまをす、さきに
下田奉行信濃守源清直・目付
肥後守藤原忠震等におほせて、
そのくにの欽差全権巴兒リスとはかり、
むつひののりをさためて、ものうり
かふへきちきりのしるしふみをあたへ
江戸のつかさにゆきかひせしむ、いままた
ことに、奉行豊前守源正興、淡路守
源範正、目付源忠順等に、
ちきりのしるしふみをもたしめて、
華盛頓のつかさにいたらしむ、
このときハめていたりふかく、こゝろいと
ねむころなり、かれこののちふたくにの
したしみもいよいよあつく、ましらひは
よゝにかはらさるへし、いまこのつかひ
みたりのおミは、さらにえらひま [う] けたる
ものにしあれば、ともにまこころをのハへて
ことはかれよかし、すへてしたしミを
あつくし、またそのくにたひらけく
やすけからむことをおもふにこそ
安政七年正月十六日
源家茂 口（経文緯武）

the name and the vermilion seal of the Shogun Tokugawa Iémochi:



<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6883722>

(Provisional translation of the letter by YOKOYAMA)

Respectfully I have the honor to write this to the President of the United States of America. Lately Inoue Kiyonao, Governor of Shimoda, Prince of Shinano, and Iwase Tadanari, Inspector Prince of Higo, negotiated with Harris, Your Plenipotentiary Envoy, to settle the matters of friendship and trade and concluded the treaty at Yedo for the moment. Now I send Shinmi Masaoki and Muragaki Norimasa, Governors for Foreign Affairs, and Oguri Tadamasu, Inspector, to exchange the ratification. This originated from friendship enough to respect each other further. Hereafter the relationship between both countries will become even closer and more respectful but will never change. The three delegates are selected by me to perform this mission. Therefore, I ask You to give them special courtesy. I beg Your favor for me to express my sincereness to develop our friendship and to have an opportunity to celebrate Your heartsease.

Measurement by

Ms. Lauren Varga, Lead Conservator (NARA)

Description: Letter of Credence and Letter from the Commission on the Ratification of the Treaty of Yedo, 1858, Folded heavyweight yellow paper with gold decorations

National Archives Catalog <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6883722>

Box: Wooden with green textile interior, outer dimensions 59cm x 16.8cm x 6.6cm

Paper Substrate:

Overall length: 182 cm

Overall height: 45.72 cm

1st piece of paper: 93 cm

2nd piece of paper: 89 cm

Seal

Seal length: 90 mm

Seal width: 91 mm

Thickness of outer edge of seal: 3 mm

Folds -Width (cm) between the creases of the 17 folds

1. 9.5

2. 10.16

3. 10.16

4. 10.4

5. 10.4

6. 10.4

7. 10.4

8. 10.4

9. 10.4

10. 10.4

11. 10.8

12. 10.8

13. 10.8

14. 10.8

15. 11

16. 11

17. 11

Paper thickness

Top edge: 0.217 mm

Bottom edge: 0.211 mm

Left edge closet to seal (top, middle, bottom): 0.193 mm, 0.198 mm, 0.196 mm

Right edge (top, middle, bottom): 0.233 mm, 0.268 mm, 0.256 mm

5. Autographs of the Japanese Embassy and Suite

National Archives Identifier: 6883702

RG59

Series: Notes from Japan Regarding the Treaty of Yedo

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6883702>

Comment:

The portfolio (images nos.1-3) must have made in U.S.

1. (image no.4)

Transcribe:

"Autographs of the Japanese Embassy Suite, Washington June 1st. 1860"

Comment:

These were corresponding to the "List of Japanese Embassy to the United States", which was enclosed in the Letter from Harris to Cass, Yedo, November 15, 1859. (No. 52, Despatches from US Ministers to Japan, vol.2, 1858-1859, RG59/133-R2)

2. (image no.5)

Transcribe:

"Simme Boogen no Kami." "新見豊前守"

Comment:

Ambassador

"Shinmi Buzen no Kami" in the Japanese orthographical spelling.

"Buzen no Kami" was his title; "Prince of Buzen".

His given name was Masaoki(正興).

3. (image no.6)

Transcribe:

"Muragáke Awádsi no Kámi." "村垣淡路守"

Comment:

Vice Ambassador

"Muragaki Awaji no Kami"

"Awaji no Kami" was his title; "Prince of Awaji".

His given name was Norimasa (範正).

4. (image no.7)

Transcribe:

"Ogúri Búngo no Kámi." "小栗豊後守"

Comment:

Chief Censer

"Oguri Bungo no Kami"

"Bungo no Kami" was his title; "Prince of Bungo".

His given name was Tadamasu (忠順).

5. (image no.8)

Transcribe:

"Morita Okatáro." "森田岡太郎"

Comment:

Vice Governor of the Treasury

"Okataro" was his handle name.

6. (image no.9)

Transcribe:

"Narúse Génsiro." "成瀬善四郎"

Comment:

Vice Governor for Foreign Affairs

"Zenshiro" was his handle name.

7. (image no.10)

Transcribe:

"Tskáhara Jhugoro." "塚原重五郎"

Comment:

Secretary [for Foreign Affairs] of the 1st rank (Serabay akoo, i.e. Shirabe Yaku)

"Jugoro" was his handle name.

8. (image no.11)

Transcribe:

"Hitáca Keizáburo." "日高圭三郎"

Comment:

Inspectors of the 1st rank

"Hidaka Keizaburo" was his handle name.

9. (image no.12)

Transcribe:

"Osacábe Tetstáro." "刑部鉄太郎"

Comment:

Inspectors of the 1st rank

"Tetsutaro" was his handle name.

10. (image no.13)

Transcribe:

"Miasáke ×dju ×gen =xg, hard. Doctor" "宮崎立元"

Comment:

"Miyasaki Ryugen" was a doctor.

11. (image no.14)

Transcribe:

"Moora Yama haku ×gen. g hard. Doctor" "村山伯元"

Comment:

"Murayama Hakugen" was a doctor.

12. (image no.15)

Transcribe(front):

"Matsmóto Sannojo." "杵本三之丞"

"Yosida Sagozajemon." "吉田佐五左衛門"

Comment:

Secretaries [for Foreign Affairs] of the 2nd rank.

"Sannojo" was his handle name and usually written as "三乃丞".

"Sagozaemon" was his handle name.

13. (image no.16)

Transcribe(reverse):

"Námoura Gohátsiro." "名村五八郎"

"Masóodsoo Sungero." "益頭駿次郎"

Comment:

"Gohachiro" was his handle name.

Dutch Interpreter [at Hakodate]

"Masuzu Shunjiro" was his handle name.

Treasury officer

14. (image no.17)

Transcribe(front):

"Tsoóge Yosigoro." "辻芳五郎",

"Cooli Sima Hicohatsiro." "栗嶋彦八郎"

Comment:

"Tsuji Yoshigoro" was his handle name.

Treasury officer

"Kurishima Hikohachiro" was his handle name.

Inspector of the 2nd rank

15. (image no.18)

Transcribe (reverse):

"Swsáwa Ishcogero." "鹽澤彦次郎"

"Tateish Tokujúro|Tateish Onogero Tommy." "立石得十郎" "立石斧太郎"

Comment:

"Shiosawa Hikojiro" was his handle name.

Inspector of the 2nd rank

"Tateishi Tokujuro"

Interpreter

"Tateishi Onotaro" (son-in-law of Tokujuro)

"Onotaro" is now well known as "Onojiro"[斧次郎] and was called in US as Tommy. "Taro" means the firstborn son, but "Jiro" the second son.

16. (image no.19)

Transcribe:

"Cavasake Domin. Doctor." "川崎道民"

Comment:

"Kawasaki Domin" was a doctor from Saga Clan.

6. Letter [replying from the Shogun of Japan]

National Archives Identifier: 6883714

RG59

Series: Notes from Japan Regarding the Treaty of Yedo

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6883714>

Comment:

On the top of the covering paper, there is written by pencil "accompanying Mr. Pruyn's Despatch No,57 16 Oct. 1862."

Nevertheless, the corresponding despatch No.57 Oct. 16, 1862, *Despatches from US Minister to Japan, vol.4 (RG59/FMM133/R4)*

has the following two enclosures, i. e.,

encl1. Midusno and Itakura to Pruyn, 22nd day uruu 8th month 2nd year of Bunkyu

encl2. Pruyn to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Yedo, 15 Oct. 1862. , which are not relevant to the Shogun's letter to the President in 1858.

The codex kept in Japan of this letter shows that it was written on the 6th day, the 5th month, the 5th year of Ansei (May 16, 1858) and handed over to Harris from Hotta Masayoshi, Council, Prince of Bitchu on the same day.

Transcribe:

「返書」

肅復

亜墨利加合衆國

大統領皮兒設（ピアース）殿下

貴國往年以降屢求

兩國脩睦、幸慰靡鮮、且現今派領事官巴爾理士（ハルリス）、

爲使節、齎書翰、謀使

兩國人民共通貿易永以安寧、詞旨懇款、感荷

曷己（已）、乃宜以章程草案相示也、然期日不得不

緩者、以有我闔国会同商議之事也、幸諒察

之、併祈

貴國安全、不悉、

安政五年戊午五月六日

日本国源家定 □（經文緯武）

the name and the vermilion seal of the Shogun Tokugawa Iésada:



7. Letter from Minamoto Sémochi [sic, Iémochi] to the President of the United States

National Archives Identifier: 6883703
RG59

Series: Notes from Japan Regarding the Treaty of Yedo
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6883703>

Comment:

gilt paper.

The codex[copy?] of this letter is

no.40. Greeting to the President of United States of America by the Tycoon, May 2 1861,

in

RG84.2, Japan Notes from the Japanese Government vol.5.

It also includes English and Dutch translations.

Transcribe:

恭しく亜墨利加合衆國

大統領のもとに申す、我國と

貴國と條約を取結ひしより

このかた、数々の事務漸々に

ついてを得て、條約の書に載る処、

大かたハ是を施すに至りぬ、

しかるに彼條約の中、兵庫

およひ新潟の港を開き、また

江戸・大坂の市町にて外國の人

もの商ふ業を営むへき條は、

契りし如く行なハむとすれとも、

かすかす障の事あれば、暫く

開くへき期を延むとす、その細やか

なる事からハ、外國の事務に関れる我

老中久世大和守・安藤對馬守より

貴國外國事務大臣に申入へし、こハ

親しく懇なる意をもて、むへなはむことを

求む、且貴國平安をこれ祈る也、

文久元辛酉年三月廿三日

源家茂 □（經文緯武）

the name and the vermilion seal of the Shogun Tokugawa Iémochi:



(English Version of the enclosure of No.40)

Greeting, I have to state to Your Majesty the President of the United States of America that since a Treaty was concluded between my Empire and the United States, the relations between the two countries have been in steady progress of organization and the time approaches that much of what is stipulated in that Treaty is to go into effect. But there are several obstacles in the way of execution of that article of the Treaty, which relates to the opening of the ports of Hiogo and Neegata and the admittance of foreign trade in the cities of Yedo and Osacca. I therefore desire to postpone the opening of the places above named.

More particular information on this subject will be communicated by the Members of my Council for Foreign Affairs Kudse Yamato no Kami and Ando Tsudima no Kami to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United States.

I hope that Your Majesty animated by friendly feeling will consent to this. I wish happiness and prosperity to the United States.

On the 23rd day of the 3rd
month of the 1st year of Bunki
Name of His Majesty the Tycoon.

Measurement by
Ms. Lauren Varga, Lead Conservator (NARA)

Description: Letter from Minamoto Iemotsi to the President of the United State Delaying the Opening of Yeddo, Osaka, Hiogo and Niegata, folded heavyweight cream paper with gold decorations

National Archives Catalog <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/6883703>

Box: Wooden with cream paper interior decorated with gold leaf, outer dimensions 15.8 x 52 x 5.7 cm

Paper Substrate:

Overall length: 160 cm

Overall height: 43 cm

1st piece of paper: 76.5 cm

2nd piece of paper: 83 cm

Seal

Seal length: 90 mm

In witness whereof, the above named plenipotentiaries have hereunto set their hands and seals, at the city of Yedo, this twenty-ninth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-third, corresponding to the Japanese era, the nineteenth day of the sixth month of the fifth year of Ansei Mma.

TOWNSEND HARRIS [SEAL]

Treaties and other international agreements of the United States of America 1776-1949, vol.9, p.368

fifty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eight-third, corresponding to the Japanese era, the nineteenth day of the sixth month of the fifth year of Ansei Mma.

(L. S.) Inoooye Sinanono Kami.
 „ Iwasay Higono Kami.
 „ Townsend Harris.

en vyftig en van de onafhankelykheid der Vereenigde Staten van America het drie en tachtigste overeenkomende met de Japansche tydrekening den negentienden dag der zesde maand van het vyfde Jaar van Ansei Mma.

(L. S.) Inowoeje Sinanono Kami.
 „ Iwasee Higono Kami.
 „ Townsend Harris.

タ
ウ
ン
セ
ン
ド
、
ハ
ル
リ
ス
手
記

岩
瀬
肥
後
守
花
押

井
上
信
濃
守
花
押

三年七月二十九日江戸府に於て
前々載たる兩國の役人等名を記
し調印する者也

『締盟各国条約彙纂』 (1884) p.741