

46 明治12年4月30日 大隈英磨

(英文—卷末2頁)

46 明治 12 (1879) 年 4 月 30 日 大隈英麿

Tokio. Apr. 30th '79.

My Dear Taki

I received yours of 16th Mar. and read it with a greatest pleasure. Talk about weather! We have been enjoying real fine weather ever since our arrival of course with occational rain which do not amount much.

This spring, Uyeno Mukojima and other favorite resorts were crowded with thousands of people, but I only went to Uyeno, while I was expecting to visit the "opposite Island". I received a sad news from Morioka, saying my sister was dead, so I did not go to the place.

Perhaps, you will be surprised to hear the news which I am going to tell you, so be prepared.

As I came from the antipodian world, my mind has also revolved — I have given up going to America again, and I am now a married man. (this is most surprising perhaps). Now may be you wish to know to whom I am married. Well, I will tell you all about this affair and how is happened.—

Okuma Sangi happened to be looking for a son, and some body nominated illustrious Temmon Sha, and soon we were agreed, and on the 24th inst. I was adopted by Mr. Okuma, and at the same time. I was married to his only child Kuma, the blushing maiden of "twice eight" as Japs say she is regular Japanese "Dora". As to her face, you must decide when you return home and see her. For myself, I am very well satisfied with my young wife, as she is naturally smart though bashful, and amiable, she is quite pretty too. Well, well, I stop short right here, as you may think this is my "Noroke".

Now, as to my getting position in the government, I am expecting to do my duty in the observatory that belongs to Navy Department only if Mr. Kawamura will let me.

When I was at my brother's house of Ogawa So, Nami used to be behaving pretty well and I think she is now. A few days ago Mori who used to be at Boston, came to see me, and inquired about you, and wishes to be remembered to you when I write to you.

So you are having as nice time as ever, and are very happy to hear that you are leading temperate life, and so am I, my definition of "temperate" is little different from American temperance men, that is, of course I drink "Sake" but moderately not to pass the limit. Then my definition of temperate is moderate.

Kudo is now at home and I see him quite often. He is lecturing at Fukuzawa's school, and is very successful. You wish me to send that \$100, which you lent to me, but, when did I borrowed that sure from you. I have not slightest recollection of the fact. When was it? Will you be kind enough enough to inform me, when and how you lent me that \$100? and tell also to those old heads at Ogawa Machi, for I think it is for them to return the sum. If I knew that fact before, I should have return it to you much sooner than now, but unfortunately I did not know it.

Now, my dear friend, this is getting pretty long so "Stop short I will write to you again &c"
"O how joyful shall I be when again I hear from thee"

So sign myself as

Very Truly Yours,

Hidemaro Okuma.

(封筒表)

「 (消印1) 米国ニテ菊池武夫君 (武夫注記)
(消印2)

Mr. Takeo Kikuchi
of Gilbert Attwood Esq.
Merchants Exchange
State St.
Boston

(消印4) Mass U. S. A. 」

(封筒裏)

「(消印3)」

(武夫注記)

「Ans'd」

(消印1) 「TOKEI JAPAN 15 MAY」 (消印2) 「YOKOHAMA MAY 16 1879」 (消印3) 「SAN FRANCISCO JUN 2 PAID ALL」 (消印4) 「REC'D IN BOSTON MASS. JUN 9 10AM」