

Japan's Historic Mission: Completing Fukuzawa's Revolution

The Forgotten History of Japan and the American System

by Mark Calney

1. JAPAN'S HISTORIC MISSION

"The relationship between China and Japan is one of common existence or extinction. Without Japan, there would be no China; without China, there would be no Japan. ... Under the principle of Pan-Asianism, Japan and China can together develop the natural resources in the West of the Pacific, while under the Monroe Doctrine the United States can unify authority in the East of that ocean. ... By a concerted effort of these three Powers disarmament might some day be effected, and, going one step further, permanent peace of the world secured."

- Sun Yat-sen, *The Vital Problem of China* (1917)
[emphasis in the original]

On January 20th of this year, humanity experienced a deep collective sigh of relief as the evil Dick Cheney and the criminally incompetent George W. Bush, Jr. were removed from control of the White House as Barack Obama was inaugurated to become the 44th President of the United States. The eminent threat of a British-directed U.S. attack on Iran, utilizing the loyal services of Cheney, would have widened the war in Southwest Asia to a potential global conflagration, has been stopped for the time being. Now, we find ourselves challenged by the greatest financial and economic collapse in modern history which threatens to plunge the planet into a New Dark Age.

President Franklin Roosevelt fought and defeated the fascist movements of the early twentieth-century, which had been organized by the pro-fascist banking-interests of London and its junior partners on Wall Street. Those Wall Street fascists, like Andrew Mellon and J.P. "Jack" Morgan, attempted to overthrow the government of President Franklin Roosevelt, in much the same way that they supported Mussolini's and Hitler's illegal rise to power, now have started to sabotage President Obama. What the British Empire fears most is that the U.S. will undergo an "FDR reflex," where the Administration would repeat the actions of FDR to put the derivative-bloated Wall Street banking-houses through bankruptcy "detox" and take the necessary recovery measures prescribed by Lyndon LaRouche, the only economist to have predicted the current economic crisis. Rather than have the U.S. lead a four-power coalition including Russia, China, and India in the establishment of a FDR-style Bretton Woods financial system proposed by LaRouche, the British are hysterically acting to maintain their usurious stranglehold on the world, through political destabilizations that would plunge the world into "perpetual war." The return to *global empire* (the true nature of the term

“globalization”), under British direction, necessitates their elimination of all sovereign nations states, especially the United States of America.

In order to prevent the kind of strategic partnership between the United States and China, as envisioned by Sun Yat-sen, the U.S. fascists (sometimes referred to as ‘Neocons’ or ‘Neo-conservatives’ in polite company) and their British masters have targeted China for destruction.¹ The strategic policy of the British Empire for more than 200 years has been to prevent the largest concentration of human beings on the planet from obtaining the means of becoming modern. For the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy, that meant preventing American-style revolutions in Asia. It is the reason why the ghost of Sun Yat-sen, who embodied the ideas of the American System, still haunts the residents of Windsor Palace and is an anathema to the lords of Thread Needle Street.

Just as the British fascists organized the ascendancy of the military-imperialists into dominance in the Japanese government of the 1920s, with the perspective of carrying out joint military operations against the United States in the Pacific,² there is a similar operation underway now to manipulate Japan into a confrontation, including the possibility of a land war, with China. Hence, we had witnessed during the Cheney-Bush Administration the renewed attempts, then under the guise of the “War on Terrorism,” by certain lunatics in London and their stooges in Washington to persuade Japan to

The attempts to rearm and deploy Japanese military forces is a direct violation of the of the 1946 Constitution of Japan.

The Preface of the Japanese Constitution begins:

We, The Japanese people, acting through our duly elected representatives in the National Diet, determined that we shall secure for ourselves and our posterity the fruits of peaceful cooperation with all nations and the blessings of liberty throughout this land, and resolve that never again shall we be visited with the horrors of war through the action of government, do proclaim that sovereign power resides with the people and do firmly establish this Constitution.

Article 9 of Chapter II, titled “Renunciation of War,” articulates the intent of the Preface:

Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes. 2) In order to accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.

¹ Lyndon LaRouche’s prophetic *Strom Over Asia* video presentation and subsequent writings, such as *Ring Around China: Britain Wants War*.

² During the first quarter of the twentieth century, U.S. military strategists drafted detailed plans for potential war scenarios to be fought against the threats posed by the British Empire (War Plan Red) and the Empire of Japan (War Plan Orange). More on this will be presented later in the report.

nullify Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution [see box below] in order to rearm and deploy its Self-Defense Forces.



The primary purpose of this paper is to aid in the prevention of such a possibility by shedding light on the potentially tragic flaw exhibited in the thinking of the current Japanese-elites, as well as others, perception of their nation's historical development in modern times. If one wishes to prevent being manipulated, particularly in actions taken against one's own interests, the curtain must be drawn back in order to expose the hands and faces of the puppet-masters. This is not always a pleasant or comfortable experience, because it often forces one to question one's own identity. However, it is increasingly becoming an existential necessity for the nation of Japan to undertake this challenge. In order to adequately expose the puppet-masters, we must provide the true history of America's relationship to Japan, and the failure of achieving the type of cultural and philosophical revolution which the great Fukuzawa Yūkichi understood to be necessary.

We begin this report by quoting the world's foremost economist and strategic thinker, Lyndon LaRouche, regarding Japan's vital interest:

“If one measures population-density in terms of habitable portions of a nation's land, and its primary resources, it should be clear that Japan can survive only by concentrating on the frontiers of scientific and related progress in productive technologies, and on a growing role as a ‘knowledge-industry’ exporter: a supplier of highest technology machine-tools and related goods to a vast and expanding markets for such goods, especially to the actual, and potential future such markets throughout Asia.

“Without such a role in (especially) the Pacific-Indian Oceans rim of Asia, Japan would be inclined to seek its economic and biological survival as a nation, however short-lived, now, as during the 1930s, in establishing controlled spheres of influence carved out of existing nations of the Pacific Rim. The role of European economic conditionalities in impelling Japan into the first Sino-Japanese war and initial occupation of Korea, in 1894-1895, and the economic circumstances of 1927-1931, in promoting Japan into the second Sino-Japanese war, are applicable illustrations of the point.”³

Evidence of the fact that British manipulation has been adopted as an accepted premise of Japanese “self-determination” is the continued belief, particularly among ruling circles of Japan, that the Russo-Japanese War was a great victory for Japan which marked its entry onto the stage of global powers. For example, Vice Admiral Koda Yoji, the Director General of the Joint Staff Office of the Japanese Defense Agency, wrote in 2005 that, “Japan's success in the Russo-Japanese War (in implicit contrast to its failure in World War II thirty-five years later) shows that its leaders at the turn of the twentieth century did a much better job than their successors with respect to management of public opinion, goals, alliances, risk assessment, intelligence, sabotage, interservice cooperation, and negotiated war termination.”⁴

³ *Ring around China: Britain wants War* by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.; Executive Intelligence Review, November 14, 1996. [http://www.larouchepub.com/lar/1996/ring_around_china.html]

⁴ *The Russo-Japanese War, Primary Causes of Japanese Success* by Vice Admiral Koda Yoji, Naval War College Review, Spring 2005, Vol. 58, No. 2.

Such statements are tolerated only by those who have no fundamental understanding of the history behind the creation of the modern nation of Japan. Such a history is not a chronological ordering of “facts.” It is an ongoing, international battle concerning the idea of the ‘Nature of Man’ which informs and affects the institutions of the nation and its population. In fact, it has been the political battle over the ‘Nature of Man’ which created nations – in direct counter-position to the bestial concept of Mankind which is the dominate, cultural matrix found in all empires from Babylon and Rome to the present Anglo-Dutch oligarchy.

The irony of the Meiji Restoration is that at its inception there was an Emperor but there was no empire, in any traditional meaning of that term. In 1868, Japan was a collection of islands united by a common language and culture – a nation whose leaders were committed to bringing it into the modern age. Japan’s subsequent transformation into a modern empire starts with the corrupting influence of the British Empire and Japan’s extraterritorial adventures, beginning with the First Sino-Japanese War of 1894-95. It is also the British who later attempt to rewrite history by claiming that the Meiji Restoration was the root cause of Japan’s becoming a fascist-military power in the 20th century. These are the old tired lies of British Intelligence’s H.G. Wells whose justification for World Government resided in his Aristotelian syllogism that *nations cause nationalism, nationalism causes war, and therefore nations must be eliminated*. Of course, World Government is empire, and one of its fundamental axioms is *permanent warfare*, as explicitly expressed by today’s Neo-cons. That proposed World Empire would be run by those who propagate it – the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy. Presently, it is reflected in their attempts to illegally ram through the Lisbon Treaty and create a European Union dictatorship to aide in the encirclement and dismembering of Russia and China.

Finally, and most importantly, those leading economists in Japan and elsewhere need to examine the now obvious fundamental, and potentially fatal, flaws in their education and thinking. They all failed, without exception, to understand and predict the current international economic collapse. It was only Lyndon LaRouche who was absolutely right. What does he know that you don’t? This report will begin to inform you on how Japan became a modern nation. It was not accomplished by the incompetent and failed theories of Adam Smith and other Free Trade doctrine blathering which passes today for so-called education and “expertise.” It was done primarily with the aid of Americans and the implementation of the American System of political economy, of which Lyndon LaRouche is currently the world’s leading exponent.

2. AMERICA IN THE PACIFIC

The American Revolution was a unique event in human history. With the military defeat of the vile British Empire, for the first time since it had been articulated by the great, Greek philosopher Plato, a true republic had been established. The 1776 Declaration of Independence of the United States of America embodied those universal concepts that “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” The Preamble of the U.S. Constitution set forth the principle of achieving those ideas stated in the Declaration of Independence: “We the people of the United States, . . . promote the general welfare” in order to “secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.” The means of attaining this through the development of the nation’s infrastructure, agriculture and industry became known as the American System of physical economy. Like the idea of “the pursuit of happiness,” the Founding Fathers of the United States of America were indebted to the German philosopher and scientist Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz, who also first developed the principles of “physical economy.”

For the first time, a nation had been established that was to be ruled by the “consent of the governed.” There would be no arbitrary rule by a self-selected class of aristocrats, who had treated the rest of humanity as if they were their personal cattle. Your station in life would be determined by your abilities, not your blood-line. Now, the true ‘Nature of Man’ was at liberty to develop that potential which distinguished him from a mere beast – the creativity of the human mind. That, coupled with the American System of Economics,⁵ created the greatest achievements in agriculture, industry, general education, and health care known in history. The United States of America quickly became seen internationally as the “Beacon of Hope and Temple of Liberty” for all humanity. The leaders of the American Revolution, such as Benjamin Franklin, understood their war had been waged, not just for the rights of citizens living in the thirteen British colonies. The universal principles rooted in the founding of the United States were for all Humanity. They were to usher in an Age of Reason among similar nation-states that would eclipse the evil and infantile system of empires and oligarchs. Human freedom, unfettered by the shackles of oligarchism, had its corollary in enabling freedom over nature to be achieved through science and technology.

Well before Americans had achieved the modernization of their own nation, they began exporting their ideas. The intent of the Americans was not to impose their rule

⁵ Henry Clay coined the term “American System” in 1832 to describe the successful economic policies implemented by the first U.S. Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, in opposition to the British “free trade” looting schemes of Adam Smith et al. The American System was characterized by the establishment of (1) a *sovereign national bank*, that intervened into the markets to support parity prices for farmers and others, and issued long-term low-interest credit for productive enterprises, especially for (2) *internal improvements*, such as canals, roads, and later railroads, and (3) the using of *protective tariffs* to nurture nationally vital industries. Germany’s Friedrich List (1789-1846), Irish-born Matthew Carey (1760-1839) and his son Henry C. Carey (1793-1879) further elaborated the American System of political economy. American Presidents who were the most notable exponents of the American System include George Washington, John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, William McKinley, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

on others but to afford them freedom from imperial domination and an opportunity to live in what John Quincy Adams called a “community of principle among nations.” There should be no misunderstanding that the intent of the Anglo-Dutch oligarchy was, and continues to be, global imperial domination. Their goal has always necessitated the destruction of its primary enemy – the United States of America.

Sun Yat-sen is a paradigm of how the ideas of the American Revolution were assimilated by the best leadership of Asia. Educated by American missionaries in Hawaii, who would later participate in his establishment of the Republic of China, Sun was a vibrant exponent of the American System of economics and government, exemplified by his Three Principles of the People which were modeled after Abraham Lincoln.⁶ When the Chinese Revolution succeeded in 1911, Sun Yat-sen was in the United States at the time and issued the following statement:

“To work out the salvation of China is exclusively a duty of our own, but as the problem has recently involved a world-wide interest, we, in order to make sure of our success...must appeal to the people of the United States in particular for your sympathy and support, either moral or material, because you are the pioneers of Western Civilization in Japan; because you are a Christian nation; because we intend to model our new government after yours; above all because you are the champion of liberty and democracy. We hope we may find many Lafayettes among you.”

It was a grouping of several generations of U.S. missionaries in the Pacific – the American “Lafayettes” – who were the crucial element that prevented the Pacific Ocean from being turned into a lake of the British Empire. Some of those American missionaries are remembered and honored to this day as heroes in their adopted Asian nations, yet are virtually unknown to most Americans today.

Though many of today’s leading so-called “Christians,” typified by such right-wing, con-artists as Pat Robertson, have given Christianity a bad-name, those of the Christian faith who founded the U.S.A. were cut from a different cloth and believed that “you would be judged by your works.”

In 1812, just as Britain began its next attempt to destroy the U.S. by force in the War of 1812 (referred to then as the “Second War of Independence”), the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) was established. Its purpose was to modernize and incorporate the Native Americans nations into the republic (a continuation of the policy of President George Washington), as well as backing some selective off-continent missions that were seen as critical in stopping the domination of the British Empire. The ABCFM established an ecumenical alliance between the Congregational, Presbyterian and Dutch Reformed churches in the U.S. Its board of directors included many of those men who participated in creating the American Republic, such as:

⁶ *Sun Yat-sen and the American Roots of China’s Republican Movement* by Mark Calney; *New Federalist*, two part series published January 19 & 26, 1990.

Elias Boudinot; a member of the Continental Congress from 1777, and as its President in 1783, signed the Treaty of Paris; Congressman from New Jersey 1789-95; Director of the U.S. Mint; mentor and adopted “father” of Alexander Hamilton,

John Jay; drafted the Constitution of the State of New York and was Chief Justice of New York 1776-79; member and President of the Continental Congress in 1778; Minister to Spain 1779; member of the commission which negotiated the peace treaty with Great Britain; in charge of foreign affairs for American government 1784-90; co-author with Alexander Hamilton and James Madison of the *Federalist Papers* which were critical in the formation and adoption of the U.S. Constitution; appointed first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; elected Governor of New York 1795-1800, and signed into law the act abolishing slavery in New York State.

John Quincy Adams; one of the most important intellectual leaders of the American Republic; son of the Revolutionary War leader and second President, John Adams; Secretary of State for President Monroe and author of the Monroe Doctrine; elected President in the critical election of 1824; later elected to Congress and was a life-long promoter of science and the American System of economics.

Theodore Frelinghuysen; son of a Revolutionary War leader, he was chancellor of New York University and later head of Rutgers College in New Jersey; President of the American Bible Society (1846-1862), whose leadership also included James Fenimore Cooper, America’s top intelligence operative and author (the American Bible Society contributed \$40,500 for the Hawaiian Mission of the ABCFM); President of the American Bible Tract Society (1842-1862) which contributed to the Hawaiian Mission; and in 1844, he was the Vice Presidential running-mate of Henry Clay for the Whig Party.

Rev. Jedidiah Morse; wrote the first geography book concerning North America; a Hamiltonian Federalist and father of Samuel F.B. Morse, a renown painter and intelligence spy who invented the telegraph and ‘Morse code.’

The idea of sending American missionaries abroad was not new. In 1721, prior to the Revolution, one of the nation’s intellectual founders, Cotton Mather, gave a sermon to a short-lived missionary society where he called for the establishment of a missionary expedition to be sent to India. Benjamin Franklin would later write that it was Mather’s essay *To Do the Good (Bonifacius)* that had a profound affect on his life. Founding principles of the new American Republic, respecting its relationship with other nations and peoples, are reflected in that essay:

“The world has according to the computation of some, above seven hundred millions of people now living in it. What an ample field among all these, to do good upon! . . . whether the things be of a spiritual importance or of a temporal.”

Hawaii: America's Springboard to Asia

On Saturday, October 24, 1819, the first Hawaiian missionaries of the ABCFM set sail from Boston harbor. The contingent of missionaries consisted of the following seventeen people; two ministers, a medical doctor, a printer, a farmer, a mechanic, a school master, wives and children (the women also served as catechists), and three Hawaiian youths educated at the ABCFM school in Cornwall, Connecticut.

The Instructions given to the missionaries by Samuel Worcester on behalf of the Prudential Committee of the ABCFM stated that they were being sent, "for no private end, for no earthly object...wholly for the good of others, and for the glory of God our Savior...Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." They were to Christianize Hawaii, and act as a civilizing agency. The Instructions read:

"Your views are not limited to a low or a narrow scale; but you are to open your hearts wide, and set your mark high. You are to aim at nothing short of covering those Islands with fruitful fields, and pleasant dwellings, and schools and churches; of raising up the whole people to an elevated state of Christian Civilization; of bringing, or preparing the means of bringing, thousands and millions of the present and succeeding generations to the mansions of eternal blessedness. Why should less be done, or designed..."

The next day their ship, the Thaddeus, sailed for Hawaii around the southern tip of South America. After 18,000 miles and 163 days they arrived at the Hawaiian Islands, in the year of the 200th anniversary of the Pilgrims landing at Plymouth Rock in 1620.

The foresight of the ABCFM in sending this mission to Hawaii at that time is quite astounding. As the British colonialist looting policy extended ever further into the East, the response by American republicans was to send out to those parts of the world the means to preempt the policies of slavery, through education and economic development, under the guidance of God's law. It was part of a deliberate strategy to facilitate the emigration and development of the western North American continent, and to undercut the designs of the imperial powers of Europe on that region and Asia generally.

Hawaii, because of its strategic location in the middle of the Pacific Ocean for the re-supply of trade and whaling ships, was already becoming the battle ground of contending European imperial forces, notably Russia, Great Britain, and France, all of whom attempted domination through military means.

Two events occurred in the Hawaiian Islands in 1819 which created the precondition for the success of the U.S. mission; the death of King Kamehameha who died in May, and the abolition of the kapu system.

Kamehameha was the chief who had finally united all of the Hawaiian Islands under his rule, between 1796 and 1810. American Captains Nathan and Jonathan Winship (who later helped the Mission) made the final arrangements to consolidate Kamehameha's control of the islands. But the British had announced their intention to make Hawaii a colony. Royal Navy Captain George Vancouver had thought that Kamehameha had agreed to turn Hawaii over as a British protectorate. But Kamehameha had thought the British were offering to protect them from other hostile

foreigners. Here also lies the story of the origins of Hawaiian flag, commissioned by King Kamehameha in 1816. Under his mistaken conception of British intentions, the King had proposed that his nation's flag be composed of the same elements of the flags of the two nations whom he believed were his allies – the United States and Great Britain. Hence, the Hawaiian flag contains the British Union Jack as well as the red and white stripes of the American flag.

Two weeks after the *Thaddeus* sailed from Boston harbor, Queen Kaahumanu overthrew the evil kapu system. Unlike the popularized myths of the “benevolent pagans” promoted by James Michener's book and its subsequent movie, *Hawaii*, which continued the tradition of the British racist “noble savage” view of Mankind (including their hatred of science), the Hawaiian natives had lived a brutal and often barbaric existence. Human sacrifice had been practiced, and infanticide was common.

The Hawaiian kapu typified the brutality of that society. It was a system of ancient laws, or taboos, presided over by a pantheon of 40,000 Hawaiian gods. The violation of a kapu meant instant death for the violator. Kapu included such taboos as women eating in the presence of men or a commoner allowing his shadow to cross the shadow of a chief. Kaahumanu sent messengers throughout the islands to proclaim the end of kapu. Though some chiefs and priests resisted, their rebellions were crushed. The Hawaiian people rejoiced over the overthrow of kapu. The temple walls, erected for pagan gods, were torn down. The wooden images of those false deities were burned or thrown into the sea. The Hawaiians had prepared themselves for a New World, by destroying the hallmarks of the pagan past.

When the U.S. missionaries arrived in Honolulu, the British representatives on the island denounced them to the Hawaiians as being a political operation run by the United States. In a real sense that is true, because Hiram Bingham and his associates saw absolutely no distinction between preaching the Word of God and carrying out the Word of God. That meant building the City of God, or as John Winthrop called it, the City on a Hill. It also meant education, construction, modern agriculture, and uplifting the people through the use of science and technology. To the British and their like-minded, European imperialists, that was *very* political, because their system of looting and slavery could not co-exist with the Yankee civilizing process.

As a result, the British attempted to kill Hiram Bingham on more than one occasion. Captain Edward Belcher of the British frigate HMS *Sulphur* threatened publicly to hang Bingham.

The British concern over the “influence of the U.S. missionaries” became manifest when the Hawaiians began adopting the forms of American government. This began with issuing of a Bill of Rights in 1839, followed by evolving drafts of the Constitution of the Hawaiian Kingdom. The first Bill of Rights read:

“God hath made of one blood all nations of men, to dwell on the face of the earth in unity and blessedness. God has also bestowed certain rights alike on all men, and all chiefs, and all people of all lands. These are some of the rights which he has given alike to every man, and every chief -- life, limb, liberty, the labor of his hands, and products of his mind.”

The influence of Bingham and company on the Hawaiian Royal Family was a result of their ability to convert the Royal Family to Christianity. Not long after their

arrival, Thomas Hopu successfully converted the Queen's mother, Keopuolani. Then when Kaahumanu was nursed back to health from a serious illness by Sybil Bingham, the Queen was convinced that Sybil's prayers to God had saved her life, and she accepted the Christian faith. This event opened the gates to all the souls of the Hawaiian Kingdom for the service of the Mission.

The missionaries faced a classic problem in educating the Hawaiians, religiously or otherwise: how to teach someone to read and write in another language when that person can't read or write in their native language. Since no written Hawaiian language existed, Bingham and company had to invent it. After two years of much effort, and little success, events changed rapidly with the arrival of a most welcome guest, Rev. William Ellis.

Ellis came in response to Bingham's written request of 1820 to Rev. Robert Morrison, the first protestant missionary in China, to assist the Hawaiian Mission in translating the local language. Morrison, the son of a Scottish farmer and a member of the London Missionary Society, had first arrived in Canton, via America, in 1807 under the auspices of the U.S. government. He was referred to in China as "the American missionary." He succeeded in translating the Bible into Cantonese and publishing the first Chinese-English dictionary. The ABCFM had appointed him to be an Official Correspondent of the Board.

Rev. Ellis arrived in Honolulu in 1822. Formerly a printer, he had just spent six years in the Society Islands working for the London Missionary Society. He had mastered the Tahitian language, which is very similar to the Polynesian dialect spoken in the Hawaiian Islands. Rev. Ellis became the first foreigner to preach to the Hawaiians in their own language, and was soon able to develop the written Hawaiian language (all vowels had the same pronunciation as in the Italian, and the verbs were quite primitive). American Missionary Elisha Loomis now hastened to uncrate his printing press and set up shop. The first product off the press was the written Hawaiian language accompanied by the first Hawaiian language lessons.

This printing press was the only printing facility in the entire Pacific Rim area (East or West). It evolved into two printing houses (one on another island), four presses, and a bindery. From January 1822 through June 1845, the mission presses printed 149,911,383 pages of material, including 20,000 Bibles, 30,000 New Testaments, and more than 70 other works prepared, written, translated or compiled by the missionaries. Those works included 100,000 copies of Hawaiian language lessons for the natives, *Geometry for Children*, *Algebra*, *Anatomy*, a tract on *Astronomy*, a 168 page book on *Mathematics, Geometry, Trigonometry, Mensuration, Surveying, and Navigation, Compendium on Ancient History*, numerous school books for children, and musical scores of hymns. Sometimes the mission would subsidize its operation by contracting outside printing jobs, such as school books for settlers on the West coast of America. In 1839, two missionaries and a small printing press were sent to the Oregon Mission to help Dr. Marcus Whitman of the ABCFM.⁷

⁷ Whitman had established the Oregon Trail to bring settlers to the Northwest region. Among other things, he introduced cultivation of the potato to the Nez Perce Indians of Idaho, and his wife, Narciss, taught music to the Indians. In 1847, the British Empire's Hudson Bay Company orchestrated the Indian massacre of the Whitman's and twelve others at their mission. The year following the massacre and its

Native Hawaiians, trained at Cornwall, began teaching school almost immediately upon the mission's arrival. After the development of the written language the schooling expanded. By the 1830's boarding schools for both boys and girls were being established on various islands. In 1840 a law was enacted to provide for a national system of common schools to be supported by the government, servicing 40,000 people.

The following year, Oahu College was founded, initially to serve the children of missionaries in the Pacific. Subsequent attendees included Sun Yat-sen. The school's leading founder and trustee was Dr. Gerrit P. Judd who had served the ABCFM for fourteen years, until he resigned and entered the government service of King Kamehameha III in 1842. Fluent in the native language, Judd had written the first Hawaiian-language medical text (*Anatomia* in 1838) and later a biography of the life of Abraham Lincoln. In 1870, Dr. Judd founded the first medical school in Hawaii. He also played a role in the American operation to open Japan.

The British Empire's response to the dramatic influence that the Americans were having in Hawaii with their teaching of the sciences and other modern ideas was to employ their eternal reliance on physical force and intimidation. For them the Hawaii Islands occupied a strategic location, virtually at the center of the distance between North America and Asia. There were no British colonies on the Pacific Rim of the America to provide port facilities. Unfortunately, that changed with the election of the traitor James Polk to the American Presidency in 1844, defeating Whig candidate Henry Clay by vote fraud. During his campaign Polk lied that he would not concede the Northwest region of the continent to the British, made famous by the slogan "Fifty-Four-Forty or Fight" (a reference to the territory west of the Rocky Mountains and between the latitudes 42° North and 54°40' North). Since that northern-most latitude intersected the southern border of the Russian holding of Alaska, maintaining that boundary would mean that the British Royal Navy and the Empire's merchant ships would have no port in North America. Once elected, Polk gave away that Northwestern territory to the British (where the present Canadian/U.S. border is today) and illegally precipitated the Mexican-American War.

On February 10, 1843, the British frigate *Carysfort* took military control of Honolulu and declared the Hawaiian Islands to be under Britain's rule. While, Dr. Judd safe-housed all the government's documents and ran its affairs by stealth, America's leaders began to take action. It was later learned that the Hudson Bay Company, which ran the British colony of Canada, much like the British East India Company controlled India, had orchestrated the Hawaiian take-over. The Hudson Bay Company, under the control of Sir John Henry Pelly, who was also Governor of the Bank of England, had started operations in Hawaii in 1832 with the aim of monopolizing all trade to the Islands. It was recorded in August of 1840 that the ship *Forager* had arrived in Honolulu from London with a "cargo for Pelly & Simpson – from the Hudson Bay Company, to drive all Yankees off the Islands – and out of the Pacific!!!"⁸ Deputy Governor of the Hudson Bay Company, Sir George Simpson, whose job was to secure the entire

intense controversy, the U.S. government prevented British control of the region by establishing the Oregon Territory.

⁸ *The Hawaiian Kingdom 1778-1854* by Ralph S. Kuykendall, The University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 1947, p. 301.

Western Coast of North American for the Empire, had visited Hawaii one year prior to the attempted military coup. Four years later, Sir Simpson was also responsible for the Whitman Massacre in the Oregon territory.

Based upon earlier meetings which Rev. Hiram Bingham, himself a target of a failed British assassination operation, held with U.S. President Tyler and Secretary of State Daniel Webster regarding the need for the U.S. government to provide protection for U.S. missionaries and merchants in Hawaii, the President issued a proclamation which, in effect, extended the Monroe Doctrine to the Pacific. The British forfeited their Sandwich Islands to independent Hawaiian rule, as the *Carysfort* quietly left the scene of the crime.

By 1846 the Hawaiians had become one of the most, if not THE most, literate population per capita in the world. The printing press proved to be far mightier than the cannons of European imperialists in winning the souls of the Hawaiians.

Manjiro Nakahama – the first “Japanese-American”

“Dear Sir, - Accompanying this letter I forwarded you a communication from your protégé, John Mung, the Japanese, . . . it is my decided opinion that John Mung acted a most important part in opening Japan. The information which he furnished the Japanese government was of immense importance. His translation of Bowditch’s *Navigator* is most important.”

- Letter of Rev. Samuel Damon to Captain W.H. Whitfield, 1860

On January 5, 1841, five fishermen sailed from Nakanohama, a small village in the southern Japanese Province of Tosa. Their boat was caught in a ferocious storm which carried them to a small desolate island (Tori Shima) where they were marooned for six months, until being rescued by an American whaling ship. The youngest fisherman, age fourteen, was Manjiro Nakahama (also known by his American names John Manjiro and John Mung) who, as providence would have it, played an historic role in opening Japan to the West and facilitating that nation’s pathway to modernization.

The policy of the reigning Tokugawa Shōgunate towards foreigners and castaways was well known to all those sailing the Pacific Ocean. With the exception of the port of Nagasaki, which was open to Chinese and Dutch traders, foreigners were not allowed to land on Japanese soil. Those who did, such as ship-wrecked American whalers, were subjected to immediate and permanent imprisonment. Conversely, Japanese castaways who returned on their own volition or by the aide of foreigners were summarily executed. Knowing the consequences, Captain William H. Whitfield allowed his Japanese guests to remain on board until they reached the port of Honolulu on the Hawaiian Island of Oahu.

Upon landing in Honolulu, Capt. Whitfield met with his friend Dr. Gerrit Judd. Judd offered all the Japanese castaways complete financial and material assistance without the requirement of work. The offer was accepted by all except Manjiro, who, instead, chose an offer made to him by Capt. Whitfield to return with him to Fairhaven, Massachusetts.

Manjiro’s education in Massachusetts included a developed proficiency in surveying and navigation, as well as, a mastery of the English language. He also

shipped out on a whaling voyage, employed as a cooper and navigator. Then, after a brief participation in the 1849 California Gold Rush, Manjiro returned to Hawaii in 1850 in hope of returning to Japan.

There he reunited with three of his old castaway friends. He also met Reverend Samuel Chenery Damon who took a special interest in helping Manjiro and his friends return to Japan.

Rev. Damon was a prominent personality known throughout the Pacific. In 1842, he took charge of the Seamen's Bethel in Oahu which had been established by the ABCFM to minister the thousands of sailors who would frequent the harbor of Honolulu. The following year he established the "oldest newspaper west of the Rockies", *The Seamen's Friend* (commonly known as *The Friend*), which he would personally distribute to all visiting ships. The newspaper was read throughout the entire Pacific Rim. In addition to acting as the unofficial postmaster of Hawaii, Rev. Damon was in the position of being the informal, American intelligence agent for the Pacific.

Damon helped organize the conspiracy to return Manjiro, and his friends Denzo and Goemon, to Japan as part of an effort that he hoped would open Japan to America and the world. The plan involved the purchase of a whaling boat, compass, and other necessary equipment, for which Damon raised the funds. Captain Whitmore of the American ship *Sarah Boyd* agreed to transport the boat and the Japanese to a point near the Loochoo Islands (also known then as the Ryukyu Islands, and today as the Okinawa Islands), where they would disembark and make their own way back to Japan. Central to the anticipated success of the operation was a letter drafted by the U.S. Consul in Honolulu, Elisha H. Allen, which vouched for the circumstances of the Japanese castaways, how they were being returned to Japan, and their conduct aboard. It concludes with the following:

"I am informed by the Captain of the Seamen's Friend Society [Rev. Samuel Damon], that John Manjiro has sustained a good character and has improved in knowledge. He will tell his countrymen of Japan how happy the Americans would be to make their acquaintance, and visit them with their ships, and give them gold and silver for their goods."⁹

- Elisha H. Allen, U.S. Consul
December 13, 1850; Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands

On January 1, 1851, the *Sarah Boyd* reached the coast of the Loochoo Islands, and launched Manjiro and his two companions in their whaling boat. After ten years away from their homeland and families, the three Japanese castaways were finally on the last leg of their return. They landed and were taken in by local villagers. News of their arrival was communicated to the rulers of the Satsuma province of Japan.¹⁰ They

⁹ *Manjiro, The Man Who Discovered America* by Hisakazu Kaneko, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 1956, p. 72.

¹⁰ In the 15th century, the Loochoo (or, Lee Chew) Islands had been united as the Kingdom of Ryukyu, and in 1609 came under the rule of Lord Shimazu of Satsuma. They were allowed to maintain the appearance of autonomy in order to continue trading relations with China, while being controlled by Satsuma. In 1879, after a heated contention of ownership between China and Japan, which included the solicitation of advice from former-President Grant, the islands were ultimately seized by the Japanese and became known as the Okinawa Prefecture.

were taken into custody by Satsuma officials and transported to Japan under guard. By orders of the Shōgunate, they were moved to Nagasaki where they are detained and interrogated for seventy days. High officials held a court hearing on the case which resulted in their release. Several years later, when Commodore Perry appeared in Edo harbor with his fleet of American war ships, Manjiro would be summoned to play the historic role that Rev. Samuel Damon had predicted.

3. AMERICA OPENS JAPAN TO THE NEW WORLD

Japan Before the Americans Arrived

How a government or society organizes and conducts its affairs directly reflects its idea of the Nature of Man. The success of the republic of the United States of America established in perpetuity the lawful principle of the “inalienable rights” of all human beings – that all people are created equal – exhibited through their unique powers of creativity (i.e. the ability to discover a physical principle of the universe and thereby increase Man’s understanding and mastery over nature). However, a feudalist society that tolerates slavery and serfdom, such as the continued existence of the British Empire, considers the vast multitude of humanity to merely be two-legged cattle. Such an imperial society is incapable of producing the creative minds necessary for its own growth and survival. It is forced to dominate and suck the blood of its neighbors and cannibalize its own population.

By the mid-nineteenth century, the autophagy of the Tokugawa Shōgunate¹¹ regime had created an existential crisis for Japan. Established in 1603 by a military coup, the Tokugawa family had been wary of eliminating the Emperor and his descendents and instead co-opted the Emperor’s imperial power. Retaining the Emperor in this Kyoto palace, he was increasingly made into a glorified figure-head – a “divine being” too “celestial,” according to the Tokugawa rulers, to administrate his earthly kingdom, except as a rubber-stamping, “spiritual” advisor to the usurpers. The Tokugawa established its “Eastern capital” at Edo (now Tokyo) and centralized control of the feudalism fiefdoms of the lords (called daimyos which numbered about 265 across the country) through a system of hostages and forced service at the Edo court.¹² The remaining bulk of the population was stratified into a virtual caste system with the samurai warrior class (6 % of the population) on top of the heap. Fear of foreign influence (of note is the particularly bad experience with Jesuit priests who had accompanied the Portuguese traders in the 1540s) resulted in a strict isolationist policy which massively restricted trade and travel. Even oceangoing shipbuilding was controlled.

As a result, the Tokugawa or Edo era administered the alleged ‘paradise’ envisioned by British East India Company lackey, Thomas Malthus – a zero population growth (ZPG) society. Though romanticized by today’s leading so-called “environmentalists,” such as Al Gore and Prince Phillip, the ZPG of the Tokugawa era was as brutal as it was senseless. As Malthus admitted, the only way to achieve ZPG is to increase the death rate. For more than 150 years the population of Japan was kept

¹¹ The Shōgun was also referred to as the *Bakufu*, meaning “behind the curtain (or tent)” or *taikun* (the English derivation being *tycoon*). The *Shōgunate* refers to the administrative office of the Shōgun.

¹² The system was called *sankin kotai* (“alternating in attendance”), where a daimyo had to spend every other year in Edo while their families remained at Edo permanently. In addition to close monitoring of contracts, including intermarriages, between the daimyos, the Edo government established an entirely new category of government official – *metsuke* – secret police who spied on everyone.

at a level of 30 million by a feudal system that regularly produced famines and practiced widespread infanticide.¹³

The last great famine of the Tokugawa era lasted from 1832 to 1837. In 1828 the estimated population of Japan was 27,200,000 and by 1846 it had been diminished to 26,900,000. In 1850, the Shōgun began an infanticide campaign. Two years later Japan had regained the population level of 1828.

It would not be an exaggeration to state that 90% of the Japanese economy in the 1850s was based on rice. From its growing, storage, transportation and consumption, rice was literally the currency of the Tokugawa realm. Approximately 85% or more of the population was engaged in peasant-labor agriculture. Famine and the internal political instabilities associated with it was an important factor in the determination by Japan's leadership to "Open" the nation to foreign trade.

The other critical matter facing Japan was the increasing likelihood that the British Empire would impose its own idea of "Opening Japan" through military means, as it had done to China. Though isolated, Japan's leaders were not ignorant of the British East India Company's Opium War (1839-1842) against the Chinese Qing Dynasty which had forced China to purchase and consume their Indian-grown, mind-deadening narcotic. To avoid dishonorable subjugation by the British, Japan was being forced by necessity to consider the course towards open trade and a fast-track to modernization. With the arrival of the Americans in 1853, the opportunity for choosing such a course of action, presented itself.

How the Americans Opened Japan

There has been some debate as to the precise origins of the American expedition to Japan and which American first came up with the idea to attempt to open Japan. Charles Lanman, in his 1883 book *Leading Men of Japan*, provides an important documented insight. In addition to his service as librarian to the U.S. War Department and U.S. House of Representatives, Lanman had also been the private secretary to Senator Daniel Webster, including the period of Webster's role as Secretary of State (1850-1852) under President Millard Fillmore. Later, in 1871, the great American scientist and head of the Smithsonian Institute, Joseph Henry, took a keen interest in Japan's development and introduced Lanman to Mori Arinori, the young Japanese Consul in Washington, D.C. who hired him as secretary of the Consulate.

On February 15, 1845, Congressman Zadoc Pratt¹⁴ from Green County, New York introduced an amendment into the Civil and Diplomatic Bill to finance a "Proposed Mission to Japan and Corea" for the "extension of American commerce, connected as that commerce is with the agriculture and manufacturers of our country." As chairman of the congressional select committee on statistics, Pratt's amendment provided a

¹³ Japan is currently suffering from its mistaken reintroduction of ZPG policies in the 1960-1970s, largely promoted by the unabashed British eugenicist Julian Huxley of UNESCO. A demographic crisis was created that, among other things, has resulted in a domestic labor shortage.

¹⁴ Zadoc Platt was a tanner with no formal education. His congressional colleague, John Quincy Adams, once stated that "If he (Mr. Pratt) had our experience, with his practical knowledge, he would be a match for us all." Quote from *Leading Men of Japan* by Charles Lanman, D. Lothrop and Company, Boston, 1883, p. 400.

profile of each nation, including their history, population, geography, and standing military forces. The Congressional Record's documentation of the amendment includes this assessment: "there is much reason for believing that a judicious embassy, characterized by justice, which should ever sway our Government, will succeed in establishing intercourse with Japan and Corea that may be largely beneficial to the American people." Unfortunately, the bill was not approved by Congress.

In December of 1845, Commodore James Biddle (1783-1848), the brother of Nicholas Biddle who was head of the Second National Bank of the U.S., had negotiated America's first treaty with China, the Treaty of Wanghia. He was then given instructions that authorized him to negotiate with the Japanese by the U.S. Commissioner to China under President Polk, Alexander Everett, who had formerly been John Quincy Adams secretary in Russia and then President Adams' ambassador to Spain.¹⁵ On July 20, 1847, Commodore Biddle anchored two naval warships at the entrance to the Bay of Edo (Tokyo). His attempts to convince the Shōgun that Japan should open its ports to trade and sign a treaty similar to the one he had made with China failed.

Four years later, Commodore John H. Aulick, a veteran of the War of 1812 who commanded the East India Squadron, persuaded Secretary of State Daniel Webster to undertake a similar mission. On May 9, 1851, Webster wrote to William A. Graham, Secretary of the Navy:

"Aulick is charged with the delivery of a letter from the President of the United States to the Emperor of Japan. And if these Japanese mariners [shipwrecked fishermen] can be thus forwarded to Hong Kong, there to await the arrival of the Commodore, he could then take them on board of one of the vessels under his command and return them to their native land. Accompanied by an imposing naval force, as he probably would be on this service, and with the kindly disposition awakened in the bosom of the Emperor towards this Government by the act of restoring these unfortunates to their homes, the occasion, it is believed, would be most auspicious for the accomplishment of the more important objects of Commodore Aulick's mission."¹⁶

During June of 1851, Commodore Aulick embarked on his mission to Japan carrying a letter drafted by President Fillmore to the Emperor of Japan. Prior to the departure, "on several occasions Mr. Webster and Commodore Perry had various consultations at the Department of State on the subject of the proposed mission."¹⁷

On November 17, 1851, U.S. Navy Secretary William Graham issued the order to relieve Commodore Aulick as commander of the East India squadron, thus canceling his mission to Japan. Aulick received his orders while in Hong Kong. Though it has never been fully documented (something Commodore Aulick attempted to do), it appears that a combination of his health condition and reported personal problems

¹⁵ It was Alexander Everett, as Ambassador to Spain, who invited Washington Irving, then in Paris, to come to Spain and take up the task of researching and writing a biography of the important but generally unknown explorer Christopher Columbus. Consequently, Irving also wrote about the high civilization of the Muslim realm of Andalusia (e.g. *Tales of the Alhambra*, which resulted in Spain's restoration of that magnificent palace) and became U.S. Ambassador to Spain.

¹⁶ *Leading Men in Japan*, p. 393.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p.395.

within his command played a role in the cancellation of his orders. The most likely overriding concern may have been the realization that Aulick's mission was too ill-equipped from many standpoints, including sufficient naval strength, to succeed.

The following day Secretary Graham ordered Commodore Matthew Perry to "Proceed immediately to Washington, for the purpose of conferring with the Secretary of the Navy." Though he had not sought the job and had requested command of the Mediterranean fleet, Perry was chosen to replace Aulick.

Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry (1794-1858) came from an illustrious family of seafaring, American patriots. A native of Newport, Rhode Island, his father, Captain Christopher Raymond Perry, had served in the U.S. Navy during the Revolutionary War having been twice captured by the British, escaped, and then returning to duty. After the war he built and commanded the frigate *General Greene* and aided Toussaint L'Ouverture in the Haitian Revolution which resulting in the defeat of the French colonialists and the establishment of the first nation in the New World run by former African slaves.

At the age of fifteen Matthew went to sea under the command of his older brother Oliver Hazard Perry. Oliver had earlier become a U.S. Naval midshipman in 1799 and was assigned to his father's ship, where he soon experienced combat off of the coast of Haiti. Oliver Perry is most notably remembered as the "Hero of Lake Erie," where, in 1813, during the Second War of Independence, he supervised the construction (near what is now Erie, Pennsylvania) and command of a small fleet which defeated a superior fleet of the British Royal Navy.

Matthew Perry's first significant action as a junior naval officer, while commanding a sloop in 1821, was the physical claim of Key West for the U.S. At the time Florida was controlled by the British Empire, though the Spanish had sold Key West to an America. From 1833-1837, he served as second in command of the New York Naval Yard (later known as the Brooklyn Navy Yard) where his activities modernized the U.S. Navy.

First and foremost Perry was insistent on establishing a proper educational system for naval midshipmen. This was first done at the New York Naval Yard where he established a library and Lyceum in 1833. Education facilities were also started at the naval hospital in Philadelphia, and finally headquartered at the new U.S. Naval Academy in Maryland for which Perry helped in establishing the curriculum and served on the board of directors (he declined the directorship of the Academy). Additionally, he set the standards for nutrition, sanitation, and general health to counter the problems of shipboard diseases. He also created the America's first corps of naval engineers and supervised the construction of the *USS Fulton*, the Navy's first steam frigate. This and his vocal advocacy of adapting steam technology for naval vessels earned him the appellation of being the "Father of the Steam Navy." In 1837, he had authored a detailed article which castigated the "representatives of the people" for their "languid and ineffectual support" of the U.S. Navy which had placed it eighth among the world's navies, behind Egypt: "Our naval architecture has rather retrograded than advanced of late years, during which we have launched some ships that would be a disgrace to the Chinese Navy."¹⁸

¹⁸ *Naval Magazine*, January 1837 issue.

After demonstrating the success of the *USS Fulton* in Washington to President Jackson and his cabinet, Perry was deployed to Europe to investigate the most modern technologies of steam, ordinance, and lighthouses. In 1838, while on that inspection tour, he met Samuel F.B. Morse and learned of his invention of the telegraph. Perry returned from that trip with the Fresnel lens which was first deployed in the U.S. at the lighthouse on Sandy Hook, off the coast of New Jersey and subsequently adopted by law for all U.S. lighthouses. The following year, he established the Navy's first gunnery school at Sandy Hook, resulting in the application of new structural designs for U.S. war ships that would handle heavy guns.

Matthew Perry was promoted to Commodore in 1841 and made commander of the New York Navy Yard. Two years later, he was placed in charge of the African Squadron, charged with the interdiction of ships involved in the slave trade under the authority of the recent Webster-Ashburton Treaty. Since the Spanish and Portuguese were also competing with the British slave trade, Perry coordinated his action on the African Gold Coast with Washington Irving, the famous American intelligence operative and author who was then U.S. Ambassador to Spain. Irving also happened to be the Commodore's personal friend and next door neighbor in Tarrytown, New York.

After his distinguished action in the Mexican-American War¹⁹ as commander of the Home Fleet, his next major assignment would be the historic American mission to Japan.

At the time, there was no one remotely close to having the diplomatic skills that Commodore Perry possessed, typified by his successful dealings with the President of Liberia, the Kingdom of Naples, the Capudan Pasha (the head of the Turkish navy), numerous African chiefs, and the local leaders of Mexico during the Mexican-American War.

From the moment he received his orders (officially on January 20, 1852), until he departed, Perry undertook exhaustive measures to ensure the success of the venture. Though many, like the wealthy Aaron Haight Palmer who had lobbied the government to open Japan, were primarily focused on the expansion of U.S. commerce, Commodore Perry's main concern in the success of the Japanese Expedition was the strategic necessity of preventing the British Empire from dominating the Pacific Ocean. That concern became increasingly shared by the President and members of his cabinet.

Secretary Webster assured Perry that the federal government would undertake what ever expense and materials he thought would be necessary. This included a naval fleet much larger and better equipped than Aulicks, as well as, his selection of officers and other personnel.

Diplomatically, Commodore Perry chose the tactic of dealing with the Japanese by acting with kindness and conciliation while demonstrating firmness and military superiority.

¹⁹ This was not a patriotic war, but was illegally instigated by President James Polk. Congressman Abraham Lincoln, later President, with the support of Congressman John Quincy Adams opposed the criminal actions taken by the President and introduced his famous "Spot Resolution" into Congress which demanded that the President show the people the exact spot where the alleged border intrusion and crimes of the Mexican armed forces had taken place. Of course, the fabricated *casus belli* could not be proven.

He understood that the most important weapon in his arsenal would be the intelligence he could gather about Japan and its people. The Commodore purchased all the available books on the subject of Japan published in Europe and America, including Philipp Franz von Siebold's enormous work and Engelbert Kaempfer's *History of Japan* (published in English in 1727).²⁰ Virtually every known publication concerning Japan became part of Perry's library, which he studied avidly. The U.S. government spent thirty-thousand dollars to purchase the best known navigation charts of Japan from Holland.

But Perry knew that not all knowledge could be obtained from reading books, as useful as they may be. Their deficiency, as Perry would learn later, was the lack of a political understanding of the current relationship that existed between the Shōgun and the Emperor. Importantly, the Commodore wanted to talk to the Americans who had been there. In this journey to the whaling town of New Bedford, Massachusetts he met with many whaling captains and, in particular, his friend Captain Joseph C. Delano,²¹ with whom Perry had engaged a copious correspondence. He also learned that American investment in the whaling industry in the seas of China and Japan amounted to seventeen-million dollars and thousands of American sailors. Before the invention of petroleum and the electric light, whale oil was the major source of lighting for the world.

In addition to his time spent on preparation of the ships for the expedition, Commodore Perry also traveled across the nation to obtain those articles of machinery, documents, and other gifts that would demonstrate to the Japanese the scope and benefits of Western science and technology. In most cases those gifts were generously given to the mission. Perry contacted his old friend from Paris, Samuel F.B. Morse, who provided one of his officers at Poughkeepsie, New York instruction in Morse code, as well as, how to setup and operate the electric telegraph.

To ensure that the Japanese would not be taken by surprise when Commodore Perry's fleet arrived, the U.S. government contacted the Netherlands requesting that they inform the Japanese government about U.S. intentions. In his annual address to the nation on December 5, 1852, President Fillmore announced the Japanese Expedition, and thanked the King of the Netherlands for his services. He made clear that the U.S. was not trying to obtain an exclusive treaty with Japan but promised that any privileges obtained by America "will be equally enjoyed by all the other maritime powers."

Commodore Perry, with his new title of Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, East India, China, and Japan Seas, and Special Ambassador to Japan, was already under way when the President made the announcement. Traveling east aboard the steamer *USS Mississippi*, Perry recorded in his journal that, "I sailed from Norfolk [Virginia] on 24 November 1852, intending to touch on the outward passage for supplies of coal and refreshments at Madeira, the Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and

²⁰ The German born von Siebold arrived in Nagasaki in 1823 and was the first person to teach Western medicine in Japan. In addition to his writing on Japanese custom etc, he conducted an extensive study of Japan's plants and fauna. His authoritative work was *Nippon, Archiv zur Beschreibung von Japan* (Leyden, 1832). A number of Japanese plants introduced into the West bear his name.

²¹ Capt. Joseph Delano, like his relation Captain Amasa Delano (1789-1807), had extensive knowledge of the Pacific, including the seas surrounding Japan. He was also an ancestor of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whose mother was Sara Delano.

Singapore.”²² Plans had been set into motion for the rest of the U.S. fleet to rendezvous in the Far East. He carried with him a gold case which contained a letter from President Millard Fillmore to the Emperor of Japan.

Though informed by the Expedition’s supporters, the American press afforded scant coverage to the Japan Expedition. The British press, on the other hand, exhibited a snell and envious coverage of the American venture. The *London Times* wrote “It was to be doubted whether the Emperor of Japan would receive Commodore Perry with most indignation or most contempt.” Sydney Smith probably best summed up the thinking of the British oligarchy’s regard for Japan: “I am for bombarding all the exclusive Asiatics, who shut up the earth and will not let me walk civilly through it...”²³

On July 8, 1853, Commodore Perry’s fleet of four steam-powered naval warships arrived at Uraga Harbor, at the entrance to the Bay of Edo (Tokyo). Because of the black hulls and dark sails of the ship, colored by the exhaust of the burning coal which powered the steam engines, the ships became known to the Japanese as the “Black Ships.” Representatives of the Shōgun told the Commodore that he should proceed to Nagasaki, the only Japanese port open to foreigners. Perry refused. Wary of the modern power of the American Navy, on July 14th the Shōgunate allowed Perry to land at Kurihama (known today as Yokosuka). Commodore Perry landed and accompanied by two heavily-armed and enormous African-American, body guards. He met with the Japanese representatives and gave them the gold box containing President Fillmore’s letter to the Emperor. He received a receipt for the letter and informed the representatives that he would return “in the approaching spring, probably in April or May” to receive the Emperor’s reply. After a banquet given to Perry by the governor of Uraga, facilitated by Perry’s Dutch-language interpreters, and some friendly fraternizing between the “hairy barbarian” sailors and Japanese locals, the U.S. fleet left. The Americans had not made any threats, burned any Japanese houses, or stolen so much as a grain of rice.

The letter from President Fillmore guaranteed that America had no intention of imperial designs upon Japan:

“I have directed Commodore Perry to assure Your Majesty that I entertain the kindest feelings towards Your Majesty’s person and government, and that I have no other object in sending him to Japan but to propose to Your Imperial Majesty that the United States and Japan should live in friendship and have commercial intercourse with each other.

“The constitution and law of the United States forbid all interference with the religious or political concerns of other nations. I have particularly charged Commodore Perry to abstain from every act which could possibly disturb the tranquility of Your Majesty’s dominions.”

Specifically, the letter requested from the Emperor the safe return of Americans shipwrecked in Japanese waters, and to provide coal and provision stations in Japan for the re-supply of U.S. ships for which the Japanese would be compensated. Most importantly, the President included this offer:

²² *The Japanese Expedition 1852-1854 The Personal Journal of Commodore Matthew C. Perry* by Commodore Perry, Smithsonian Institute Press, Washington, DC, 1968, p. 3.

²³ *Matthew Calbraith Perry* by William Elliot Griffis, Cupples and Hurd, Boston, 1887, pp. 308-309.

“About the same time America, which is sometimes called the New World, was first discovered and settled by the Europeans. For a long time there were but a few people, and they were poor. They have now become quite numerous; their commerce is very extensive; and they think that if Your Imperial Majesty were so far to change the ancient laws as to allow a free trade between the two countries, it would be extremely beneficial to both.”²⁴

This was the offer that would eventually give birth to the collaboration that resulted in Japan’s enthusiastic adoption of the American System of political economy and its subsequent, accelerant leap into the modern world.

Unlike other treaty proposals undertaken by the European powers in Asia, Commodore Perry’s orders (and the proposed treaty) did not include any notion of “reparations” to be paid for past transgressions. Neither did Perry’s orders include the use of force, except in the extreme circumstance of self-defense.

Seven months after his departure from Uruga, Commodore Perry returned as promised on February 11, 1854. This time, however, his fleet was almost twice the previous size, consisting of seven warships carrying 1,600 men. After an initial standoff, the Commodore landed to begin serious negotiations. Meanwhile the gifts which Perry had brought on behalf of the President for the Emperor and other high officials were offloaded and presented. Those gifts, some of which are listed below, were as unique as they were philosophically diametric to the “offerings” of the British Empire in similar circumstances.

Most impressive was the first railroad system to operate in Asia, albeit a one-quarter size model built by the Norris Locomotive Works in Philadelphia. It came with one-mile of track that was erected in a circle. Perry described the event:

“Steam had been raised in the little furnace, the car attached, and the secretary of one of the commissioners, not a little alarmed, was placed upon the roof of the car whilst Mr. Danby sat upon the tender feeding the fire with one hand and managing the engine with the other. The beautiful little machine whirled round the circle filling the air with its shrill whistle, to the astonishment and delight of the immense crowd.”²⁵

Following this, the telegraph, which consisted of two telegraph sets and three miles of wire, was put into operation and used to communicate between the site of the treaty negotiations and Perry’s shore station near the fleet.

Other gifts included a modern copper-bottom lifeboat, a water pump, a sheet-iron stove, various agricultural implements, a sewing machine, books on the history of the U.S. and laws of New York State, survey maps of the U.S. coast and maps of the states, whiskey, champagne, Madeira wine, numerous small firearms, muskets, swords, and two mail bags with locks.

²⁴ It must be noted that President Fillmore’s reference to “free trade” is not to be misconstrued as a promotion of the British Empire’s imperial notion of Adam Smith’s infamous “Free Trade” propaganda, but rather the obvious idea that Japan should free itself to openly trade with America.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, *The Personal Journal of Commodore Matthew C. Perry*, p. 194.

The Japanese reciprocated in kind, their most dramatic gift being 200 bales of rice (weighing 135 lbs. each) that were carried to the Americans by 93 sumo wrestlers.

Key to the success of the negotiations was the role played by Manjiro who, upon the arrival of Perry, had been summoned by Shōgunate officials to serve as their interpreter. Though the Americans were completely unaware of his presence, since he was kept in seclusion in a nearby tent, it was Manjiro's idea of America which was successfully conveyed in his translations. During Manjiro's earlier interrogation by Japanese officials he stated that "it has been a long cherished desire on the part of America to establish friendly relations between Japan and that country . . . because they believe that the people of the world must live as brothers."

The Treaty of Kanagawa, as it became known, was concluded by Commodore Perry and the Japanese Empire on March 31, 1854 granting all the major U.S. requests.

Despite the contemporary scribbling of the sniveling academics at Harvard, such as Michael R. Auslin (author of *Negotiating with Imperialism*, 2004), whose writings typically ooze with a lethal overdose of anglophilia and not enough competent historiography, the actions of Commodore Matthew Perry in Japan represent more than mere "romantic appeal." As anyone who has ever constructed anything worth building knows, moving the task from 'zero to one' is the most difficult of all subsequent operations. With the departure of Commodore Perry and his fleet, it would now be the job of future American diplomats to prepare and ratify a more formal treaty that would codify the commercial and legal relationship between the two nations.

Townsend Harris, America's Pacific Ambassador

"We are today about seventy miles E. of the coast of Kyushu, . . . near the coast of an empire more populous than the United States! What a contrast to the whirl of life on the opposite side of the Pacific! I shall be the first recognized agent from a civilized power to reside in Japan. This forms an epoch in my life and may be the beginning of a new order of things in Japan. I hope I may so conduct myself that I may have honorable mention in the histories which will be written on Japan and its future destiny."

- Townsend Harris, *Journal*, August 19, 1856²⁶

As a result of the recommendations of several prominent U.S. leaders, such as U.S. Senator William H. Seward (later Secretary of State for President Lincoln) and especially Commodore Matthew Perry, Townsend Harris was appointed Consul General for Japan by President Franklin Pierce in August of 1855. There was no other citizen of the United States more qualified to carry the principles of the American Revolution to the nation of Japan.

Townsend Harris' ancestors were Welsh, from whom he undoubtedly inherited his renowned patience, and came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1603 with Roger Williams. Subsequent generations settled in Ulster County in New York. Both his

²⁶ Townsend Harris's manuscript *Journal* in vol. 3, p. 25; and in *The Complete Journal of Townsend Harris* by Mario Emilio Consenza, Charles E. Tuttle Company, Rutland, Vermont and Tokyo, (1930) revised edition second edition 1959, p. 196. The population of the U.S, according to the 1850 Census, was 21,191,867 which would make Japan having approximately 6 million more people at that time.

grandfathers were officers in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. During the Second War of Independence, in 1814, at the age of ten, he witnessed British soldiers burned his family home. Thankful Townsend, his mother whose maiden name he took, taught him three valuable lessons which guided him throughout his life: “to tell the truth, fear God, and hate the British.”²⁷

As a young adult, Harris moved to New York City to work in the family import business that became ‘John and Townsend Harris,’ importers of China and earthenware. He was a voracious reader with an extensive classical library and learned to speak French, Spanish, and Italian (eventually teaching himself five more languages). Harris was active in the Democratic Party politics and was elected a member of the New York City Board of Education in 1846 and became president of the Board. In order to afford the poor boys of the city a higher education, he also founded the Free Academy, which became the College of the City of New York.

One of those poor boys, David Broderick, Harris took under his personal care and taught him the classics, his favorite being the poet Percy Shelley. His protégé would play a key role in determining the future of the Eastern Pacific Rim in the new State of California where he became the main leader of San Francisco. After defeating the terrorist Vigilante Committees and their pro-slavery backers, he became a U.S. Senator and helped defeat the British designs to break California and the Pacific Coast off from the Union during the Civil War.²⁸

After the death of his mother in 1847, Townsend Harris sent the next five years engaged in commercial voyaging in his own ship throughout Asia, from India, Ceylon, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Siam, to China.

When Commodore Perry and his fleet arrived in Shanghai on May 4, 1853, he was greeted by Townsend Harris who attempted to persuade the Commodore to permit him to accompany his mission to Japan. Though the Commodore declined, the two soon developed a correspondence and mutual alliance respecting the future of America in Asia.

During this same time, Harris applied to the Secretary of State William Marcy, to become an American Consul at either Canton or Hong Kong, his stated place of residence. In his writing to the State Department, he exposed the criminal activities of the current American consuls and vice-consuls in Canton and Shanghai – Paul Forbes, Daniel Spooner, I.N.A. Griswold and E. Cunningham – all members of the firm of Russell and Company which he stated was engaged “in the illicit traffick of Opium that great Curse of China,” having held 4,000 chests of opium when Chinese authorities had attempted to crack down on the British drug-pushers. Russell and Company were partners in the British Empire’s opium operations, and a central part of the treasonous American, financial-gang known as the ‘Boston Brahmins.’ Harris’ appeal was ignored, a testimony to the corruption in the State Department by those forces.

²⁷ *Townsend Harris, First Envoy to Japan*, by William Elliot Griffis, Houghton Mifflin & Company, The Riverside Press, Boston & New York, 1895, p. 4. Griffis not only lived and taught in Japan but knew Townsend Harris personally from 1874-1878. He was provided with Harris’ personal letters and his *Journal*, the extracts of which regarding Japan were first published in this book.

²⁸ For a more detailed history of Broderick, who in the same manner of Alexander Hamilton’s murder, was assassinated by the Confederate traitor David Terry, see the unpublished manuscript *How California was Kept in the Union & The City of Angeles was Built: The Story of John Gately Downey* by Mark Calney (<http://wlym.com/~calney/text/DowneyNF.doc>).

On February 21, 1855 the ratifications of Commodore Perry's Treaty of Kanagawa were exchanged at Shimoda. Now, the implementation of the Treaty was ready to be put into effect, which included the provision of Article XI that "there shall be appointed by the government of the United States consuls or agents to reside in Shimoda." Townsend Harris returned to New York City on July 17, 1855, whereupon he learned that the lobbying efforts by his friends to have him appointed Consul to Japan appeared to have been successful. After traveling to Washington, D.C. for meetings, including several personal interviews with President Pierce, Harris recorded in his *Journal*:

" . . . on the 4th of August I was appointed Consul General for Japan.

"During the same month the President was pleased to entrust me with the making [of] a commercial treaty with the Kingdom of Siam, a matter in which Mr. Bales-tier was unsuccessful."

With the news of this new assignment, Harris immediately sent a letter to Secretary of State Marcy stating that "I advise that nothing should be said about the Siam negotiations. If it should become public, obstacles may be thrown in the way of it."²⁹ Unfortunately, the secret was communicated through the Boston Brahmin opium-dealers to their British partners-in-crime who deployed their "obstacles" of diplomatic enforcers to Siam ahead of Harris.

On April 13, 1856, the U.S. Naval ship carrying Townsend Harris, the *San Jacinto*, anchored off shore Siam on the bar of the Menam River. It was immediately learned that one of the "obstacles" which Harris had dreaded was indeed present in the form of Harry Parkes, later to become Sir Harry Parkes and the British Empire's Minister to Japan and China. Parkes was Sir John Bowring's private secretary when Bowring negotiated the British/Siam Treaty (after six official visits) and was in Bangkok to exchange the ratifications of the treaty. Harris records that "I fear his presence may delay me."³⁰

Harris, however, was not wading into unfriendly waters in Siam, though the same could not be said for Mr. Parkes. The historic accomplishments of another great American, Rev. Dr. Dan Bradley, had already helped Siam on its journey towards modernization and he was a close friend of King Mongkut, Rama IV. When Dan Beach Bradley had arrived in Siam in 1835 as a minister and doctor from the ABCFM, there were no newspapers, no books, no literacy among the general population, and no Western medicine. Though he won few converts to Christianity, Bradley transformed the nation and helped keep the French and British imperialists from making Siam a colony.

Bradley introduced modern medicine and the first public health measures into Siam, setting up a public clinic in Bangkok that served thousands of people per month. He also became the physician to the royal family. In 1838, he introduced inoculation against smallpox, fought various epidemics, and created the first private hospital in 1843. He kept an orrery – a clockwork model that showed the motions of the planets

²⁹ Cosenza, p. 25.

³⁰ Cosenza, p. 79.

around the sun – in his clinic with his idea that “I will use science to win Thailand for Christ.”

The first printing press and bindery were introduced into Siam by Dr. Bradley. He published a treatise on smallpox inoculation, in addition to books and pamphlets on history, the Thai language, Abraham Lincoln, and US Civil War. In 1839, he printed the Royal edict against importation of opium. The country’s first newspaper was started in 1844, the *Bangkok Recorder*, which he edited and published. Bradley also started various educational initiatives and introduced classical European music. His wife Sarah, in addition to teaching English to the Royal family, taught music and led concert performances, including Handel’s *Messiah* about 1855. Since that time, the playing of the *Messiah* became an annual tradition which continues to the present.

Thailand’s industrial revolution began in 1843 when American missionary John Hassett Chandler arrived in Bangkok. A friend and ally of Bradley, Chandler was a machinist and printer. He taught the Siamese science and mechanics, how to organize a machine shop, and built Thailand’s first steamboats.

When Townsend Harris arrived in Siam to negotiate the U.S. treaty, King Mongkut, Rama IV, had ruled over his nation’s 5.5 million people for five years. For the previous twenty-seven years he had been a Buddhist monk. At that time, the Buddhist religion in Siam was almost dead, reduced to the recitations of Pali language liturgy by the priests in the temples which neither they nor their followers understanding a word.³¹ King Mongkut developed an unquenchable thirst for scientific knowledge and become a Buddhist scholar, whereby he revolutionized the Siamese language and Siamese Buddhism. He had sent emissaries to Ceylon and learned the history and authentic teachings of Buddhism which he incorporated into his establishment of the Dhammayuta sect of Buddhism, making the written and oral Pali language knowable. The King had also mastered the languages of English, French, Malay, and Sanskrit, and was learning Latin from the local Catholic Bishop Pallegoix and Dan Bradley. He once joked that some Englishmen “have not the understanding of their own language when I speak.” The King, working with Dan Bradley (both experts in the Thai language), published Thai dictionaries and books on grammar which, combined with a series of Royal edicts on the Thai language, elevated the cognitive capabilities and culture of the general population.

When King Mongkut first became ruler, the British Empire was attacking Siam from the West and South, while their French stooges under Napoleon III made incursions from the North and East. Though the King had been forced to make minor concessions, he never surrendered his nation. Townsend Harris was well aware of the aims of the British, and noted them in his *Journal*:

“When a British Resident is forced on any Asiatic power, it is only a question of time how long that power shall be permitted to exist, before the fiat of annexation goes forth, and the government of the native sovereign annihilated.”³²

³¹ The Boston Brahmins, led by Pickering, ran an operation to eliminate the ABCFM as an obstacle to its opium trade. With the installation of Rufus Anderson as its head in 1842, the ABCFM missionaries were reduced to simply reciting liturgy with no translation to the local population (not unlike the situation King Mongkut faced), and no instruction in science i.e. no politics. Hiram Bingham was not allowed to return to Hawaii and from 1847 to 1850 Dan Bradley was expelled and his mission closed.

³² Cosenza, p. 73.

It is thanks to King Mongkut, and his American allies, Siam became the only other Asian nation, besides Japan, that did not become a colony of a European power. Today Siam is known as Thailand, meaning “the land of the free.”

Townsend Harris was able to have the American Treaty negotiated and signed with King Mongkut, Rama IV by the end of the following month. The King had insisted that the Treaty include an explicit ban on the importation of opium into Siam, particularly since Sir Bowring’s Treaty stated that, “Opium may be imported free of duty, but can only be sold to the Opium Farmer or his agents.”³³ Harris absolutely agreed in principle with the King. However, he was painfully aware that, because of the corrupt influence of Britain’s opium-trading partners in the United States, his government would not ratify the Treaty with that clause. Instead, they both decided to simply omit any mention of opium in the Treaty, other than its inclusion in the Bowring Treaty.

The gifts which Townsend Harris presented to the King on behalf of the U.S. government included a vast array of more than twenty objects for conducting scientific experiments in electricity, in addition to several microscopes and an electric orrery.

Harris was now free to steam for Japan to undertake a much greater task. Later, in 1868, one of King Mongkut’s final acts was to conduct a proof of scientific principle that should have humbled any European imperialist’s notion of “native superstitions.” The King organized a grand expedition, inviting Sir Harry Ord (the British Governor of the Straits Settlements from Singapore) and a group of French astronomers and scientists, to a village in a province south of Bangkok in order to observe a total solar eclipse, whose precise time of occurrence he had calculated two years earlier. His prediction came far closer than any European, with only a two second variance. Unfortunately, he and his son, Prince Chulalongkorn, both contracted malaria resulting in the death of King Mongkut. He is known to this day as Thailand’s “Father of Modern Science and Technology,” while his surviving son, King Rama V, became the great modernizer of the nation and ruled until 1910.

It will be astonishing to most people, especially Americans, to realize that the brilliant King Mongkut was the same buffoonish character portrayed during the 1950s in the New York City Broadway play and subsequent Hollywood movies known as “The King and I.” Not coincidentally, those productions were based on the lies of a cheap novel written by Anna Leonowens, the widow of a British officer based in India who found temporary employment teaching English in King Mongkut’s harem. She was never a teacher of the royal family, nor did she ever meet King Mongkut, yet she claims that she, not the Bradleys, were the “liberating influence” on King Mongkut. Understandably, the possession of a copy of Anna Lewonowens’ book or copies of those films was made a crime in Thailand.

On August 21, 1856, Townsend Harris landed at Shimoda, Japan which is located about sixty miles southwest of Edo (Tokyo) at the southern tip of the Izu peninsula. Under the conditions of the Kanagawa Treaty, negotiated by Commodore Perry, Shimoda was one of the two ports open to Americans (the other being Hakodate at the southern tip of Hokkaidō).

³³ This part of the British Treaty of Bowring appears verbatim in Harris’ original draft of the U.S. Treaty (Article VIII) and in Article VII of the U.S. Treaty adopted by the U.S. Senate.

Since the village had no accommodations suitable for Harris and his group, the first American Consulate in Japan was opened at Gyokusen-ji, an unused 16th century temple. On that spot the first foreign consult flag, the American stars and stripes, was unfurled over Japanese soil. Early American influence on the Japanese diet is also honored there today by a plaque which claims Gyokusen-ji to be the “the spot where the first cow in Japan was slaughtered for human consumption,” and where the habit of humans drinking cow's milk started in Japan.

Based on reports from Americans who had landed in Japan after Perry's last visit it would seem that Townsend Harris would have little problem in negotiating a commercial treaty. Captain Adams, who visited Shimoda in 1855, wrote:

“I found the Japanese during my visit much more disposed to be friendly and sociable than formerly. . . . An anxious wish was expressed by these people that trading vessels from America would soon begin to visit them, and the governor of Simoda intimated to me that it would be very agreeable to him personally if a consul from the United States should be appointed to reside at Simoda. They are eager to obtain our books on medical or scientific subjects, . . . They told me they had learned how to manage the locomotive engine sent to the Emperor by the United States government, but the magnetic telegraph was too hard for them.”³⁴

However, not all of Japan's leaders were convinced that the country should continue to be opened to foreigners. In February of 1855, the Emperor did approve of the first treaties negotiated by the Shōgunate with America, Britain, and Russia. During the Crimean War, with the British uniting France and Turkey against Russia, Admiral Sir James Stirling sailed into Nagasaki with a squadron of warships to demand a treaty.³⁵ Not wanting to become involved in a European war, the Japanese hastily agreed to a treaty similar to the Americans with the British in October of 1854. The striking difference was that the British included a “most favored nation” provision and the demand to resupply ships of war.

The power of the Shōgunate was supreme and the majority of his councilors were convinced that a dialogue with foreigners was the correct course of action. The Rojiu (rōjū), or Cabinet, was ruled by Lord Abe Masahiro who had overseen all the treaty negotiations. There was a second council, the Tamarizume, comprised of nine members whose majority favored opening Japan, led by Lords Ii and Hotta Masayoshi. The other council of major importance was the Sanke that included the three noble Tokugawa houses led by Lord Nariaki (the senior prince of Mito) and was adamantly opposed to any foreign dealings. A power struggle ensued between the Tamarizume and the Sanke over control of the Cabinet. The month that Harris landed in Shimoda, Lord Nariaki had succeeded in removing two pro-foreign ministers, but was foiled in November by Lord Hotta who was given the presidency of the Cabinet. Hotta created

³⁴ *Narrative of the Expedition of an American Squadron to the China Seas and Japan* compiled from the original notes and journals of Commodore Perry and his officers, at his request, and under his supervision, by Francis Hawks, II, p. 209; U.S. Navy Department edition, 1855.

³⁵ The British had planned an attack on the Russian naval station of Petropavlovsk on the Kamchatka Peninsula.

an ad hoc committee of Bakufu officials who had special knowledge of the West and foreign affairs, and he would negotiate the commercial treaty with Harris.

After much stalling and obfuscation by Shōgunate officials, “The Convention of Shimoda Between the United States and Japan” was concluded on June 17, 1857.³⁶ That Convention basically filled out the specifics of the agreements in Perry’s Treaty of Kanagawa. It also included the opening of the port of Nagasaki, extraterritorial prosecutions (i.e. offenses committed by Americans in Japan would be tried by the American Consul and subject to America laws, and Japanese offences against American would be tried by Japanese authorities under their laws), and “settlement of accounts” by equal weight of gold or silver coins. The issue of currency and its exchange was something which Harris continually addressed.

Townsend Harris now focused all his energies on his main objective of presenting his credentials at Edo and obtaining a commercial treaty. His objective was to forge a special relationship between the United States and Japan based on the American System of economics that would make an independent and modern Japan the counterweight to the British plan of colonizing all of Asia. He conducted countless interviews and correspondence with local officials which drew heavily on his talents for patience in education and persuasion. Then, on September 22, he was informed that his request to meet the Shōgun had been granted, thanks to the efforts of Lord Hotta.

Harris, along with his interpreter Henry Heusken,³⁷ and an entourage of about three-hundred-and fifty local officials and servants from Shimoda arrived in Edo where he was quartered in one of the buildings of the “Office for the Examination of Barbarian Books.” On December 7th, Townsend Harris had his audience with the Shōgun and stood erect as all other members of the court fell prostrate on their faces. Harris presented his “letters of credence from the President of the United States” and stated his “earnest wishes are to unite the two countries more closely in the ties of enduring friendship, my constant exertions shall be directed to the attainment of that happy end.”³⁸ The Shōgun replied (as translated):

“Pleased with the letter sent with the Ambassador from a far distant country, and likewise pleased with his discourse. Intercourse shall be continued forever.”³⁹

Five days later, Harris had a two-hour meeting with Hotta that would shape the outcome of that much sought after treaty. Harris made clear that the U.S. had no interest in obtaining possessions in the East, while the British Empire, not satisfied with Admiral Stirling’s Treaty, threatened war to seize Sakhalin, Yezo, and Hakodate in order

³⁶ It should be noted that this Convention, as well as the subsequent Commercial Treaty of Harris, was executed in quintuplicate, each copy being written in the English, Japanese, and Dutch languages, but it was agreed “that the true meaning shall be found in the Dutch version of the articles” as per Articles VIII and IX.

³⁷ Henry Heusken was a Dutchman who had emigrated to the U.S. in 1853 and had joined Townsend Harris in Japan in August 1856 to serve as his Dutch translator. In January of 1861, while returning home from the Prussian legation in Yedo, where he had been assisting them with their treaty negotiations, he was assassinated.

³⁸ Cosenza, op. cit., p. 475.

³⁹ Cosenza, op. cit., p. 475.

to “defend” itself against Russian supposed intensions. Harris made the U.S. position clear visa-a-vie the hostile intensions of the British and their French allies:

“If Japan had been near to either England or France, war would have broken out long ago. The great distance between the countries is the reason why peace has been preserved thus long. In case of war, a treaty would have to be made at the end of the war. The President wants to make a treaty without any war, and with mutual goodwill and respect. . .

“The President is of opinion that if Japan makes a treaty with the United States, all other foreign countries will make the same kind of a treaty, and Japan will be safe thereafter.

“The President wants to make a treaty that will be honorable to Japan, without war, in a peaceful manner, after deliberate consultation. If Japan should make a treaty with the ambassador of the United States, who has come unattended by military force, her honor will not be impaired. There will be a great difference between a treaty made with a single individual, unattended, and one made with a person who should bring fifty men-of-war to these shores. We were sent to this country by the President, who desires to promote the welfare of Japan, and are quite different from the ambassadors of other countries. We do not wish to open your ports to foreign trade all at once. It will be quite satisfactory if you open them gradually, as the circumstances may require; but the President assures you that this will not be the case if you make a treaty with England first. . . . When the ambassadors of other foreign countries come to Japan to make treaties, they can be told such and such a treaty has been made with the ambassador of the United States, and they will rest satisfied with this.”⁴⁰

In a subsequent interview held with Harris by five of the ‘Commissioners of the voyage of the American Ambassador to Edo’ (a total of twenty sessions occurred) when questions were directed to the issues of trade concerning customs duties and freedom from restrictions, Harris again counter posed the methods of the British Empire, which at the time was conducting its Second Opium War against China, and he replied:

“When the English ask for trade, they say they will come with men-of-war and demand that ports be opened at once. If opened, well; if not, war will at once be declared. There will be a great difference between granting their demands and making a treaty with me, who am consulting the advantage of both countries. It will be greatly to the honor of Japan to do as I say.”⁴¹

It was also during this time that Harris records his educational efforts on economics:

⁴⁰ Harris states in his journal “My private papers on ‘Japan’ contain an exact copy of what I said on this occasion, -therefore, I do not copy it here.” [Cosenza, op. cit., p. 484] This quote from Harris, and the several others that immediately follow, come from *Diplomatic Relations Between the United States and Japan 1853-1895* by Payson J. Treat, Stanford University Press, 1963; vol 1, p. 52.

⁴¹ Treat, op cit., p. 55.

"I may be said to be now engaged in teaching the elements of political economy to the Japanese and in giving them information as to the working of commercial regulations in the West."⁴²

The British Empire idea of Free Trade also suffered a defeat, when Townsend Harris included the following into Article IV of his commercial treaty: "The importation of opium is prohibited." Thanks to American allies in Nagasaki, an anti-opium clause had been inserted into the 1857 Dutch Convention with Japan, as well as being included in the Russian Convention shortly after.⁴³

On July 29, 1858, Townsend Harris successfully concluded the Treaty of Amity and Commerce Between the United States and Japan. Every provision was undertaken by Harris from the standpoint that it would have universal application and benefit for all foreign nations trading with Japan. Harris well understood, as he stated, that as Japan developed its economy from feudalism into becoming modern that a new equitable, commercial treaty would have to be negotiated. The sabotage of that future proposed treaty is discussed later in this report. Those who attempt to tarnish the true history of American accomplishments with the brush of imperialism (e.g. "the Americans were just as bad as the British") are truly victims of their own incompetence and ideological historiography no matter from what end of the political spectrum they might hail.

Townsend Harris had this to say about the treaty:

"the pleasure I feel in having made the treaty is enhanced by the reflection that there has been no show of coercion, not was menace in the least used by me to obtain it. There was no American man-of-war within one-thousand miles of me for months before and after the negotiations. I told the Japanese at the outset that my mission was a friendly one; that I was not authorized to use any threats; that all I wished was that they would listen to the truths that I would lay before them."⁴⁴

The First Japanese Mission to the U.S.

Driven by the existential crisis that necessitated modernization, on January 19, 1860, the Tokugawa government sent Japan's first mission to the United States.⁴⁵ The primary objective of the embassy was to ratify the 1858 treaty of Townsend Harris. Its unofficial secondary objective was to demonstrate to the world that Japan was capable of undertaking the long sea voyage, from Uraga to San Francisco, unassisted by Westerners. For that purpose the Bakufu sent the mission aboard the newly commissioned warship, built by the Netherlands, the *Kanrin-maru*. Though a relatively small sailing vessel equipped with an auxiliary steam-driven engine (primarily used for harbor maneuvering) it had a twelve gun armament and a crew of ninety-six. The *Kanrin-maru* was escorting the U.S. Naval ship *Powhatan* which had been Commodore

⁴² Cosenza, op. cit., p. 490.

⁴³ This anti-opium caveat was singular in Dutch foreign policy, given their active opium trading in Java.

⁴⁴ *Littell's Living Age*, Vol. 60, p. 572.

⁴⁵ The last Japanese embassy which had crossed the Pacific Ocean to visit the New World was that of Hasekura Tsunenaga who headed a mission to the Vatican in 1613, sailing to Acapulco, Mexico (part of Nueva España) and then from Vera Cruz to Europe.

Perry's flag ship when he first sailed into Japanese waters in 1853 and now carried the Japanese envoy.

The captain of the *Kanrin-maru* was Katsu Rintarō⁴⁶ who was assisted by Japan's most qualified navigator, Nakahama Manjiro. Also aboard ship was a small contingent of homeward-bound U.S. Navy seamen, led by Lieutenant John Mercer Brooke, an accomplished hydrographer and astronomer. After finishing his assignment to plot the most efficient steamship route between San Francisco and Hong Kong, Lt. Brooke had gone to Japan where he was about to survey those ports opened by the Harris Treaty. Unfortunately, his ship, the *Fenimore Cooper*, was destroyed in a typhoon.

Brooke gave strict orders to his men not to interfere with, or aide, the ship's crew and to respect the Captain's order's regarding water rationing. In describing the difficulties of the voyage of the *Kanrin-maru*, including their encounter with a sever storm, to Secretary of Navy, Isaac Toucey, Lt. Brooke praised Manjiro as "a Japanese of singular ability." In his personal journal Brooke wrote that "Manjiro is certainly one of the most remarkable men I ever saw. He has translated Bowditch [Nathaniel Bowditch's *New American Practical Navigator*] into the Japanese language ... He is very communicative and I am satisfied that he has had more to do with the opening of Japan than any man living ..."⁴⁷

Several years earlier Manjiro had been invited to Edo from Tosa by Lord Abe in order to submit a plan for the development of Japanese sea power. In 1857, Manjiro became an instructor at the Yedo Naval Training School where he taught ship engineering and navigation. The following year he was assigned to Hakodate on the island of Hokkaidō to investigate the creation of a Japanese whaling industry, an enterprise for which he would supervise ship construction and training in 1859. Throughout this period he taught English and wrote *A Short Cut to English Conversation*, that became a standard text book superior to all others at that time. Manjiro's remarkable achievements were later recognized by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt [see box below].

Also, aboard the *Kanrin-maru* was Fukuzawa Yukichi (1835-1901), the young intellectual from a lower, samurai family who would become the leading philosophical figure of the Meiji era. Having developed an informal interest in the Chinese classics, at the age of fourteen (ten years past the normal age to start an education) he began attending a school of Dutch studies and learned Dutch so that he might learn the knowledge of the West. Upon receiving information of the voyage to be taken by the *Kanrin-maru*, Fukuzawa contacted a friend of his, Dr. Katsuragawa, a physician for the Shōgun who was considered Japan's patriarch of Dutch Studies Movement, in order to

⁴⁶ Katsu was among the first to study the naval sciences from the Dutch at Nagasaki. He held various high naval positions in the Tokugawa government, including head of the Kobe Naval School, construction of the Japanese Navy Yard and an iron foundry in Kobe. When the Imperial force of the Meiji attacked Yedo, he saved the city from siege by negotiating a peace with Saigo Takamori, the Imperial commander. In 1872, he became Vice Minister of the Navy in the Meiji government and later Minister of the Navy, as well as a Privy Councillor.

⁴⁷ Though the journals were not intended for publication, they were been preserved by Brooke's grandson, Dr. George M. Brooke, Jr., professor of history at Virginia Military Institute. In 1960, they were offered to the Association for the Japan-U.S. Amity and Trade Centennial and published in Japan as Volume V of the *Collected Documents of the Japanese Mission to America, 1860*.

volunteer for the mission. Dr. Katsuragawa passed on his request to a family relation, Kimura Settsu-no Kami (1830-1901), who held the position similar to Minister of the Navy and was personally in charge of all naval operations for the mission.

Letter written by President Roosevelt to Dr. Toichiro Nakahama (Tokyo, Japan, the eldest son of Manjiro):

The White House
Washington

June 8, 1933

My dear Dr. Nakahama –

When Viscount Ishii was here in Washington he told me that you are living in Tokyo and we talked about your distinguished father.

You may not know that I am the grandson of Mr. Warren Delano of Fairhaven, who was part owner of the ship of Captain Whitfield which brought your father to Fairhaven. Your father lived, as I remembered it, at the house of Mr. Trippe, which was directly across the street from grandfather's house, and when I was a boy, I well remember my grandfather telling me all about the little Japanese boy who went to school in Fairhaven and who went to church from time to time with the Delano family. I myself used to visit Fairhaven, and my mother's family still own the house.

The name of Nakahama will always be remembered by my family, and I hope that if you or any of your family come to the United States that you will come to see us.

Believe me, my dear Dr. Nakahama,
Very sincerely yours,
Franklin Roosevelt

Kimura was so shocked to have anyone volunteer that he readily welcomed Fukuzawa.

The *Kanrin-maru* arrived safely in San Francisco with much fanfare provided by local and state authorities, including California's new governor, John Downey.⁴⁸ One incident which gives a flavor of how the Japanese were often amazed by their introduction to American culture and technology is conveyed by Fukuzawa in his *Autobiography* when he describes the Japanese delegation first being taken to a San Francisco hotel:

"All of us wore the usual pair of swords at our sides and the hemp sandals. So attired, we were taken to the modern hotel. There we noticed, covering the interior, the valuable carpets which in Japan only the more wealthy could buy from importers' shops at so much a square inch to make purses and

⁴⁸ For more on Downey an California during this period, see *How California Was Kept in the Union and the City of Angeles Was Build, The Story of John Gately Downey* by Mark Calney [give web site]

tobacco pouches with. Here the carpet was laid over an entire room – something quite astounding – and upon this costly fabric walked our hosts wearing the shoes with which they had come in from the streets!”⁴⁹

After repairs were completed from damage done by a storm, Fukuzawa and the rest of the *Kanrin-maru* crew returned to Japan while the Embassy continued on to Panama, crossed the isthmus via the new Panama Railway, and then on the Gulf of Mexico side sailed aboard the *USS Niagara* to Washington, D.C. Fukuzawa and Manjiro both purchased copies of Webster’s Dictionary in San Francisco, and upon their return to Japan Fukuzawa published the first English-Japanese dictionary (*Kaei Tsūgo*).

During the trip, Fukuzawa revealed his great sense of humor, often times poking fun at himself. As the *Kanrin-maru* left Hawaii on its final leg back to Japan, he made quite a stir among the young men onboard who thought of him as “a rather strange kind of human” since he was “free from amorous ties, nor would I allow myself to join in gossip on such affairs.” Fukuzawa then produced a photograph of himself with a young woman and exclaimed, “Here it is! What do you think of it? . . . You all talk a lot about your affairs but how many of you have brought back a picture . . . Without any evidence what good is it to boast of your affairs now?” Of course, the other men were flabbergasted and jealous that they hadn’t done the same thing while in San Francisco. The woman in the picture was the daughter of the photographer, and the photograph has since become probably the most famous and well-known photo in Japanese history.⁵⁰

It should be noted that all official treaty documents undertaken by the Japanese government included a Dutch language translation which was used as an intermediary translation for all other foreign languages. Though the Shōgun and his advisors did not know Dutch, they relied on Japanese translators, such as Fukuzawa. It was a common misunderstanding by virtually all Japanese, at the time that Commodore Perry opened that nation, that the language of all foreigners was Dutch. It was a shock to many, including Fukuzawa who hastily worked to correct the problem, when it was learned that a different language – English – was spoken by Americans.

When the plenipotentiary members of the Japanese Embassy (Shinmi Masaoki, Muragaki Norimasa, and Oguri Tadamasa) reached Washington they were greeted with numerous receptions including one at the White House where they met with President Buchanan. Before returning to Japan by way of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, the Embassy visited New York City where a parade was held in their honor. When the returning Embassy anchored in Edo Bay aboard the *USS Niagara* on November 8th Abraham Lincoln had been elected President of the United States two days earlier. The following day the State of South Carolina called for a convention in order to secede from the Union, marking the beginning of events that precipitated the great U.S. Civil War. It was same the year that the British Royal Navy, as part of their Second Opium War against China, bombarded Canton and Lord Elgin had ordered the looting and burning of the Summer Palaces in Beijing.

⁴⁹ *The Autobiography of Yukichi Fukuzawa* (Translated by Eiichi Kiiyooka), Columbia University Press, New York, 1966, p. 113. First published in 1899, and the first English translation was published in Japan in 1934.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 119-120.

In 1862, the Tokugawa Shōgunate requested that Fukuzawa serve as interpreter for the government's first mission to Europe. The prime objective of the forty-person mission, which traveled for almost one year, was to ratify treaties with the European powers (France, Britain, the Netherlands, Prussia, and Russia) and, in regards of the special relation with the U.S., to postpone the opening of Japanese ports of trade to those powers. This tour was heavily organized by the British, who hoped to gain the upper hand in Japan over the Americans who, at the time, were engaged in suppressing the British-backed Confederacy.

On June 6, 1862, British Prime Minister, Lord John Russell and the head of the Japanese mission, Takeuchi Yasunori, signed the London Protocols which postponed the opening of the harbors of Edo, Osaka, and Hyogo for five more years and reduced tariff prices on certain products. This was not unexpected, since Townsend Harris was responsible for drafting the treaty postponement proposal for all Western powers in February 1861 with Andō Nobuyuki, Councilor to the Shōgun.⁵¹

The other part of the Japanese mission was to accumulate knowledge of Western civilization. In London, Fukuzawa used the balance of his money to purchase books:

“This was the beginning of the importation of English books into Japan; it is only since my first large purchase in London that our students have had free access to English in print.”⁵²

Also while in London, the mission received a copy of a bill from a member of Parliament which was had an interesting affect. As Fukuzawa records the incident:

“The bill was a protest against the arrogant attitude of the British minister to Japan, Alcock, who had at times acted as if Japan were a country conquered by military force. ... On reading the copy of this bill, I felt as if a load had been lifted from my chest. After all, the foreigners were not all ‘devils.’”⁵³

Unfortunately, for Japan and history that enlightened perception of Sir Alcock was not shared by the rulers of the British Empire. Even as the mission toured Europe, the British manipulated events in Japan to sabotage American's special relationship.

⁵¹ Later known as Andō Nobumasa, Andō was a daimyo who ruled the Iwakidaire Domain and was a rōjū (one of four Elders or Councilors who were the top advisors to the Shōgun) in the Tokugawa Shōgunate. After Lord Ii Naosuke, who had been responsible for organizing the Bakufu officials to sign the Harris Treaty, was assassinated on March 24, 1860, Andō had taken over the negotiations with Harris and had met with him (on February 6, 1861) to discuss the postponement only three weeks after Harris' interpreter and aid, Henry Heusken, had been assassinated. The following year, Andō himself barely survived an assassination attempt.

⁵² Fukuzawa, *Autobiography*, p. 129.

⁵³ Fukuzawa, *Autobiography*, p. 129-130. Sir Rutherford Alcock had become the first British Consul General in Japan in 1858. He was appointed Minister the following year and remained in Japan until 1864.

The Brutish Response: Extortion and Violence

On September 14, 1862, four British subjects who were riding on the Tōkaidō (the road between Edo and Kyoto) at the village of Namamugi came across a three-hundred-man train of the preeminent daimyo of Satsuma. Failing to honor the procession by halting and dismounting, they were attacked and Charles Lennox Richardson, a twenty-eight-year-old visiting merchant from Shanghai, was slain. The government authorities had given detailed warnings to all foreign residents to avoid the road on days of such processions. Even one of the British riders had tried to dissuade Richardson from taking such action, to which he had arrogantly replied, "Let me alone; I have lived in China for fourteen years, and I know how to manage these people."⁵⁴

For the British Foreign Office, the so-called Namamugi Incident was a 'made to order' situation. It allowed British Imperialism to do what it does best – to use real or fabricated "atrocities" against British subjects or interests as an excuse to exercise their self-appointed "extraterritorial rights" in undertaking military operations (or the threat of force) to subjugate their perspective colonial game.

Three months after the Namamugi Incident, Lord Russell issued the British Empire's ultimatum. Russell demanded that the Bakufu pay £100,000 and issue a formal apology, and Satsuma was to pay an indemnity of £25,000 in addition to carrying out the execution of the primary perpetrators. Russell ordered Britain's Chargé d'Affaires in Japan (at the time Alcock was back in England), Lieutenant Colonel Edward St. John Neale, to deploy the ships of the China Squadron to engage in reappraisals and blockages if the demands were not met.

Following Russell's orders, at the beginning of April, Neale issued a formal threat that gave the Bakufu a twenty-day deadline before British warships would be deployed to collect the reparations. Where upon, the Bakufu evoked Article II of the 1858 Harris Treaty which stated that the United States would act in "such matters of difference as may arise between the Government of Japan and any European power." Robert H. Pruyn, the U.S. Minister to Japan, complied and negotiated five postponements with Neale.⁵⁵ On June 24, 1863, the indemnity was paid in full by the Bakufu, and Neale ordered Admiral Augustus Kuper to stand down his fleet.

Acutely aware of British destabilization operations in Japan, Captain David McDougal of the *USS Wyoming* wrote a letter to Secretary of Navy Gideon Welles, dated June 12, 1863 stating that, "General opinion is that the government [of Japan] is on the eve of revolution, the principal object of which is the expulsion of foreigners."

The events unfolding at that time in Japan were not isolated from the strategic world crisis posed by the U.S. Civil War. The future of humanity lay in the historic battle of President Abraham Lincoln to preserve the universal principles of the American republic against the British-backed Confederacy. Not only had the British created and nurtured the secessionist movement of the slave-owning aristocracy of the Southern

⁵⁴ *Papers Relating to the Foreign Relations of the United States; Diplomatic Correspondence*, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1863, II, p. 1064; No. 2, January 14, 1863.

⁵⁵ Robert Hewson Pruyn was from one of the oldest Dutch families of Albany, New York. He had been elected speaker of the New York State Assembly in 1850 as a Whig and became Brigadier General of state militia. His personal friend and political ally, Secretary of State William H. Seward, suggested that President Abraham Lincoln appoint him as Minister to Japan. Pruyn served in that position from 1861 to 1865.

states (as well as, their Northern counterparts) to breakup the Union, but they had constructed the Confederate naval warships in English shipyards. Those ships, like the *Alabama* and *Sumter*, were also receiving repairs and supplies in Chinese ports by the British to facilitate their raids against the Union.

Likewise, the future existence of the British Empire resided in the necessity of destroying the United States. So, in the summer of 1863 when the Confederacy was at its high tide, the British were poised on the brink of unleashing world war to obtain those ends. Lincoln's collaboration with Russia prevented such an occurrence. In September of 1863, Russian naval fleets steamed into the ports of New York City and San Francisco. They remain there for seven months, carrying sealed orders from Czar Alexander II that if either the British and/or French were to conduct military operations against the Union, than they would intervene of the side of the Union. British operations in Japan were a flanking action which targeted Japanese relations with the United States. In January 1864, John G. Walsh, the American consul at Nagasaki recorded the nature of that problem:

“The American flag was in difficult straits where it practically had to fight in these seas, just as in other parts of the world. Although rebel cruisers did not appear in the China and Japan seas this year, reports that they might attack were spread unceasingly by persons with illegitimate self-interests, having the desired effect.”⁵⁶

Adding grease to the fire, Emperor Kōmei earlier that year had issued an “Order to expel the barbarians” on March 11, 1863 with its final deadline set for June 25. Though the Shōgunate had no desire or means of implementing the Emperor's order, it did fuel rebellion, particularly amongst those daimyo leaders already opposed to the Shōgun. When the deadline approached, Lord Mori Takachika of the Chōshū daimyo, in defiance of the Shōgun, ordered the bombardment of foreign ships in the Shimonoseki Strait, which was a critical choke point that separated the islands of Honshū and Kyūshū connecting the Sea of Japan to the Inland Sea. The first victim was the small American steamer *Pembroke* which was attacked by two armed vessels, sailing under the Japanese national flag, but suffered little damage. Dutch and French ships were subsequently attacked. An obvious violation of the Treaty agreements, the American Minister consulted with the Shōgunate, while the *USS Wyoming* was dispatched from Yokohama and retaliated by sinking the two armed Chōshū ships.

A memorandum signed by the British, French, American, and Dutch representatives to notify the Shōgun's government about the violations and that the Treaty Powers would take combined military actions in order to maintain the rights provided for in the Treaties. Secretary Seward agreed to the arrangement with the caveat that no U.S. military action would be used as long as the British sought no conquest or exclusive advantage. However, the British took advantage of the occasion to force their issue of indemnity on Satsuma, knowing that politically the Tokugawa Shōgunate could not force the Satsuma to comply with their demands.

⁵⁶ *Japanese Trade & Industry in the Meiji-Taisho Era*, by Ohara Keishi, published by Ōbunsha, Tokyo, 1957, p. 103.

Seven Royal Navy ships of Admiral Sir August Kuper's fleet bombarded the Satsuma capital of Kagoshima on August 14, 1863. In the Bombardment of Kagoshima, also known as the Anglo-Satsuma War, both sides suffered heavy losses, with the British claiming to have killed 1,500 Japanese soldiers and nearly destroyed the entire city. As a result of this atrocity carried out by the British, which far outweighed any supposed justice sought for the murder of Richardson, those of the Satsuma leadership who favored expanding relations with the West and modernizing Japan experienced a certain political ascendancy.

One year later, on August 17, 1864, the Shimonoseki crisis came to a head when a squadron of war ships (nine British, three French, and five Dutch) carrying 2,000 soldiers sailed from Yokohama under the flagship of Admiral Kuper to re-open the Shimonoseki Straits. The Americans supplied a token ship, the chartered steamer *Takiang*. After a two day battle, the Chōshū forces surrendered and a new round of indemnity payments were demanded by the Treaty Powers from the Shōgun's government. Twenty years after the incident, the United States returned \$750,000 of the indemnity back to Japan, which many prominent Americans had campaigned for years to accomplish, wanting the moneys to be spent on Japanese educational institutions.

One of the responses by Tokugawa Shōgunate to those belligerent actions, led by the British, was to send a second Japanese Embassy to Europe (1863-1864) to negotiate the cancellation of the open-port status of Yokohama. The mission, led by the young Ikeda Nagaoki (1837-1879), was not successful in that regard but returned with a host of scientific documents from France on physics, biology, textiles, and manufacturing. He also returned with the fermentation technologies of Louis Pasteur which he used to found Japan's wine industry.

Ironically, the British instigated military bullying of Japan had the opposite intended affect. It galvanized a cadre of young elites to undertake actions that would result in the overthrow of the Tokugawa regime and the establishment of a new government that would develop even stronger ties to the government of the United States and its singular advancement in economic science.

4. THE MEIJI RESTORATION & THE AMERICAN SYSTEM

On January 3, 1868, during the course of the Boshin War,⁵⁷ a coalition of leaders principally from the Daimyo domains of Satsuma, Choshu, Tosa, and Hizen under the leadership of the nobleman Iwaruka Tomomi, abolished the Tokugawa Shōgunate and restored the Emperor to power. Born eight months before the arrival of Commodore Perry, the fifteen year old Emperor Mutsuhito had chosen the name Meiji (“enlightened rule”) and would run the administration of the country with a provisional government. The Emperor made the following formal declaration on February 3rd:

"The Emperor of Japan announces to the sovereigns of all foreign countries and to their subjects that permission has been granted to the Shōgun Tokugawa Yoshinobu to return the governing power in accordance with his own request. We shall henceforward exercise supreme authority in all the internal and external affairs of the country. Consequently the title of Emperor must be substituted for that of Tycoon, in which the treaties have been made. Officers are being appointed by us to the conduct of foreign affairs. It is desirable that the representatives of the treaty powers recognize this announcement."

On April 6th, the Emperor traveled to Nijo (Osaka) Castle, the site of the last battle that had been fought against the antiquated, “rebel” forces of the Shōgun by 2,000 “loyal” troops, armed primarily with American rifles and modern artillery. The castle was transformed into a Council of State. Addressing the attending daimyos and nobles of the court, the Emperor made an oath that the foundations of Japan’s new empire would be based on the following five principles:

1. Government based on public opinion.
2. Social and political economy to be made the study of all classes.
3. Mutual assistance among all for the general good.
4. Reason, not tradition to be the guide of action.
5. Wisdom and ability to be sought after in all quarters of the world.

Within one generation the Meiji Restoration would transform Japan from a feudal society into a modern industrial nation, explicitly utilizing the ideas of the American System of political economy. Many of those revolutionary leaders had one important common association – they had been either students or a personal friend of the American missionary Guido Verbeck.

⁵⁷ Also known as the “War of the Year of the Dragon”, this was a civil war from 1868 to 1869 which also involved foreign intervention by the British and French. The French of Napoleon III openly assisted the forces of the Shōgun, while the duplicity of Sir Harry Smith Parkes, the British ambassador, supported both sides i.e. the British Empire’s own interests.

Verbeck's "Student Movement"

Originally a native of Holland, Guido Verbeck had sailed to the United States in 1852, after attending the Polytechnic Institute in Utrecht where he acquired the skills of civil and mechanical engineering, skills he later used to build the first mechanical device to measure earthquakes in Japan. First settling in Green Bay, Wisconsin he began working at a foundry constructed by Moravian missionaries to fabricate machinery for steamboats. After moving to Alabama to construct bridges and other things, he was deeply affected by the inhuman condition of the local slaves and nearly died of cholera. At that point, he decided to become a missionary and enrolled in the Theological School of Auburn, New York, an area heavily settled by Dutch immigrants.

In response to an appeal for missionaries written from Chaplain Henry Wood and Rev. E.W. Syle, aboard the *USS Minnesota* in the bay of Nagasaki in 1859, the Dutch Reform Church of America sent a six person, Dutch-speaking party to that Japanese city which included Guido Verbeck (who was also fluent in German, French, and English) and his wife Maria.

Even though the U.S. had signed the treaty agreements with Japan five years earlier, Nagasaki was still the only Japanese city that would allow even limited access to foreigners. In addition, the missionaries were faced with the problem that the public preaching of Christianity was outlawed. Though political and living conditions were arduous, the Dutch-American missionaries had made a small but important beachhead in Japan.

Perry's historic opening of Japan had started an accelerating thirst for Western knowledge, especially among the youth. Though Verbeck had started to teach English privately in his own home, the governor of Nagasaki soon established a school for training interpreters. In 1860, Verbeck started teaching English to two young Japanese which resulted in them both being promoted twice. The governor was so pleased that he traveled to Edo to propose that the Shōgun's government establish a school of foreign languages and science with Mr. Verbeck employed as its principal.

The plan was approved. A school house was built and served an overflow capacity of 100 students. Verbeck taught the English and Dutch languages, and his most promising students were tutored in the U.S. Constitution and the New Testament of the Bible. A testimonial of his efforts was given in 1898 by the Japanese scholar Rev. G. Ogimi:

"After the Doctor (Verbeck) came over to Japan, in a short time young men who were somewhat acquainted with foreign civilization came from various provinces, one by one to Nagasaki, and desired, in the use of English or Dutch, to investigate the sciences and arts. Since, with the exception of medicine, none of the sciences and arts could be learned from any one but the doctor, they received his instruction, bringing to him such books as they had, even on astronomy, navigation, mathematics, surveying, physics, chemistry, and fortifications!"⁵⁸

⁵⁸ *Verbeck of Japan* by William Elliot Griffis, Fleming H. Revell Company, Chicago, 1900, pp. 130-131.

Soon, students from the samurai of Hizen and other southwestern provinces started attending Verbeck's school, and then from all regions of Japan. Many of Verbeck's students became prominent leaders in the Meiji Restoration and its new government. They, in particular, are the patriots chiefly responsible for Japan's explicit adoption of the American System of political economy, resulting in the transformation their nation from feudalism to a modern, advanced society:

Ōkuma Shigénobu (1837-1922): One of the most prominent leaders of the Meiji Restoration, Ōkuma held numerous government positions in the new government, including his last service as Prime Minister (1914-1916). It was his early role as Minister of Finance which was instrumental in the development of Japan as a modern nation. In particular, it was his establishment of the First National Bank of Japan, directly modeled on the credit policies of Alexander Hamilton's National Bank of the United States, that was the vehicle which achieved that objective and shattered the British banking monopoly in Asia – the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank – notorious as the financial nexus of the British Empire's opium trade up through the present period. In 1881, Ōkuma led the political fight to establish a Parliament and a Constitution. The following year, he founded a school in Tokyo which became Waseda University, one of the leading institutions of higher education in the nation.

Ōkubo Toshimichi (1830-1878): Born in Satsuma to the higher class of "Retainers," he along with Saigo Takamori and Kido Takayoshi (all members of the secret Satsuma Alliance committed to the overthrow of the Tokugawa regime) formed the triumvirate which established the provisional government under the new Emperor. He led the way in the formation of modern government structures including the creation of the Ministry of the Interior and the Industrial Promotion Board (Kangyo Ryo) the forerunner of the present day Ministry of International Trade and Industry. His Land Tax Reform and firm commitment to the American System of policy of protectionism was critical in the creation of Japan's first modern industries.

Ōkubo, known to many as the corner-stone of the Meiji government, was also one of the leading intellectuals of Japan, being a scholar in classical literature and history of China and Japan. His actions were always guided by the same principle embodied in the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution – namely, his pursuit of what must be done in the interest of the entire welfare and the nation. He took the side of the majority who then had no voice in the politics of the new government.

In 1874, while certain elements of the government demanded a military response to China over the territorial disputes of Formosa and the Loochoo Islands, Ōkubo was dispatched to Peking as an ambassador plenipotentiary to the Chinese Kingdom. The result was an honorable peace with China including an indemnity, which won great praise and admiration from the general population. After his suppression of the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877, led by his old friend Saigo, Ōkubo was assassinated. The reaction of the nation was something analogous to the anguish displayed by the American population in the wake of the assassination of President Kennedy. Ōkubo's death marked the beginning of a tragic series of assassinations over the following years which claimed the lives of a substantial number of the pro-American System leaders in the Meiji government. Though most historians claim that those murders were simply the

acts of disgruntled rōnin, the inescapable beneficiary of those targeted murders were the interests of the British Empire.

Soyeshima Taneomi (also spelled 'Soejima'): Having developed an early inclination towards law, in 1868 he was appointed as a commissioner for the framing of various laws and made Councilor of State. In 1871, he served as Envoy Extraordinary to China, and became Minister in Foreign Affairs. He petitioned for the establishment of a national assembly, but resigned in 1873, when the Cabinet decided to wage war against Korea. In 1879, he became a member of the Imperial household, where, among other matters, he assisted the Emperor in his private library.

Kantaro Yanagiya: Among other subjects, he studied the science of fortifications with Verbeck, and later became Chief of the Japanese Patent Office.

Prince Iwakura Tomomi (1825-1883): Born in the city of Kyoto, as a youth he was appointed to be one of the chamberlains in the Imperial household of Komei Tenno, father of the Emperor. Ironically, in 1858, when an envoy from the Shōgun came to Kyoto to seek advice from the Emperor regarding the possible signing of a treaty with the Americans and the opening-up of Japan, Iwakura lobbied the Emperor to refuse and drive-out all foreigners.

Not long afterwards Iwakura was banished and went into exile. During this period Iwakura and his brother became associated with Guido Verbeck. Though technically not a full-time student, Iwakura sent his two sons, Asahi and Tatsu, to be educated at his school. Later, they would both be sent to the U.S. to continue their education.

While he was publicly believed to be a supporter of the Shōgun, Iwakura secretly communicated with Saigo Takamori, Ōkubo, Ōkuma, Kido and other prominent leaders of the Restoration conspiracy to overthrow the Shōgunate usurper and restore the Emperor. Hence, when the Meiji Restoration succeeded it was a shock to most Japanese that Iwakura had indeed been one of the key leaders of the movement. In 1871, he was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs and was honored by an extraordinary personal visit by the Emperor who told him:

“Ever since the restoration of our Imperial authority to the pristine splendor of our ancestors, you have labored earnestly and successfully, day and night, in the administration of our kingdom. You have spared no toil and known no fatigue in our service, and it is to you, under the favor of the gods, that we owe the flourishing condition of our kingdom. As a special mark of our favor, we have departed from the usual etiquette and have visited you in person to thank you for your services.”⁵⁹

Later that year, Prince Iwakura would lead a delegation of his countrymen on an historic mission to the United States and Europe whose aftermath resulted in an unqualified alliance with American patriots for the development of Japan and Asia.

⁵⁹ *Leading Men of Japan* by Charles Lanman, D. Lothrop and Company, Boston, 1883, pp. 168-169.

The Iwakura Embassy

By 1871, the most critical matters of creating a centralized government to eclipse the feudal structure of fiefdoms had been established. The political center of the new Japanese government had been moved from Kyoto to the “Capital of the East” – Tokyo, formerly Edo. In April of 1871, an imperial army of ten-thousand was constituted, composed of men from the southern daimyos of Satsuma, Choshu and Tosa. Meiji reformist officials from those daimyos, in addition to Saga, had previously pledged to surrender their power to the emperor. Particularly through the efforts of Kido Takayoshi (Choshu), Ōkubo (Satsuma), Saigō Takamori (Satsuma), and Iwakura, a central government became a reality. Now, that a rough structure of governance was in place, its content and mission still had to be elaborated. What would be the new nation’s economic, political, and cultural policies?

The fifth principle of the Emperor for the Japanese people to seek “wisdom and ability” in all “quarters of the world” was implemented in earnest in 1871 when Prince Iwakura undertook the mission to lead an embassy of Japan’s leading intellectuals and government leaders on a twenty-one month excursion to visit the United States and Europe.

Though Guido F. Verbeck was the “originator and organizer” of the Iwakura Embassy, he wanted his role to be kept confidential.⁶⁰ In a personal letter written from Tokyo on November 21, 1871, Verbeck wrote:

“Yesterday morning I rose as the clock struck four, was engaged all day, finishing off with an interview with the United States Minister [Charles E. DeLong] and the Prime Minister of Japan [Iwakura], which lasted from five to eleven o’clock P.M. On Friday last, the 17th inst., I had the honor of an audience with the emperor.

“The government is going to send a very superior embassy to America and Europe. . .”⁶¹

Verbeck was responsible for the planning the entire itinerary of the Embassy, including drafting letters of introduction and the coordination of activities with friends and associates abroad.

The Embassy was unprecedented in world history. Its membership included one-half of the leadership of the Japanese government, all of whom had signed a twelve-point agreement before the departure stating that no major personnel appointments or reforms would be implemented until the Embassy returned.⁶² Their itinerary was the circumnavigation the globe, in order to visit twelve principal nations: the United States, Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Russia, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, Austria, and Switzerland. Their aims were three fold:

⁶⁰ *Verbeck of Japan*, p. 255. Verbeck had first suggested the mission in a proposal he made to Ōkuma in 1869. William Elliot Griffis helped to coordinate the travel and activities of the Embassy.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*

⁶² The one significant violation of the agreement that did occur was the incident of the “Korea punishment” which was redressed later by members of the Embassy when they returned.

- 1) Visit those nations which had concluded treaties with Japan, in order to present their credentials to those nation's rulers and present them with gifts on behalf of the Emperor.
- 2) Begin the preliminary process of negotiating for a necessary revision of those treaties.
- 3) Observe and make a detailed investigation of the institutions of civilization among those nations to facilitate the modernization of Japan.

The third aim was understood by all concerned to be the most important aspect of the Embassy and contained two subsumed investigative features. The first was to contrast the United States, being a republic, to that of the British monarchical system. The second was to understand how smaller nations maintained their independence. Their longest tour in any one country was in the U.S. for 205 days, followed by Great Britain for 122 days.

Prior to their departure, the Meiji Emperor held a dinner at his Tokyo palace for the nobles and gave an endorsement of the mission with an address, which began:

“After careful study and observation, I am deeply impressed with the belief that the most powerful and enlightened nations of the world are those who have made diligent effort to cultivate their minds, and sought to develop their country in the fullest and most perfect manner.”

On December 23, 1871, the members of the Iwakura Embassy set sail from Tokyo harbor aboard the United States paddle-wheeler, the *America*, bound for San Francisco. Iwakura Tomomi was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary accompanied by four Vice-Ambassadors; Kido Takayoshi (1833-1877), Councilor of State; Ōkubo Toshimichi (1830-1878), Minister of Finance; Itō Hirobumi (1841-1909), Senior Councilor of Public Works; and Yamaguchi Masuka (1842-1894), Junior Councilor for Foreign Affairs. An entourage of 107 Japanese boarded the ship and consisted of forty-six embassy members, their attendants and servants, and a contingent of forty-three students.⁶³ Each of the Embassy representatives was responsible for one or more fields of inquiry, depending on their position or background. They were also joined by the U.S. Minister to Japan, Charles DeLong, and his family.⁶⁴

During the course of the mission vast amounts of statistical and historical information (including maps, technical drawings, sketches, etc.) was gathered regarding

⁶³ During the course of the expedition, new members joined the Embassy while others left. Members of the Embassy represented the ministries of the Treasury, Education, Foreign Affairs, Public Works (Mining, Shipbuilding, Industry, and Railways), the Imperial Army, the Imperial Court, and governments of the Prefectures (formerly the daimyos). Most of the students were on their way to school in the United States. There were five women students, including Tsuda Umeko, sent at the age of six by her father Tsuda Sen, a prominent agriculturalist who worked on the Hokkaidō colonization project and helped found a number of schools. Tsuda Umeko became a strong advocate of education for women and founded Tsuda College which still operates today.

⁶⁴ Charles DeLong was born in New York in 1833 and moved to California during the Gold Rush in 1850. He was elected to the California Legislature from Yuba County as an Anti-Lecompton Democrat, and after the Civil War became a member of the Republican National Committee from Nevada. He served as U.S. Minister to Japan from 1869 to 1874.

populations, technologies, and a host of various institutions concerning education, health, politics, industry, law, the military, and culture. Iwakura wanted “everyone in Japan to be informed of what we saw and did” so two scribes were assigned to record all of his meetings. The chief recorder, Kume Kunitake, wrote a five volume report of the Embassy’s mission which was published in 3,500 copies, upon their return.

When the *America* arrived in San Francisco, federal and local authorities were prepared to greet the arrival of the Embassy. Mori Arinori, the Japanese Chargé d’Affaires in Washington, D.C., had already notified the Secretary of State, Hamilton Fish, and Arinori’s secretary, Charles Lanman, met the Embassy at dockside. Also present was Charles Walcott Brooks, an American, who, as Honorary Consul, had opened the first Japanese government establishment in the U.S. at San Francisco and was asked by the Embassy to join them on their mission to Europe.

Shortly after arriving, the Embassy sent out telegrams, including one to Samuel F.B. Morse which stated, “The Embassy from Japan desires to inform the inventor of the Electric Telegraph that his fame is well-known in Japan, and that within a few months one thousand miles of telegraph will be open for business in their country.”⁶⁵ Ambassador Iwaruka also sent a telegram to his three sons, who were students at Rutgers College in New Jersey.

The Embassy was also hosted at the estate of Darius Ogden Mills, the founder and president of the Bank of California which offered Japan a \$20 million loan. At a farewell banquet held for the Embassy at the Grand Hotel in San Francisco, Vice-Ambassador Itō Hirobumi addressed the gathering and described the tremendous impact the U.S. had already had on the development of Japan:

“Scarcely a year ago, I examined minutely the financial system of the United States, and, while in Washington, received most valuable assistance from distinguished officers of your Treasury Department. Every detail learned was faithfully reported to my Government, and suggestions then made have been adopted, and some of them are now already in practical operation.

“In the Department of Public Works, now under my administration, the progress has been satisfactory. Railroads are being built, both in the eastern and western portions of the Empire. Telegraph wires are stretching over many hundred miles of our territory, and nearly one thousand miles will be completed within a few months. Light-houses now line our coasts, and our ship-yards are active. All these assist our civilization, and we fully acknowledge our indebtedness to you and other foreign nations.”⁶⁶

Arriving less than seven years after the conclusion of the U.S. Civil War, in which at least 618,000 Americans were killed and a comparable number seriously wounded, one might have expected the Japanese Embassy to witness a nation slowly recovering from such devastation. However, with President Lincoln’s overthrow of slavery and

⁶⁵ *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 24, 1872. After that exchange of telegrams, Morse took ill and died shortly after the Embassy had reached Washington, DC.

⁶⁶ *The Japanese in America* by Charles Lanman and Mori Arinori, University Publishing Company, New York, 1872, p. 14. This publication includes Lanman’s record of the Iwakura Embassy’s visit to the U.S., Mori’s paper on the U.S. (*Life and Resources in America*), and various essays by Japanese students in America. Originally designed by Mori to be published in Japanese for his nation’s consumption, it was also released in English in the U.S.

reaffirmation of the principles of the republic, which his administration had preserved, a revolution in human affairs had been created. Under Lincoln's aggressive reinstatement of the American System of economics the United States had become the world's leading producer in agriculture and industry. Those policies included protectionism, credit for national infrastructure projects, such as the Transcontinental Railroad; government directed patronage for a modern complex of great steel mills, the chemical/petroleum industry; and scientific technologies supplied to family-owned farms supported by free public education. At that time, the United States had also begun to export the ideas and products of the American System to Europe, Ibero-America, and Asia. The members of Embassy could not help but be effected by witnessing that progress and the ideas that generated it. Their report and the subsequent actions taken by the Japanese government are a testimony to that fact.

Throughout the report of the Iwakura Embassy there is a constant theme of contrasting the successes of the United States in productivity, education, and social welfare to those conditions found in Europe:

“Even while the United States was still a colony of Great Britain, it was already a magnet for independent-minded immigrants who flocked there, with the result that its enterprises naturally thrived and its energies swelled against the restraints [imposed by British rule]. The British failed to recognize this energy and exploited the American colonists in the same way as they did the weaker peoples of India. Those [in Britain] who were trying to profit from the colonies were eventually defeated. Since then Americans have accepted the federal system of the United States and become a single democratic country. In states, counties, villages, cities and society at large, Americans were free to use the energies resulting from independence, and in industry they began to overtake the peoples of Europe. . . . Theories of democracy and self-determination, and of republican systems, have also been actively debated in Europe. Usually, however, these debates have been theoretical . . . Only in America did people of independent spirit gather to create a true republic. The origin of this republicanism lay in the vital spirit of opening up the country. And this must have been the spirit which caught the attention of independent-minded, freedom-hungry people in Europe.”⁶⁷

In describing the independence of the various states of the Union, the report relays one of the founding principles of the American Republic which comes from the Treaty of Westphalia – that the true sovereignty of nations lies in a peace where the actions of one state benefit those of the other – an idea elaborated later by John Quincy Adams regarding a “community of principles among nations” which he wrote into what became the Monroe Doctrine of 1823:

“Today, however, competition lies in the field of industrial activity, and each state sharpens its competitiveness, not yielding a single step. In the past when soldiers took up swords to fight, they would also lay waste their neighbors’

⁶⁷ *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73, A True Account of the Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary's Journey of Observation Through the United States and Europe*, Compiled by Kume Kunitake, Translated by Martin Collcutt; The Japan Documents; Chiba, Japan, 2002; *Volume I, The United States of America*; p. 258.

fields. *Those who treasure their own rights do not trample on the rights of others; that is the true principle of autonomy.* The people living in a republic take great pride in this aspect of their civilization, and for this reason the states of America all engage in competition for profit, but in peace. Feudal states seize profits through warfare.”⁶⁸

The largest and most notorious ‘feudal state’ of the time was, of course, the British Empire.

As the Embassy began its cross-country journey by rail, it was noted that the Transcontinental Railroad, “In an instant it changed the structure of trade and commerce [in America and Asia].” Kume recorded that “When it comes to laying railroads, America has surpassed Europe,” comprising roughly one-half of the world’s railroads (approximately 60,000 miles in 1870). In addition, he wrote that the average cost per mile of track-laying in the U.S. was \$50,418: “This represents from half to one-sixth the average cost per mile in England, . . . The American character has broken free of Britain, for it is energetic, expansive and self confident. Americans claim that one of them is equal to two British people.”⁶⁹

What amazed the members of the Embassy most, as they crossed the “Humboldt Wilderness” (the great American desert), the farms of the Midwest, and the great cities of Chicago and the East Coast, was that the population of the United States was about 39 million people, roughly the population of Japan. Yes, the expanse of land was great in America, but wealth is not generated by the simplistic notions of Adam Smith’s “bounty” of “raw materials” or the “produce of those powers of Nature” found in his famous manual for economic con-artists and defense of the “Free Trade” looting of British Imperialism, the *Wealth of Nations*. One had to increase the power of Man over Nature, through great infrastructure projects and the requisite manufacturing facilities. Here lies the genius and genesis of the American System of economics – the idea that all wealth derives from the “labor power” of the population – the creative capacities of the human mind. Kume observed that:

“Having passed through a land such as this, I am increasingly convinced that *the great treasure of the world lies not in material things such as money but in the force of [human] physical energy.* . . . Although in the past there was no shortage of cash, the fertile lands from California to Nebraska were left as desert and prairie. This was not due to a lack of funds but to a shortage of physical energy, or manpower, the driving force of change. Although machinery and livestock can be found throughout the states and territories, much still remains to be developed because of the shortage of physical energy in numbers of population. . . .

“When we look at our own country of Japan, its ‘great treasure’ of population is about the same as America’s, but the country is one hundred times older. . . . Why is it then that Japan is not free from distinctions between upper and lower classes, between rich and poor? This is because *uneducated people*

⁶⁸ Ibid. *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73*, p. 359. Emphasis is in the original. The Treaty of Westphalia, signed in 1648, ended the Thirty Years War which had savaged continental Europe.

⁶⁹ Ibid. *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73*, pp. 45-46.

are hard to employ, untrained people are useless and enterprise without organization is ineffective. . . .

“If people are sufficiently numerous, a great population can conquer nature. When immigrants surged into the vast continent of America, it was opened up. Likewise, even in the fertile lands of the East, national wealth does not come by itself and harvests do not produce value without human effort. Two-thousand years have passed in a dream. Those planning the future destiny of the country should absorb this insight and redouble their efforts.”⁷⁰

One of the indispensable elements to modernizing Japan, recognized and understood early on by the Meiji government, was the need for mass education of the population. Hence, the visiting of institutions of learning in the U.S. and Europe was a high priority for representatives of the Embassy. Out of all U.S. cities, Philadelphia made the most favorable impression on the Embassy. Not only because of its “superior architecture and quality of building”, and being “famed for the manufacture of iron and steel”, but it was particularly “famous for its culture and education.” In addition to the Chestnut Library founded by Benjamin Franklin (which, with the Logan Library, contained over 180,000 books), the ‘City of Brotherly Love’ had more than 380 schools, 9,190 teachers (1,190 being female), and over 74,400 students.

In addition to sending young students abroad to study, impressive measures were taken to establish public education in Japan. In 1871, the Ministry of Education was founded with Guido Verbeck as an advisor. Relying on the Dutch Reformed Church networks of the ABCFM, Verbeck helped bring a cadre of educators to Japan from Rutgers University, including William Elliot Griffis and Dr. David Murray. Murray, who had taught a number of Japanese students at Rutgers, was fully committed to advancing public education in Japan. Working with Tanaka Fukimaro, a secretary of the Iwakura Embassy responsible for investigating the best Western educational-style system for adaption in Japan who became the Secretary of Education, Murray was appointed Superintendent of the Ministry of Education (from 1873 to 1879) and established Japan’s public education system as well as the Tokyo Imperial University and the Imperial Academy of Literature and Science. After visiting the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia with Murray to present their advancements in education at the Japanese exhibit, Tanaka became firmly committed to the American model as that best suited for Japan. Meanwhile, Fukuzwa Yukichi had founded his famous Keiō University, followed by Ōkuma Shigēnobu who established Waseda University (originally called Tokyo Senmon Gakko).

The most famous economist of that time, Henry C. Carey of Philadelphia, an expert in the American System of economy, stated that “Of all tests of the growth of wealth and civilization the most certain is that which is found in the power of a people for the production and consumption of iron.”⁷¹ As reported by the Iwakura Embassy, in 1871, the United States had 386 iron-ore foundries employing 27,500 people who produced more than 2,000,000 tons of iron and steel annually from 547 blast-furnaces. This didn’t include the 2,653 gun and cannon foundries employing 51,000 workers.

⁷⁰ Ibid. *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73*, pp. 160-161. Emphasis in the original.

⁷¹ *Commerce, Christianity, and Civilization, versus British Free Trade; Letters in Reply to the London Times* by Henry C. Carey, Letter Four, 1876.

Additionally, there were 45,000 people employed in over 300 factories and machine-shops producing tools, farm equipment, and other products.

“The people of America are bursting with vitality. Because of the energy of its people, new machines are being energetically invented. The ingenuity of these machines, of which the people of this country are justly proud, is said to be the greatest in the world. When we examined machines made in this country, their operation was speedy and their design astonishingly innovative. Many of them gladden the heart. When we traveled through the countries of Europe and scrutinized hundreds of machines, we saw ingenious mechanisms with superb designs. Each time we enquired about their origins we were told that many of them were invented in the United States.”⁷²

Not only was the American System of economics increasing the relative potential population density of its own nation, it was having a similar effect in Europe: “With American grains, meat and dairy produces, populations have increased in remote areas of Europe.”⁷³

In July of 1872, Prince Iwakura and his delegation visited Philadelphia. They were guests at the home Henry Carey’s associate, Jay Cooke. His younger brother Henry Cooke, appointed by President Grant as the first Territorial Governor of Washington, D.C., was already known to the Embassy from their visit to the Capital. Jay Cooke, famous for his fund-raising operations which were instrumental in financing the Union during the Civil War, was now engaged with Henry Carey and his associates in a project to build a global network of railroads, canals, and shipping operations.

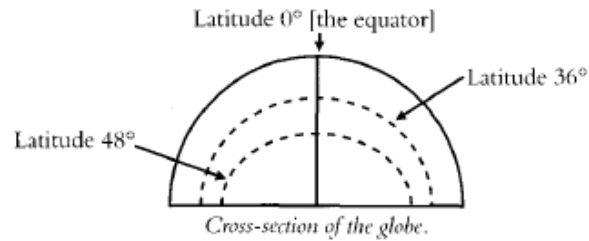
Jay Cooke told his Japanese guests about his newly formed Northern Pacific Railway Company and his plans to build the railroad across the Washington Territory, terminating at Puget Sound which would provide a safe harbor for shipping with Asia. He had already done the surveys and calculations, and demonstrated with the use of a diagram [see Figure 1] that, given the curvature of the Earth, ships sailing from China and Japan to Puget Sound would travel a shorter distance since the routes would be at a higher latitude than other ports on the West Coast of America. Noting that construction of the railway had already begun, he informed his guests of a possible \$15 million loan being offered to Japan for participation in the project that would bring Asia closer to America. Unfortunately, during the following year the British orchestrated a massive financial operation, known as the Panic of 1873, to sabotage the Carey network’s projects for global infrastructure by bankrupting the banks associated with Jay Cooke.⁷⁴ Consequently, the London-backed bank of J.P. Morgan began to exercise increasing control of U.S. economic financing to the detriment of necessary capital-intensive enterprises such as railroad construction.

⁷² Ibid. *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73*, pp. 51-52.

⁷³ Ibid. *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73*, pp. 53.

⁷⁴ [need more on how Brits ran the Panic; including cites]

Figure 1



This is a reproduction of Jay Cooke's diagram shown to the Iwakura Embassy demonstrating the shorter Northern route between Tokyo, Japan (Latitude 36°N) and Puget Sound, Washington (Latitude 48°N).

The following day, after visiting Independence Hall, the Embassy toured the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, the oldest and largest locomotive plant in the world. "We were told that 2,800 workmen produce nine cars a week, and that orders come in to the factory even from Russia," wrote Kido Takayoshi.⁷⁵ That factory was literally the engine of the Carey network's design for a worldwide infrastructure grid that also included exports to China and Ibero-America.

Ulysses Grant and Japan's *American System*

Within one generation Japan had been transformed from a feudalist society into a modern nation state with a National Bank, a national railroad, major steel and chemical industries, a shipping industry, electrification, and a complex of public schools and universities. The population was doubled, as agricultural and industrial production skyrocketed by nearly 600 percent. That reality is a scientific proof that the absurd axioms of Adam Smith's "free trade" doctrines, foisted upon the world by the British Empire – its latest incarnation being *Globalization* – since 1776, are patently wrong.⁷⁶ Conversely, Japan's success demonstrates the validity of the applied scientific principles of the American System of political economy, which, if utilized today, can ensure the rapid modernization of any and all nations, regardless of its state of development or possession of natural resources.

The "economic miracle" of Japan revealed the late eighteenth-century proselytizers of the British System of economics to be nothing more than members of an intellectually deficient cult, who, like their contemporary counterparts, whose

⁷⁵ *The Diary of Kido Takayoshi, Volume II: 1871-1874*, translated by Sidney Devere Brown and Akiko Hirota, University of Tokyo Press, Japan, 1985, p. 190.

⁷⁶ It was Lord Shelburne, as head of all British Empire intelligence and foreign operations, who oversaw the 1783 Treaty of Paris and the establishment of the British East India Company. It was also Shelburne who personally recruited Adam Smith to write his unscientific treatise in praise of Free Trade, *A Wealth of Nations*. Published in 1776, as the Americans issued their Declaration of Independence, Smith's propaganda piece was designed to thwart the pro-industrial aspirations of the Americans already exhibited by Benjamin Franklin's involvement in the construction of the first commercial canal in England and his collaboration with James Watt in developing the steam engine.

recitations of the mantras of *Free Trade* are only the sheerest of veils to disguise their bestial empathy for the pirate's lust for loot.

Yet, today, the so-called authoritative English-language, textbooks of history and economics studiously avoid even the slightest mention of the American System of economics. Perhaps, that in itself is a testimony to the power of those ideas. With the exception of the fatally-flawed, unscientific concepts of Marxism, students are currently presented with the unquestionable idea that the British System of Free Trade is the alpha and omega of all modern history.⁷⁷

To read the contemporary histories of Meiji Japan by the professors of Harvard and Cambridge, without any substantive understanding of the world historic role of the American System of economics, is to swim through a confluence of ignorance and obfuscation with only the slim hope that you might not drown during the process.

Facts are not truth. Perusing the statistical effluence of British System, economic historians regarding the accomplishments of the Meiji government's modernization of Japan, is much like examining a coroner's report of an exhumed body. It may indeed give you most of the facts of the case but it will not give you the guiding economic principles of that accomplishment – the living ideas that motivated the actions and accomplishments in that dynamic process. You are only left with the coroner's own ideological spin on the deceased.

There is much debate today among the Anglo-American academics over the categorizing of Japanese historical periods, such as, "late feudal" versus "early modern," but all agree on giving silence to the influence of the American System.

When the Iwakura Embassy returned to Japan in 1873, a series of policies were implemented that placed the United States and its representatives in a primary position of counsel and participation with the Meiji government, while the British were essentially frozen-out from any influence during the following three years. Though it was not without its own faults and minor set-backs, the ideas of the American System were unleashed in Japan, and implemented with such ferocity that the British oligarchy thought they might actually lose their grip on dominating East Asia.

That success is deeply indebted to the vital assistance of President Ulysses S. Grant (1822-1885), whose influence in Japan continued after he left office. For the Japanese, President Grant was their ideal image of the noble samurai. As the warrior General, he had led the Union forces in its honorable defeat of the Confederate army, and became the leader of the American nation. In peace, President Grant actively pursued the vision of Abraham Lincoln for equality of rights and development for all people and all nations with no tolerance of imperialism from the British Empire. It was therefore fitting that, after the Civil War, Townsend Harris demonstrated his gratitude to

⁷⁷ Karl Marx's flawed works on economics and history were in major part due to the deployment by David Urquhart of the British Museum in directly Marx's research. Urquhart was also the "corresponding secretary" for the "Young Europe" and "Young America" networks, run by Lord Palmerston and his agent Giuseppe Mazzini, which were directly involved, amongst other operations, in helping to establish the Confederate States of America. Marx's incompetence is witnessed by his equating industrial capital with "imperialism" coupled with his newspaper attacks on Henry C. Carey, and his complete inability to understand human creativity as the generative cause of all wealth. That same incompetence is carried over to Marx's formalist approach to history in his so-called "stages of history theory" which would have us believe that the transition of feudalism to modern "capitalism" was somehow a mechanistic, preordained phenomena devoid of any understanding of how the individual human mind intervenes to change history.

General Grant for “saving my beloved country” by personally presenting the general with a samurai sword, given to him by the Shōgun, “which gift President Lincoln kindly permitted me to retain.”

On March 4, 1872, the Iwakura Embassy had an audience with President Grant and his Cabinet at the White House. After Ambassador Iwakura had presented him with his credentials and a letter from the Emperor, the President made the following statement:

“Gentlemen: I am gratified that this country and that my administration will be distinguished in history as the first which has received an Embassy from the nation which the United States was the first to establish diplomatic and commercial intercourse. The objects which you say have given rise to your mission do honor to the intelligence and wisdom of your sovereign, and reflect credit on you in having been chosen as the instruments for carrying them into effect. The time must be regarded as gone, never to return, when any nation can keep apart from all others, and expect to enjoy the prosperity and happiness which depend more or less upon the mutual adoption of improvements, not only in the science of government, but in those other sciences and arts which contribute to the dignity of mankind, and national wealth and power. Though Japan is one of the most ancient of organized communities and the United States rank among the most recent, we flatter ourselves that we have made some improvements upon the political institutions of the nations from which we are descended. Our experience leads us to believe that the wealth, the power, and the happiness of a people are advanced by the encouragement of trade and commercial intercourse with other powers, by the elevation and dignity of labor, by the practical adaptation of science to the manufacturers and the arts, by increased facilities of frequent and rapid communication between different parts of the country, by the encouragement of immigration, which brings with it the varied habits and diverse genius and industry of other lands, by a free press, by freedom of thought and of conscience, and a liberal toleration in matters of religion, not only to citizens, but to all foreigners resident among us. It will be a pleasure to us to enter upon that consultation upon international questions in which you say you are authorized to engage. The improvement of the commercial relations between our respective countries is important and desirable, and cannot fail to strengthen the bonds which unite us. I will heartily co-operate in so desirable an object. Your kind wishes for me personally, gentlemen, are cordially reciprocated. I trust that your abode with us may be agreeable to you, and may contribute to a more intimate acquaintance and intercourse between our respective peoples.”⁷⁸

In addition to the formal White House presentations and banquets, the Embassy held a constant series of meetings with members of the Grant Administration. Speaker of the House, James Blaine, officially welcomed the Embassy to the Capitol Building, followed by their attendance at the National Theater, decorated with Japanese and American flags, to see Donizetti’s opera *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

It was soon discovered, however, that the Embassy lacked the proper authorization to conduct treaty negotiations. Ōkuma and Itō were immediately deployed

⁷⁸ *The Japanese in America*, pp. 33-34.

back to Japan to secure the correct diplomatic credentials. In the interim, President Grant gave his approval for the authorization by Congress of \$50,000 to pay for the entertainment and tour of the Embassy through the states of the Northeast. In exchange for the appropriation, members of the committees of both Houses, on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations requested a status report on the current conditions of Japan. Mr. Mori provided a written response in which he contrasts British foreign policy to the U.S.:

“The influences which have been disseminated among the nations of the East by the various interests of the western nations, have hitherto been injurious rather than beneficial. . . .

“The influences alluded to have also done much to keep back from the people of Japan very much of that true spirit of civilization, so eminently characteristic of America. And, the fact seems now to be generally acknowledged that the Japanese people not only desire to follow, as far as possible, in all educational and political affairs, the example of the Americans, but that they look upon them as their best friends, among nations of the globe. A prominent idea with the educated classes of Japan is, that in the very ship which took Commodore M.C. Perry to Japan in 1852, were the germs of Christianity, civilization, and desire for equality and political freedom, and that the seed then planted has been steadily growing from that to the present time.”⁷⁹

Mori Arinori, whose close friend Itō Hirobumi called him “a Westerner born of Japan,” was a zealot in pursuit of modernizing his nation. Born into the samurai class of Satsuma, he had been a student of the Chinese classics at the Confucian Academy (Shōheikō) in Edo (Tokyo). Though he went abroad and had studied in England prior to the Meiji Restoration, he was a staunch promoter of the American System of political economy. He returned to Japan in 1868 to participate in the Restoration and was appointed as the first Japanese ambassador to the United States at the age of twenty-three. He served in that position from 1871 to 1873 and was the primary translator for the Iwakura Embassy during their visit to the U.S. It was Mori who, with the approval of President Grant, arranged for the Japanese government to appoint Americans to key positions in Japan. Those Americans, which included General George B. Williams to the Finance Ministry, General Horace Capron to the Kaitakushi (the Colonization Office of Hokkaidō), and Erasmus Peshine Smith to the Foreign Ministry, would have an enduring impact on the development of the Japanese nation.

Mori’s most important achievement, after returning to Japan, was his founding of the *Meiokusha*, or Meiji Six Society (i.e. established in the sixth year of Meiji Emperor’s rule, 1874), which included Japan’s leading intellectuals, such as Fukuzawa Yukichi.

Once back in Japan, Mori became a Member of Parliament, where, amongst other things, he advocated that English be adopted as the official language of Japan, in order to facilitate the education and development of the population. He was appointed the first Minister of Education. In that capacity, one of his chief projects was the establishment of the Commercial Institute (Schōhō Kōshūjo, literally the “Commercial Short-Term Training School” which continues today as Hitotsubashi University) in 1875. The school was to teach the fundamental principles of American System economy and

⁷⁹ *The Japanese in America*, p. 27.

its practical application, using American education methods and taught entirely in English. Supported in this effort by Fukuzawa, his main collaborator was Tomita Tetsunosuke who had been acting Japanese Consul in New York during Mori's posting in Washington. Tomita, a graduate of Rutgers College and Dr. William C. Whitney's business college in Newark, New Jersey, became a personal friend of economist Henry C. Carey and wrote the preface to the Japanese edition of Carey's 1858 work *Principles of Social Science*, translated by Inukai Tsui (a friend and graduate of Fukuzawa's Keiō school). [see box below] The preface of the 1889 edition of *The National System of Political Economy* by the German promoter of the American System, Friedrich List (translated by Oshima Sadamatsu), was also authored by Tomita who informed readers that "This book proposes to develop national industry, rather than naively going with Free Trade." [see the Appendix for the full preface] Tomita later became Vice President of the Bank of Japan and then Governor of the Tokyo Prefecture. Mori was assassinated in 1889.

Mr. Smith goes to Tokyo & the National Bank

After the Restoration, Wakayama Norikazu became Japan's first public spokesman for protectionism against British Free Trade. A former English interpreter, he became an official in the Ministry of Finance and published his *Hogo Zeisetsu* (Theory of Protectionist Tariffs) in 1870, in which he quotes Carey's list of numerous historical examples of the success of protectionism. The head of the Finance Ministry, Ōkubo Toshimichi, also supported protectionist policies.

That same year, Itō Hirobumi, who would join the Iwakura Embassy in 1871, had been deployed to the U.S. to study its economic system as a model for Japan, including protective tariffs, credit and currency policies, and taxation. On his return he became a staunch promoter of the American System of economics for Japan.

The ideas of the world's foremost economist, Henry C. Carey, became magnified for the Japanese leadership when his friend, Erasmus Peshine Smith (1814-1882), arrived in Tokyo prior to the departure of the Iwakura Embassy.⁸⁰

Smith had practiced law in Rochester, New York and taught mathematics at the University of Rochester. He also wrote editorials for the local *Democrat* (a Whig newspaper), was editor of the *Washington Intelligencer* and coined the word "telegram." In 1852, he became Superintendent of Public Instruction for the State of New York, and then Reporter for the Court of Appeals. During the Civil War he was assigned Commissioner of Immigration in Washington in 1864, and was then appointed by Secretary of State William H. Seward, his former classmate from Harvard Law School, to become Examiner of Claims for that agency. His knowledge of international law became an invaluable asset to the U.S. government. In 1871, when Mori asked Secretary of State Hamilton Fish to recommend an American who could serve as an adviser to Japan on international law, it was E. Peshine Smith who immediately came to mind. Consequently, Smith became the first foreigner to be employed as a Japanese

⁸⁰ Kido Takayoshi records in his *Diary* that on December 10, 1871 that "About 1 I went to Itō's house with Fukuchi, and talked with the American Smith for a long time. I heard a number of opinions which were new to me." Volume II, pp. 105-106.

government official from 1871 to 1876, serving as a special adviser to Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also consulted on economic matters with Ōkuma and Ōkubo, attended Cabinet meetings, and occasionally met with the Emperor. He also chose to dress in traditional samurai attire including the two traditional swords.

E. Peshine Smith completely reorganized the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and intervened to lead a legal fight for Japan that would be a watershed action that ultimately ended the British Empire's direction of the heinous trafficking in human flesh known as the "coolie trade."⁸¹ Even though the British had nominally resigned from officially engaging in the slave trade, the practice continued and actually escalated under the de facto slavery conditions of the coolie trade. Perpetually committed to the imperial idea of generating wealth from their *Free Trade* ideology of cheap manual labor – slavery, then in the guise of indentured servitude – the British Empire conducted eugenic-style experiments on such laborers as the Congolese, Japanese, Bretons, Malagasy, and others to find their "ideal coolie." They settled on Indians and began shipping them out to plantations and other enterprises in South Africa, Fiji, and South America. More than 500,000 coolies were imported into the islands and countries of the Caribbean Rim.

Following the end of the first Opium War in 1842 the British and Portuguese became heavily involved in recruiting (usually with false promises) and kidnapping Chinese "coolies" for export to the Pacific Islands and South America. It is estimated that from 1850 to 1875 more than 1.2 million Chinese were shipped from the Portuguese colony of Macau to work the sugar plantations of Cuba or the silver and guano mines of Peru.

In July of 1872, on the recommendation E. Peshine Smith, the Minister of Justice and former student of Guido Verbeck, Soyeshima Taneomi, advised the Meiji government to seize the Portuguese ship *Maria Luz* which was anchored off Yokohama with a cargo of 231 Chinese coolies. One of the Chinese had escaped from the *Maria Luz* twice onto a nearby British warship and, though he reported the brutality of the Portuguese, had been returned to them. Japanese took control of the ship and off loaded the Chinese in order to interrogate them as witnesses to their inhuman captivity. Ōe Taku, the governor of Kanagawa and the person placed in charge of the investigation, informed Captain Ricardo Heriero of the *Maria Luz* that it is "the settled policy of this Empire that no laborers or other persons subject to this Government or enjoying its protection shall be taken beyond its jurisdiction against their free and voluntary consent." After a trial in which Captain Heriero was found guilty of brutalizing the Chinese and holding them against their wills, none of the Chinese chose to return to the *Maria Luz* and were sent back to China. Throughout the legal proceedings the expert hand of E. Peshine Smith was clearly present, especially evident in the final judgment which cites in detail the precedents of the U.S. in dealing with the jurisprudence of human "property" and applying the "broader issues of natural justice and equity which are of universal application."⁸² In 1862, the *Great Emancipator*,

⁸¹ The English word "coolie" which came to be used as a derogatory term for a cheap laborer, is devolved from several sources on the Indian subcontinent: *qūlī* in Hindi means "day laborer" and *kuli* is the word for "wages" in Tamil.

⁸² *Papers Relating to the Foreign Relations of the United States*, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1873, vol. I, pg. 548.

President Abraham Lincoln, had signed into law An Act to prohibit the 'Coolie Trade' by American Citizens in American Vessels.⁸³ The story of the *Maria Luz* case was published in the *New York Tribune* by its reporter in Japan, Edward H. House, who was a witness in the trial and became so moved by the incident that he made Japan's cause his own by founding the influential *Tokio Times* newspaper.

While Peru, which had no treaty agreement with Japan, threatened to deploy warships to resolve the matter, the Portuguese Captain sued for the return of his contractual "property" – the Chinese. Ironically, it was Charles DeLong, the U.S. Consul to Japan that had to inform the Japanese government "that at the instance of the government of Peru I have been requested by the honorable Secretary of State [Hamilton Fish] of the United States to act for the Peruvian government in this empire ... and frankly admitting my abhorrence for the so-called coolie-trade, yet, as I have undertaken a charge for a power friendly to my own Government."⁸⁴

Charles DeLong then arranged for all sides to agree to have the legal matter arbitrated by Czar Alexander II of Russia. A staunch ally of President Lincoln during the U.S. Civil War, Alexander II, who had earlier proclaimed an edict to free the Russian serfs, issued a judgment in 1875 in favor of Japan. But the *Maria Luz* incident had already caused reverberations internationally, as Soyeshima Taneomi recorded:

"This victory for a country which had just entered into the family of nations, in a dispute in which the question of humanity was involved, helped to strengthen its position as an independent nation, and was the subject of much approval in every part of the world."⁸⁵

In Japan, a month after the judgment issued in the 1872 *Maria Luz* case, the "Emancipation Decree for Female Performers and Prostitutes" was decreed, banning any sale of human beings and freeing any prostitute or other indentured servant from their contracts. In 1873, the government of Peru officially outlawed the "coolie trade."

Though the *Maria Luz* case was of historic importance, it was E. Peshine Smith's work in developing the fledgling economy of Japan that remains his most important legacy.

In 1858, Henry Carey published his three volume work, *Principles of Social Science*. It was written as an effort to demonstrate that the scientific principles of economics, as demonstrated successfully by the American System of political economy, reflect the same physical principles that govern the universe and the social sciences of humanity – i.e. that the human Mind, where resides the creative potential which distinguishes him from the beasts and is that which the Creator made in his image. He spares no effort to show the fallacious nature of the opposing view of Mankind, under such chapter headings as the "Inevitable tendency of the Ricardo-Malthusian doctrine, that of making slavery the ultimate condition of the laborer" and "The system of the British school a retrograde one - had its origin in a retrograde policy."

⁸³ Between 1847 and 1859, an estimated 50,000 "coolies" had been transported on U.S. ships and suffered an 18% casualty rate. The Act also provided for Chinese to openly emigrate to the U.S., provided that a U.S. consul representative at their port of departure had signed their travel permit.

⁸⁴ *Papers Relating to the Foreign Relations of the United States*, Government Printing Office, Washington, 1873, vol. I, pg. 528.

⁸⁵ *Fifty Years of New Japan* by Okuma Shigenobu; Smith, Elder, & Co., London, 1910, vol. I, p. 98.

In Carey's own preface to that work he complements his former protégé now become collaborator, "To fully develop the law of the perpetuity of matter, in its bearing upon the law of population, was, however, reserved for the author's friend, Mr. E. Peshine Smith, numerous extracts from whose excellent little *Manuel*, will be found in the present volume."⁸⁶ The "little *Manuel*" to which Carey refers is *A Manuel of Political Economy* that Smith had published in 1853 and was a devastating attack on the dean of the British East India Company's Haileybury College – Parson Thomas Malthus.

In his *Manuel*, Smith proffers:

"Is it possible to construct a science of Political Economy? In other words, are there laws grounded in the constitution of things and of man, fixed and invariable succession of effects determined by the causes which precede them, – regulating the progress of men in association with each other, in extending their dominion over matter and their concurrent improvement in intellect and morals? – and are these laws discoverable? What and how many of them have been discovered, is a different question. What is unquestionable is, that there are professors of what is styled a science of Political Economy, teaching in the schools and through the press a body of precepts, tending more or less to the object we have assigned as that of its investigations. On the other hand, it is denied that there is yet such a science. . . . [The British System] would not perhaps, be Political Economy such as we have described it. It would be, as it has been called, 'the Dismal Science,' instead of a science of Progress and Hope. . . ."⁸⁷

The 'science of Progress and Hope' prevailed in Japan in 1873 when, with the advice of E. Peshine Smith, Ōkubo Toshimichi established the Ministry of Home Affairs and within that the Industrial Promotion Board (*kangyōryō*). On August 1, 1873, the doors of the newly founded First National Bank of Japan opened its doors for business headed by Ōkuma Shigenobu. Those measures were modeled on Alexander Hamilton's First National Bank of the United States which had allowed the advancement and industrialization of America – what became known as the American System. Japan now had the vehicle by which to develop, and the Asian banking monopoly controlled principally by Britain's opium-dominated Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was seriously threatened.

The U.S. Constitution is historically unique in its capacity to provide for the lawful generation of a credit economy, distinct from the money economies of European central banks. The sovereign right of the nation (i.e. the people), through its National Bank can issue fiat credit for infrastructure and productive enterprises based on future returns to the benefit of the "general welfare", whereas Central Banks, invariably controlled by private oligarchical interests, lack that ability or inclination towards economic activity based on such Constitutional grounds. After the American Revolutionary War, the newly born American Republic, just like Japan after the Meiji Restoration, had no money or other pecuniary aids that would have allowed for the financing of development. Alexander Hamilton, using the provisions of the Constitution and with the

⁸⁶ *Principles of Social Science* by Henry C. Carey, J.B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, 1858, Volume I, p. vi.

⁸⁷ *A Manuel of Political Economy* by E. Peshine Smith, George Putnam & Co. New York, 1853, pp. 13-15.

backing of President George Washington, took the Continental debt that had accrued during the war from the various colonies (now states) and allow, as he wrote, “its conversion into Bank Stock, incorporated with a specie fund” that would be capitalized and circulated by the National Bank with a “proportional benefit to all the public creditors.”⁸⁸ Hamilton was able to structure the U.S. banking system to ensure credit growth was channeled into productive enterprises (e.g. infrastructure projects such as canals and roads, as well as, manufacturing) and not into speculation and usury.

At the time the First National Bank of Japan was established, the country had no significant specie reserve nor did it have any major debt. Rice, not money, had been the major form of exchange. However, what Japan did have in abundance were large numbers of landed aristocracy, particularly of the samurai caste. What Ōkubo and Ōkuma then did would be considered an anathema to the fiscal conservative, Free Traders of today – they deliberately created a huge national debt! In 1871, they had abolished the feudal “right” of those nobles and samurai to ownership of land, and that land had been reverted back to the nation of Japan. This didn’t mean that people were then thrown off the lands like some imperialist or communist usurpation. It meant that with the new banking measures a national debt had been created by which those nobles were paid in government paper money which the government then organized the recipients to deposit in the National Bank or into new industries. That same year the New Currency Act was adopted which established the *yen* as the new decimal currency of Japan, replacing the feudal system of each daimyo producing its own money which had no conversion compatibility with the other daimyos.

Under the 1872 Banking Act, chartered national banks (beginning with four) were required to pay 60% of their cash deposits to the government, in return for government securities bearing 6% interest. Those banks were also allowed to circulate convertible bank notes of their own up to the limit of their holdings in government securities. The subsequent amended Banking Act of 1876 authorized the new national banks to issue nonconvertible bank notes worth up to 80% of their capital. That in turn was paid to the government in return for government bonds yielding 4%.⁸⁹ Additionally, the government issued compulsory samurai commutation bonds (the equivalent of the old feudal stipend to the samurai) in the order of 174 million yen, which was *five times* the total government revenue in 1876. The main depositors and holders of those bonds were the *kazoku* (the new combined class of court nobles and former daimyo nobles) at 44.1%; the samurai at 39.9%; and, the merchants at 14.6%.⁹⁰

This was the nationally sovereign, financial means by which all the modern industries of Japan were built, and the people who built them were not dominated by the old aristocratic families but represented a newly invigorated stratum of the former samurai class. Human creativity became more important than the old trappings of status and riches. Emblematic of that healthy phenomenon was Toyoda Sakichi (1867-1930), the son of a humble carpenter who became known as the “King of Japanese Inventors” for revolutionizing his nation’s textile industry with such innovative technology

⁸⁸ *Report on a National Bank* submitted by Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton to the U.S. Congress on December 13, 1790.

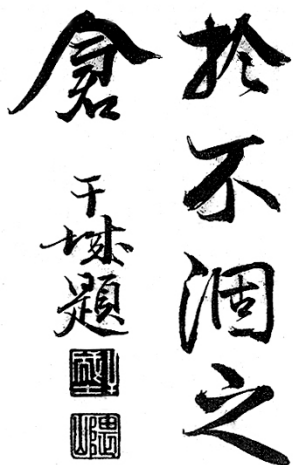
⁸⁹ In 1876 there were 6 national banks which rose to 153 in 1879 with none chartered after that date.

⁹⁰ *A Study of Samurai Income and Entrepreneurship* by Kozo Yamamura, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1974, p. 166.

as his automated power loom that utilized the principle of *Jidoka* (meaning the machine stops by itself if it encounters a problem) and founded the Toyoda Loom Works. His son, Toyoda Kiichirō (1894-1952), established a branch of the company to produce automobiles which eventually became Toyota Motor Corporation, currently the largest automobile manufacturer in the world.

As Japan began to succeed in its commitment to modernize, additional Hamiltonian measures were taken to protect the new nation's foreign trade which was exclusively financed by the afore mentioned British-dope interest, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. In 1887, Ōkuma, who had once again become Finance Minister, established the Yokohama Specie Bank which replaced the British with the Meiji government as the controlling agency over all Japanese foreign trade.

Introduction to the Japanese edition of Henry C. Carey



This is Tomita Tetsunosuke's preface to the Japanese edition of Henry C. Carey's 1858 work, *Principles of Social Science*, that was translated by Inukai Tsui and published in 1891. The word *Sensei*, used to address Carey, is a Japanese title that shows honor and respect to professors, political leaders, and other figures of authority. This translation was done by Saito Asuka. The characters used for Henry Carey's name in Japanese are 圭列.

In 1875, I first met Henry Carey *Sensei*. At that time, I was staying in New York State. During my free time, I went to the city of Philadelphia to visit *Sensei*. Despite my intention to just leave my name and make an appointment for a meeting, Carey *Sensei* himself invited me into his study. *Sensei* was already eighty years old. With his gray hair, keen eye, and complete calmness, *Sensei* talked to me with an open mind as if he was talking to an old friend.

He first asked me the reason why I was there. I replied, "I am staying in New York City to deal with trade business affairs as a government representative." "Also," I continued, "I am using my free time to visit prominent knowledgeable figures so that I can free myself from ignorance." *Sensei* then said, "That is good, but I have to tell you one thing – DON'T TRUST THE WHITE MAN WITHOUT REASON. Look at how the White Man colonized India and what they imported to China. Who is exploiting all the resources of India? Who is bringing opium into China and addicting millions? Which race of people will trample over Asia and spread its menacing effects? These are the questions you should ask. Now, your country established diplomatic relations with the Western countries. White men are trading with you but do you know what they are really doing?" I couldn't answer but only laugh. *Sensei* further said, "I know who (which white men) are in your country. This situation is neither for the benefit of your nation nor the happiness of your citizens. Rather, the situation is similar to taking very strong and poisonous vodka." *Sensei* then coldly smiled.

Being a white man himself, *Sensei* seemed to have a keen insight into the subject. I pondered *Sensei's* profound knowledge and reflected on the occasion.

Sensei then brought out a book on which he wrote my name and gave it to me. *Sensei* said, "This is a book on economics that I wrote. This has already been translated into some European languages, and it would be my honor if you could translate it into your language."

We then said good-bye, and I departed.

Since then, sixteen years have passed. Yet, I have not been able to accomplish *Sensei's* request. Meanwhile, *Sensei* passed away. Then, one evening, I opened *Sensei's* book. As I remembered *Sensei's* wise warning, my admiration toward *Sensei* filled my heart and my desire to repay him for his kindness grew. My friend Inukai, however, translated Mr. Carey's work and it is titled *Mr. Carey's Economics*.

With your hard work, you (Inukai) are finally publishing the work of one of the most prominent economists in the world. This would surely satisfy *Sensei* who is now in Heaven and therefore puts my mind at ease. By coincidence, I was visited by the publisher who asked me to write an introduction to this book. Thus, I wrote my introduction while my mind was overwhelmed with remembrances of the past.

Americans Settle Japan's Frontier

There was no greater project initiated by the Meiji government than that of the colonization and development of the island of Hokkaidō (formerly called 'Yezo' or 'Yesso'). Hokkaidō is the northernmost of Japan's four main islands comprising 32,247 square miles which is one-fifth of the total land area of the nation. At the time of the Meiji Restoration the estimated population of the island was, according to differing estimates, between 30,000 to 50,000 people, a small fraction of the total Japanese population. In 1869, the government established the Kaitakushi, the Hokkaidō Colonization Office, and solicited the assistance of those people with a track record of knowing how to settle wilderness areas and quickly civilizing it – the Americans. Though the primary emphasis was on the modern agricultural development of Hokkaidō, it also meant the need to develop and build a complex of systems, including modern agriculture technologies and training, water transportation, railroads, and city building. It became a national mission in scope and implementation.

The proof of the success of the Kaitakushi project was the rapid increase in the relative potential population density of the island. When the Kaitakushi was abolished in 1882, the population of Hokkaidō had increased by nearly one order of magnitude to 240,000 during a ten-year period.

There was also no other enterprise of the Meiji government which the British Empire was so fully deployed to stop, including their visceral sabotage of Japan's railroad construction.

The Kaitakushi was headed by the young Satsuma samurai, Kuroda Kiyotaka, who had been involved in the Anglo-Satsuma War and a military commander in the Boshin War to overthrow the Shōgunate.⁹¹ Politically, the choice of Kuroda to head the Kaitakushi represented the Japanese government's wariness of possible foreign incursions into that island, particularly by the Russians. Hence, numerous samurai emigrated to Hokkaidō to engage in agricultural enterprises and also serve in the local militia. The American's had faced a similar problem thirty years earlier when the British attempted various military and political schemes to annex the under-populated territory which became the State of California.⁹²

In 1870, Kuroda had a meeting with President Grant regarding assistance in recruiting agricultural experts and technical advisors for the Hokkaidō project. On April 1st of the following year, Kuroda and Mori met with Horace Capron, the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, and presented him with letters of introduction by Secretary of State Hamilton Fish. Capron agreed to the offer to lead the agricultural transformation of Hokkaidō and made known his decision in a private meeting with Grant, to which the President replied:

⁹¹ Later Kuroda became Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in 1887, Prime Minister in 1888, a member of the Genro, and oversaw the adoption of the Meiji Constitution.

⁹² The British Empire's attempts to secure control of the Pacific Coast of North America were deliberate operations to halt the potential of the United States of America from become a trans-continental power. The U.S. government's promotion of the 1849 Gold Rush, with the assistance of Lt. William T. Sherman (later the General of Civil War fame), solved California's under-population problem. For a full exposé of that historic battle see *How California was Kept in the Union & The City of Angeles was Built: The Story of John Gately Downey* by Mark Calney.

"I regret receiving or accepting your resignation, were it not for the importance attached to the new position which you are called on to fill . . .

"In the new place of which you have accepted the responsibilities, I predict results creditable to yourself, and to the nation which has so honored you, as well as the rapid advance of commerce between that nation and all others. Such a result cannot prove otherwise than beneficial to the world's interest, leaving out of account that of ourselves, as a single nation."⁹³

Because of the incredible slanders orchestrated by the British press in Japan, Britain, and into the U.S., to read contemporary historical accounts of General Capron's activities in Japan you would imagine him to be a money-hungry playboy who had no knowledge of agriculture. Given the fact that his Memoirs were never published, and, as he stated in that journal, "No history of my work in Japan will – probably – ever be written," it is important to provide some background to the man.

Horace Capron's father was Dr. Seth Capron (1762-1835) who fought in the American Revolutionary War under General Lafayette in the light cavalry and then was assigned to General George Washington's headquarters in New York City. After the war, Seth Capron became a medical doctor and established the first cotton factory in the New York State (in Oneida County, then moved to Orange County) and then the first woolen mill in the United States. In 1824, he took his son Capron to West Point in order to shake the hand of Lafayette during his famous return tour of America.

Horace C. Capron (1804-1885), having worked since a boy in the cotton mills, started the mechanization of his father's cotton factory in 1835. He then moved to Maryland where he established the town of Laurel centered upon his cotton mill complex which employed more than 700 people which consequently supported the community population of 2,500. He also developed a modern dairy farm. At the time, he recorded that "these improvements and my communication attracted the attention of the press from Maine to Georgia" which was witnessed by the editor of *American Farmer* who wrote, "The name of Col. *Horace Capron*, of Laurel, Prince George's county, is as familiar to agricultural readers throughout the country as the names of their immediate neighbors."

After his cotton business suffered a major set back, he obtained a Presidential appointed to assist in the relocation of Native Americans from Texas after the Mexican-American War. Following that brief duty, Horace moved to Alden, Illinois where he seriously took up farming, cattle raising, undertaking experimental techniques, writing about agriculture improvements, and received awards for his achievements. With the start of the Civil War, Horace Capron became the oldest cavalry officer in the Union Army, raising several cavalry regiments and leading the 14th Illinois Cavalry Regiment. He fought with distinction losing his eldest son in battle and, after an injury in 1864, left the army as a Brevet Brigadier General.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln established the Department of Agriculture headed by a Commissioner with non-Cabinet status. After the Civil War, President Johnson appointed General Capron as Commissioner of Agriculture in 1867. Under Capron's leadership the Agriculture Department moved out of the basement of the

⁹³ *Memoirs of Horace Capron*, Volume 2, p. 4. These memoirs are unpublished, were copied by permission of his grandson, and now reside in the archives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Patent Office building and into its own new structure in Washington. In addition to supplying farmers with new seeds annually, the Agriculture Department began a mass communication operation with farm associations throughout the nation on the latest science and technologies of modern agriculture. Capron's department became a repository of information and analysis on the country's soil conditions, climate, and results from new experiments of crops and livestock.

Once General Capron's resignation became public, he quickly began to collect the supplies and personnel he needed for his mission in Japan. He consulted with Professor Joseph Henry in an effort to recruit the best minds available to accomplish the task. Henry was extremely helpful to Capron and carried on a correspondence with him during his four years in Japan. It was also Joseph Henry who had led a public campaign to force the U.S. Congress to return the unjust indemnity that the Japanese had paid the U.S. over the Shimonoseki Incident.⁹⁴ Beginning in 1870, Henry had circulated a petition signed by 452 leading educators to have the Congress return the indemnity monies to Japan for the express purpose of spending it on education in Japan. President Grant's 1874 annual message likewise called on part or all of the indemnity to be spent on training Americans in the Japanese language, as well as, educating the Japanese in English. Unfortunately, it was not until 1883 that Congress finally passed legislation resulting in the return of the original indemnity sum paid by Japan to the U.S. of \$785,000.

Before leaving for Japan, Capron toured the U.S. to procure agricultural equipment, seed, livestock, plants, and other machinery needed for the expedition, such as saw mills used for building construction. Two small steamers were also purchased in order to provide transport service between Hokkaidō and the main island of Honshu.

Capron's initial staff for the Hokkaidō mission consisted of eight members, though more than forty Americans would be involved in the operation before it was concluded. Through Joseph Henry, Capron acquired the assistance of Major A.G. Warfield, the assistant engineer of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, who would become the project's head civil and topographical engineer. The rest of the leading staff came from inside the Department of Agriculture and included Thomas Antisell, its chief chemist who would serve as geologist and mineralogist, and Stuart Eldridge the librarian of the Department of Agriculture.

During the Civil War, Stuart Eldridge had served with General Grant with whom he became a personal friend, a friendship that was revived when Grant visited Japan in 1879. After the war, Eldridge received a medical degree in Washington D.C. and served in the Bureau of Emancipation of Slavery under General Howard (founder of Howard College) as Acting Adjutant General and then as an official of the Freedman's Bureau. In 1870, he became the first librarian of the Department of Agriculture, and accompanied Capron to Japan as Secretary and Physician. Eldridge was Appointed Surgeon-General of the Kaitakushi and established a medical school in Hakodate in

⁹⁴ The total indemnity paid by the Japanese government to foreign powers for the Shimonoseki Incident was \$3,000,000 of which the U.S. share was \$750,000. With late fees and interest the U.S. payment had accrued to the amount of \$1,839,533 in 1883 when the "Japanese fund" was liquidated. Payments of \$140,000 went to cover the cost of actual indemnity to the officers and crew of the *Wyoming* and the *Ta-kiang*, with Japan receiving \$785,000. The bonds of the "Japanese fund" were cancelled and the balance of \$914,533 was covered into the U.S. Treasury.

1872. After his work in Hokkaidō, he settled in Yokohama where he became director of the General Hospital of Yokohama, created other medical schools, established Japan's first medical journal (Kinsei-I-Setus meaning 'Modern Medical Science'), and became a member of the Central Sanitary Board of the Japanese government.

In August of 1871, Capron and company arrived in Yokohama. The General was met by Prince Iwakura and other high officials, given an elaborate banquet and an extraordinary interview with the Emperor. Meanwhile, Capron's taskforce was deployed to Hokkaidō to get settled and conduct the first scientific survey of the island.

Experimental farms were established in Tokyo (including Tsukiji, Komaba, Kasumigaseki, Sugamo, and Naitō Shinjuku⁹⁵), and also served as instructional facilities. A young graduate of the Michigan Agricultural College, Edward Mason Shelton, was appointed Superintendent of those farms. Shelton had assisted in the purchase of the livestock for the Capron mission, including cattle, sheep, and pigs. He would later become the agricultural advisor to the Governor of Queensland, Australia.

On one of the other Tokyo farms, Edwin Dun, an Ohio farmer gave a formal demonstration (dressed in a suit and top hat) to the Emperor of various modern, American farm implements, including a reaper, mowing machine, a wheat drill, and a large steam-powered threshing machine. Dun also setup livestock breeding operations on Hokkaidō and would eventually be appointed as Minister to Japan by President Cleveland.

It was on those experimental farms that the Americans successfully introduced new vegetables and fruits into Japan. Ironically in the land know for its beautiful cherry blossoms, one of those fruits introduced was the edible cherry.

By the end of 1871, the first reports of the Hokkaidō survey expedition were submitted. When the task was completed, as Capron wrote, "the first successfully organized corps for Geological, Mineralogical, Trigonometrical and Hydrographic surveys ever made by this, or any other Asiatic Government were made by this Commission, and the first Lithographic maps ever made in either of these countries were executed."⁹⁶ During the course of those surveys a "large class of young Japanese gentlemen were educated both to the field and office duties of the several professions, and fully prepared to carry forward the various surveys inaugurated upon that Island into other portions of His Majesty's Empire."⁹⁷ Major Warfield's initial report on the resources of Hokkaidō was enthusiastic regarding the potential for agricultural development. However, Dr. Antisell concluded that the climate of the island was "Siberian" and "subfrigid" which, in his opinion, would make any aggressive agricultural development unrealistic. Antisell's report was erroneous and met with acute skepticism by Capron. It would ultimately led to his dismissal from Capron's task force and provide the British with a propaganda hook for their efforts to sabotage the colonization project of Hokkaidō.

⁹⁵ The Naitō Shinjuku Experimental Station became the largest of the Tokyo farms. It regularly held lectures and instruction seminars on modern agriculture and was instrumental in the dissemination of agricultural technologies to the entire nation. In 1877, its location was changed to Komabano where it became the forerunner of the present School of Agriculture at Tokyo University.

⁹⁶ *Memoirs of Horace Capron*, Volume 2, p. 282.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 283.

During January 1872, General Capron made an official submission to the Kaitakushi of a substantial list of proposals for the development of the island. They included more extensive surveys of natural resources, the establishment of experimental farms, and the introduction of large-scale production of wheat and corn. He also suggested the importation of American farm families to help in the pioneering efforts. With the exception of the emigration of Americans, which was deemed cost prohibitive, the Kaitakushi adopted all of Capron's recommendations.

Not unlike Lincoln's program to open the American West for settlement, the Japanese government offered emigrants to Hokkaidō free land and various subsidies such as housing, fertilizer, seed, and farm machinery. At first, those offers were restricted to samurai who in exchange would serve as local militia, but eventual that stipulation was dropped and more than 70,000 Japanese immigrated to Hokkaidō from the other main islands.

The transition for the immigrants was not without its problems that were primarily cultural in nature. The Americans expected the Japanese to adapt to their new wilderness homes by acting like American pioneers – clearing the land and taking more control of their environment. Instead, their initial actions were as peasants more interested in keeping themselves feed than building for the future. In addition, the thought of growing wheat, instead of the historic staple of rice, initially struck the new Japanese farmers as an anathema and would take some time to overcome.

The Americans under General Capron's supervision transformed Hokkaidō. The tiny Ainu village of Sapporo became a major town serving as the headquarters for the agricultural development of the Ishikari Valley and was destined to become a major Japanese city. The scattering of primitive fishing operations on the island became a fishing industry with modern canning technology for salmon, trout, and venison. Flour mills, sugar beet factories, and breweries were built. A modern lumber mill was erected utilizing water-wheel and steam power. The first harbors were made at Hakodaté in the south and Otaru on the west coast. New roads were constructed, and Colonel Joseph U. Crawford, formerly of the Pennsylvania Railroad, supervised construction of a rail line. His numerous geological and topographical surveys also revealed the island's natural resources, including coal and petroleum. When Benjamin Smith Lyman, a Massachusetts geologist and mining engineer who had previously surveyed the oil fields of the Punjab, was recruited by Mori in 1872 to replace the dismissed Dr. Antisell, he produced the first geological map of Hokkaidō which identified oil, coal, and ore deposits which led to a successful coal mining industry; the potential development for hydraulic power; soil profiles; and progress reports on waste land reclamation. Lyman later became the chief geologist and mining engineer for the Japanese government (1873-1879) and organized his thirteen Japanese surveying trainees to establish the Geological Society of Japan in 1878 (which published the *Chigaku zasshi*, "Geological magazine"), all of whom became central to the development of Hokkaidō's coal mining industry.

Prior to General Capron's return to the United States in 1875, he made one last recommendation, informed by the success of the 1862 Morrell Act, that would have an enduring affect on Japan.⁹⁸ He proposed that the agricultural school in Tokyo that he

⁹⁸ On July 2, 1862, President Lincoln signed into law The Morrell Act, officially called "An Act Donating Public Lands to the Several States and Territories which may provide Colleges for the Benefit of

had setup as the Kaitakushi Temporary School be upgraded to college level and moved to Sapporo. Additionally, Capron suggested that the new college be headed by William Smith Clark, at that time the president of the Massachusetts Agricultural College (now the University of Massachusetts at Amherst). Clark, who had served as a Colonel in the Union Army during the Civil War, was also a member of the Massachusetts Legislature and had served as secretary of the Electoral College in 1864 that had elected Abraham Lincoln to his second term as President.

Capron's idea was implemented immediately. William Clark arrived in Japan the following year and spent eight months in Hokkaidō founding the Sapporo Agricultural College (now Hokkaidō University). The college absorbed the first Japanese school to teach engineering, the Provisional School of the Kaitakushi setup at the Zojo-ji temple in Shiba, Tokyo. Two young assistants and graduates of the University of Massachusetts, William Wheeler and David P. Penhallow, accompanied Clark.

The college was limited to fifty students who studied four years, using the curriculum of the Massachusetts Agricultural College to receive a degree of Master of Science in Agricultural and then serve the Kaitakushi for five years in Hokkaidō. Students received lectures in the sciences and a course on the principles of the Bible, first started by Clark. A model American farm was established, and introduced a host of new foods of American origin to Japan, including wheat, barley, corn, tomatoes, French beans, potatoes, beets, lettuce, green peas, cabbage, pumpkins, and carrots. The introduction of farm implements, especially the plow, had a dramatic impact on agricultural output.

Although William Clark only served eight months as director of the college, his influence had a lasting effect and he is better known today in Japan than is General Capron, witnessed by a statue of Clark erected in Sapporo, with a quote excerpted from his farewell address, "Boys, be ambitious!"⁹⁹

The Hokkaidō project of developing the island into a region of massive agricultural development did not occur over night as its initiators, particularly the Americans, had hoped. As General Capron recorded, if the British had their way the northern island would have remained a desolate wilderness:

"Add to this [language difficulties] the foreign influence, always antagonistical to every thing American, and their constant intriguing to disrupt matters and create distrust in the minds of the Japanese themselves; nothing was left untried to effect disadvantageously our plans.

"Mrs. Bird in the *Unbeaten Tracks* in Japan starts off with the stereotyped phrase – Yesso [Hokkaidō] with its Siberian climate.¹⁰⁰ This is the echo of the average Britain whether he may have had the experience of years of residence in Tokio or Yokohama, or simply on a tour around the world, stops

Agriculture and the Mechanical Arts." It provided for each state to be given 30,000 acres of Federal Land for each of their Congressional districts. The lands could then be sold, providing funds for the establishment of public colleges engaged in those subjects. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Cornell University were two of the sixty-nine colleges funded by those land grants

⁹⁹ The full quote by Clark was, "Boys be ambitious not for money or for selfish aggrandizement, not for that evanescent thing which men call fame. Be ambitious for that attainment of all that a man ought to be."

¹⁰⁰ All words underlined are the emphasis in the original. *Unbeaten Tracks in Japan* was written by the English woman Isabella L. Bird.

over to do that Empire and gather material for a book or paper to be read before the Asiatic Society. He or she, as the case may be, invariably accepts this as a settled fact, because Sir Harry Parkes [the British ambassador to Japan] and the Asiatic Society have so pronounced it, and having once so recorded it, continue to adhere to this hypothesis, in spite of years of carefully recorded meteorological observations, and the most thorough practical test, in the growth and cultivation of all the food plants, fruits and flowers grown within the parallel of the temperate zones throughout the earth. . . . The most northern peak of Yesso laying more southerly than the most southern point of England. The fact has been thoroughly demonstrated, that the Island of Yesso does actually possess a better average climate, more genial, and for all agricultural purposes, more favorable than that of the Islands of Great Britain.”¹⁰¹

Unable to directly influence the Meiji government during that period, the British resorted to deception and outright lies in their unceasing efforts to blunt and stop the dominating American influence in Japan. Capron, in an 1875 rebuttal that he wrote to the editor of the British owned *Japan Weekly Mail*, stated:

“It has always been a source of regret to me that the foreign press in Japan should have chosen to single out the Kaitakushi from all the other Departments of the Government as an object of covert aspirations and open attack.”

Sir Harry Parkes ran the entire British operation to stop the Hokkaidō Project. He repeatedly obtained permission from the Meiji government to allow key British subjects to travel to Hokkaidō, ostensibly to see the sights. As General Capron reports, that string of people included, Isabella Bird, “a certain Captain of a British Man of War,” and the “Captain of another British ship” who, after “he tramps over a small portion of the Island” then “returns to lay before the Asiatic Society the results of his observations especially upon the climate and agricultural resources of the Island.” Once the Asiatic Society, created by Parkes and his British cronies, gave its seal of authoritative approval to the repeated lies concerning the “Siberian” conditions of Hokkaidō, the lies were then published in the British *Japan Weekly Mail*. From there the lies and slanders against Capron were channeled into the European and the American press. One example of many was the October 1872 article which appeared in the New York *Nation* that attacked the American experts working for the Kaitakushi as incompetent, singling out Capron as being the laughingstock of the Department of Agriculture who in Japan was “almost useless.” Capron described the desired intent of the British operation:

“Confused and misled by the criticisms of the English Press of Japan, which has been inimical to the introduction of every foreign idea – particularly American – that promised to advance the Japanese Government to a position of greater independence. The impression has gone forth, aided by the press of our own country, misled by unprincipled adventurers, that but little advance has been made in that country, and that the Japanese themselves are incapable of attaining to any high degree of civilization.”¹⁰²

¹⁰¹ *Memoirs of Horace Capron*, Volume 2, pp. 285-286.

¹⁰² *Ibid.*, p. 294.

The English “traveler” and author of *Unbeaten Tracks in Japan*, Isabella Bird, was not pleased when she visited the new “American” town of Sapporo in 1878:

“the capital, a town of 3,000 people, laid out on the plan of an American city, with wide, rectangular streets, lined by low Japanese houses and shops, and tasteless, detached, frame houses. The American idea is further suggested by the *Kaitakushi* offices with a capitol copied from the capitol at Washington.”¹⁰³

Today, Sapporo is the fifth largest city in Japan with a population of almost 2 million. Hokkaidō is now the largest bread basket of Japan with an area of cultivated land in excess of 1.2 million hectares which is one-fourth of the nation’s total. A true testimonial to the achievement of General Capron was given in a letter from the U.S. Minister to Japan, John A. Bingham (formerly the prosecutor in the assassination conspiracy of President Lincoln) to Capron, and dated January 1876 from Tokyo:

“Kuroda, Kido, and other of the ministers of state, have spoken most kindly of you and your work here, and said your name would live in grateful remembrance of their people. So you see, my dear General, although you have been barked at by the small critics who control the English press in Japan, it all goes for naught, because your work was honestly done, and wisely done, and in every sense well done. . . . Long after you shall have joined those who have gone before you, when Yesso shall be covered with cattle and sheep, and fields of golden wheat and corn, and its mountains clothed to their summits with purple vine will it be said of you, this was the work of General Capron. It may truly be said there was no State in Yesso in the sense that men constitute a state, when you took charge of that Island, and it may also be said, when you left it, a state was formed, and what is essential to a state was inaugurated by you, the introduction of the industries and the appliances which will secure food, clothing and shelter to a nation.”¹⁰⁴

Infrastructure and Industry

The primary members of the Meiji government responsible for the modern development of Japan’s infrastructure and industries were Ōkuma Shigénobu, Itō Hirobumi, and Ōkubo Toshimichi.

Against a formidable opposition, Ōkuma, then the Vice-Minister, and Itō, then Assistant Vice-Minister, led the political fight to build the first permanent telegraph in the nation, which started operation between Yokohama and Tokyo on January 26, 1870. Construction was carried out by the Telegraph and Railway Bureau of the Department of Public Works, with the assistance of hired foreigners (*oyatoi gaikokujin*).¹⁰⁵ By 1906, more than 16,000 miles of telegraph lines were erected in Japan.

¹⁰³ *Unbeaten Tracks in Japan* by Isabella L. Bird, Fourth Edition, John Murray, London, 1881, Volume II, p. 7. The first edition was published in 1880.

¹⁰⁴ *Memoirs of Horace Capron*, Volume 2, pp. 282-284.

¹⁰⁵ The *oyatoi gaikokujin*, were foreign advisers hired by the government because of their particular skills necessary for the modernization of the nation. In 1874, there were 520 *oyatoi gaikokujin* whose salaries

A sampling of the key projects and industries which enabled Japan to become a modern nation is discussed below.

Railroads

“When the railway system was, for the first time, introduced into this country, . . . we virtually stepped into trains out of [palanquins].”

– Inouye Masaru, head of the Railway Bureau

It was also Ōkuma and Itō who promoted railroad construction. The initial idea was to build a line between Tokyo and Yokohama and then a more substantial line of over 260 miles to Kōbe. Surprisingly, Americans did not build the first railroad constructed in Japan. General Capron informs us that:

“The first rail-road constructed was a short line of about twenty miles from Tokio to Yokohama. It was entirely under the direction and control of the English. There were no impediments of any magnitude in the way of its construction, but two short excavations, the earth of which was required for embankments immediately adjacent; with one stream to bridge of any importance. This road was engineered, constructed and equipped with the necessary rolling stock, narrow gauge, small four wheeled passenger cars, engines to match by the English, and so far no English writer has been willing to state the cost, but pass it over with the single paragraph, ‘cost of construction not ascertained.’ It is understood, however, that the Japanese Government was made to pay something over one-hundred-and-sixty-thousand dollars (\$160,000) per mile for the construction and equipment of this one horse road. This enormous swindle – for it could be called nothing else – put a damper for a long time upon all further attempts at rail-road building.”¹⁰⁶

Capron then compare this to the first American-built railroad:

“The only railroad thus far constructed in Japan under American advisement and direction is the road leading from Sapporo, Yesso to Otarunai [Otaru] a port on the Japan Sea. This road is about the same length as the one from Tokio to Yokohama (20 miles) but it had the disadvantage of crossing the coast range of mountains, with many tunnels, through rocks and heavy embankments, with steep grades to long and expensive transportation for all machinery and material for its construction, and yet this road cost the Japanese Government but about \$25,000 per mile, including the rolling stock. This like the road from Tokio were both narrow gauge, single track, but less expensively equipped with rolling stock.”¹⁰⁷

comprised 33.7% of the national annual budget. Such an expense demonstrated the Meiji government’s commitment to the primary generator of the physical economy – human knowledge – not only from those foreigners directing various projects but also, as in the case of the Americans, the education of numerous Japanese in the various fields of the agro-industrial sciences. The total number ultimately reached over 3,000, with more in the private sector, until the policy was officially ended in 1899.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid., pp. 299-300.

¹⁰⁷ Ibid., pp. 300-301.

The stark contrast between the constructions of the two railroads is corporal proof of the difference between the American System and the British System of economics. The first is predicated on the primacy of physical production, and the latter the thievery of Free Trade.

In 1869, the idea for the establishment of the first railroad between Yokohama and Tokyo was underscored by the necessity of the government having to import food to the north-east of Kyushu to relieve a famine. Though rice was available in other prefectures, there was no adequate ground transportation to achieve the task. Opposition to any railroad construction was almost universal among the population and supported by only a small faction within the government.

At that time, it was the British Minister, Sir Harry Parkes, who intervened to urge the Meiji government to construct that railroad with British assistance. But, Sir Harry's motives were far from altruistic, as he directed the government to meet with Horatio Nelson Lay, his guest in Japan who had just resigned from his Commissionership of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs and was alleged to have great financial skills. The government agreed to Lay's offer that he would raise a loan in England to finance a line from Tokyo to the Hōygo prefecture (where Kōbe is located) by using the projected security of three million pounds from Japanese customs revenues. The contract of the loan was for one million pounds sterling, and the money raised from the project would pay an interest rate of 12%, with the entire debt to be paid in ten annual installments of 100,000 pounds after the first two years. However, it was soon discovered that the contract was defective. But Lay had already left for London to initiate his financial scam.

Horatio Lay offered the English public to subscribe to a Japanese loan of two million pounds at an interest rate of 9%, twice the amount agreed upon with the Japanese government and at a lower interest rate which meant that Lay would pocket a net gain of 3% on two million pounds. Once aware of the swindle, the Japanese government issued a proclamation cancelling Lay's commission and only granting him an allowance. Following legal proceedings, all matters concerning the railroad contract with Lay were transferred to the Oriental Bank of London.¹⁰⁸

The fifteen-mile Yokohama to Tokyo railroad was opened for traffic on October 15, 1872. Because of British orchestrated sabotage which had made the cost per mile of railroad construction astronomical and exacerbated public opposition, it took eight years to build a total of seventy-one miles of railroads in eastern and western Japan. Given the available expertise and technology of the Americans, and even Europeans, such results were absurd. It would later prompt the advice of President Ulysses Grant, during his 1879 visit to Japan, that Japan should never get involved in foreign loans.

To overcome the problem of building the most necessary and most capital intensive industry of the day, Prince Iwakura developed the idea of utilizing the compulsory samurai commutation bonds to establish, under exclusive contract with government, the private Nippon Railway Company. Iwaruka convinced many of the old

¹⁰⁸ The Oriental Bank Corporation was chartered in 1851 as a competitor to the British East India Company which had fallen out of public favor in England at that time. Headquartered in London, they became a dominate, financial force in the East with offices in Hong Kong, Japan, India, Mauritius, and South Africa until 1885. They terminated business in 1892.

daimyo nobles to support and invest in the project with former samurai, in order to construct the main trunk lines of Japan's railways, beginning with a line from Tokyo to Aomori. Of course, the "private investors" were incapable of carrying out the actual construction, so the government assumed that responsibility.

The man most responsible for carrying out the building of Japan's railway system, and who had been involved since its inception, was Inouye Masaru (1843-1910). In 1863, he was a young samurai seeking to gain Western knowledge, and with the blessings of his former Chōshū master, he (along with Itō Hirobumi and several others) secretly traveled to England to attend school. Inouye Masaru focused his studies on the sciences of railroad and mining engineering. During that time, his observations of the unregulated private rail system of Great Britain convinced him to become a strong advocate of state control of Japan's railroads. Inouye ran the Railway Bureau of the Public Works Ministry from its inception in 1871 and stated that "because Nippon Railway Company has been founded for special reasons, . . . it should be regarded for the moment as an exception."¹⁰⁹ At the end of 1892, fourteen functioning private railroad companies had been created and built over 1,300 miles of railways.

By 1870, with the collapse of Britain's 'Railway Mania' which halted any new construction, the vast majority of skilled technicians and engineers of Great Britain's railway industry were unemployed and eager to join the campaign of modernizing Japan. In distinct contrast to the British oligarchy's imperial policy towards Japan and Asia, British engineers and other skilled professionals did play an important role in the development of Japan. Almost all of the nearly 300 foreigners hired by the Rail Bureau were British. They also served as instructors for Inouye's policy of training Japanese engineers when the Engineer Training College was established in 1877 at the Osaka Station, headed British Engineer-in-Chief, T.R. Shervinton. Those Japanese graduates were quickly integrated into construction operations and soon started designing and directing construction of new railways. Most of the British were replaced by Japanese by 1880, except for the design of locomotives and bridges which continued for another twenty years. In particular, the design engineers included two brothers, Richard Francis Trevithick and Francis Henry Trevithick, the grandsons of Richard Trevithick the inventor of the first operational steam engine locomotive in 1804. The Trevithick brothers supervised the design and manufacture of Japan's first locomotives.

On the northern island of Hokkaidō, the Americans were in charge of all railroad construction. In December 1879, Colonel Joseph U. Crawford, who had previously worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad and had been the chief engineer of the Los Angeles and Independence Railroad (which had connected Los Angeles with the Transcontinental Railway) arrived on the island to survey potential railroad routes. Beginning from the Horonai Coal Mine, he mapped out a route from Temiya, Otaru to Sapporo. The government agreed and sent him back to the U.S. to purchase all the rails, locomotives, and other rolling-stock needed to complete the line. Partial service began in 1880 (Temiya to Sapporo) and by the end of 1882 the line had been completed, with locomotives provided by the H.K. Porter Company of Pittsburgh. The narrow-gauge, light locomotives which had been designed for industrial work in the coal

¹⁰⁹ "Tetsudō yusō" (Railway Transport) by Tanaka Tokihiko in Matsuyoshi Sadao and Andō Yoshio, eds., *Nihon yusō shi* (History of Japanese Transport); Nihon hyōronsha, 1971, pp. 181-182.

mining regions of Pennsylvania were ideal for Hokkaidō.¹¹⁰ Eventually, a total of eight Porter locomotives and one heavier Baldwin Locomotive would be put into service by 1898 when the government owned Hokkaidō Colliery and Railway Company bought the Hironai Railway.

On July 10, 1889, a gala celebration was held in Nagoya to mark the completion of the first 1,000 miles of railway track in Japan. The brutally slow start of Japan's railroads was accelerating. Seventeen years later, several months after the passage of the Railway Nationalization Law, Nagoya celebrated another milestone when Japan completed more than 5,000 miles of railway line.

Though the British had initially dominated the imports of rail and locomotives, by 1898 American-made rails had doubled those imported from Britain. American locomotives would also eclipse British imports. In 1897, Baldwin Locomotive Works finalized their design for what became the *Mikado* class locomotive to fill an order from Nippon Railway. That design (2-8-2 wheel configuration) became the standard work-horse locomotive of the world, with over 14,000 constructed by all companies, until the advent of the diesel locomotive. In 1905, the largest foreign order for U.S. locomotives was received by Baldwin Locomotive Works from Japan for 77 engines at a cost of one-million dollars, in addition to 25 more ordered from the Atlantic Equipment Company of New York.

The Lake Biwa Project

To seriously undertake the modernization on any undeveloped nation today you must first start with infrastructure, the main arteries of communication and transportation that bring the population its basic sustenance of water, food, material goods, and ideas. Such undertakings, by its nature, generally involve the creation of a nested series of enterprises. To build a railroad, for example, you need transportation for the materials involved, a communications network, and means to develop and sustain a skilled labor force for fabrication and construction. So, in the development of one central piece of infrastructure there are invariably numerous projects or efforts associated with it directly and peripherally.

Such were the grand designs of Ōkubo Toshimichi. Shortly after returning from his participation in the Iwakura Embassy, he established and headed the Ministry of the Interior (or Home Ministry) in 1874 to explicitly handle the task of modernizing Japan. Within the Ministry he created the Industrial Promotion Board (*kangyōryō*). In May of that year, he issued his *Memorial on Industrial Development* to "increase production and promote industry" which decreed regulations on ocean navigation and he proffered a strategy for a national transportation network. Such a network would provide for the integrated development of maritime ports, inland waterways, and overland transport (especially railroads). The objectives conveyed in his writings dealt with increasing agricultural production, industrialization and government factories, the establishment of

¹¹⁰ The first six of the H.K. Porter locomotives were named after historical warriors and figures from Japanese history: *Yoshitsune Gō*, *Benkei*, *Hirafu*, *Mitsukuni*, *Nobuhiro*, and *Shizuka*.

a merchant marine, promotion of quality exports, and the expansion of government credit for all those enterprises.

Having witnessed the British economy first-hand, Ōkubo promoted the American System of political economy over British 'Free Trade.'" He wrote that historically even the English government had promoted protectionism to develop its own industries prior to the British Empire's adoption of "Free Trade" in order to amass its own wealth and power. In his *Memorial* he wrote:

"Generally speaking, a country's strength is dependent upon the prosperity of its people. The prosperity of the people in turn depends upon their productive capacity. And although the amount of production is determined in a large measure by the diligence of the people engaged in manufacturing industries, a deeper probe of the ultimate determinant reveals no instance when a country's productive power was increased without the patronage and the encouragement of the government and its officials. ...

"Nothing is more urgent for the government at this time, than the promotion of industry and trade, the provision of the essentials for the population. By essentials, I mean the means of production. Without such productive assets at hand, everyone, high or low, scrambles for his means of subsistence, leaving no time to care for anything else. . . . Looking at the present situation, we see that . . . the people still lack the essentials for producing prosperity, and the government's encouragement of industry is inadequate. Those who are responsible for the people should ponder this carefully, then establish methods for procuring everything necessary for the maintenance of the population, from the profits of industrial products, to the conveniences of land and water transport routes . . . and make this the core of the government's policies."¹¹¹

Ōkubo was particularly keen on agricultural development including education and land reclamation. He established the Mita agricultural experimental farm in 1877 and personally contributed about 4,500 yen to aid Japanese students attending the Tokyo school run by the Americans which became the College of Agriculture of the Tokyo Imperial College. Hence, the Asaka Canal and Lake Biwa Canal projects became a key part of his national transportation concept.

That national network included an ocean harbor to be built at Nobiru on the East Coast (in the northern Honshu prefecture of Miyagi, about 300 km north of Tokyo) that would be a terminus for a railroad to the south. Another railway would be built from Tsuruga on the Sea of Japan and run south to Ōgaki (now called Gifu) where it would then go to Yokkaichi (west of Nagoya) on the Pacific Ocean. The harbor of Nobiru and Asaka Canal were designed by the hired Dutch civil engineer Cornelis Van Doorn.¹¹²

Though Ōkubo was assassinated before the project started in 1879, the Asaka Canal (located in the Fukushima Prefecture, south of Miyagi and near the town of Kōriyama) was completed in 1882. The canal was more than 80 miles in length and brought fresh water from Lake Inawashiro through many tunnels to the dry Asaka. Agriculture production was massively increased through the advent of the irrigation of

¹¹¹ Ōkubo *Toshimichi Monjo*, Volume V, p. 561.

¹¹² Unfortunately, due a fundamental flaw in its overall conceptual design the Nobiru harbor project was not completed.

3,800 hectares of existing farm land and the reclamation of 4,000 new hectares of arable land. The success of the Asaka Canal laid the basis for the construction of a much bigger project at Lake Biwa.

One of oldest lakes in the world, Lake Biwa covers an area of about 416 square miles and is the largest freshwater lake in Japan. The old capital of Kyoto is located seven miles from the city of Ōtsu which is located on the southern tip of the lake. The idea of building the canal between the two cities to transport water, passengers, and freight was promoted and organized by Kitagaki Kunimichi, the Prefectural Governor of Kyoto. The concept was integrated into Ōkubo national transportation network [see Figure 2].

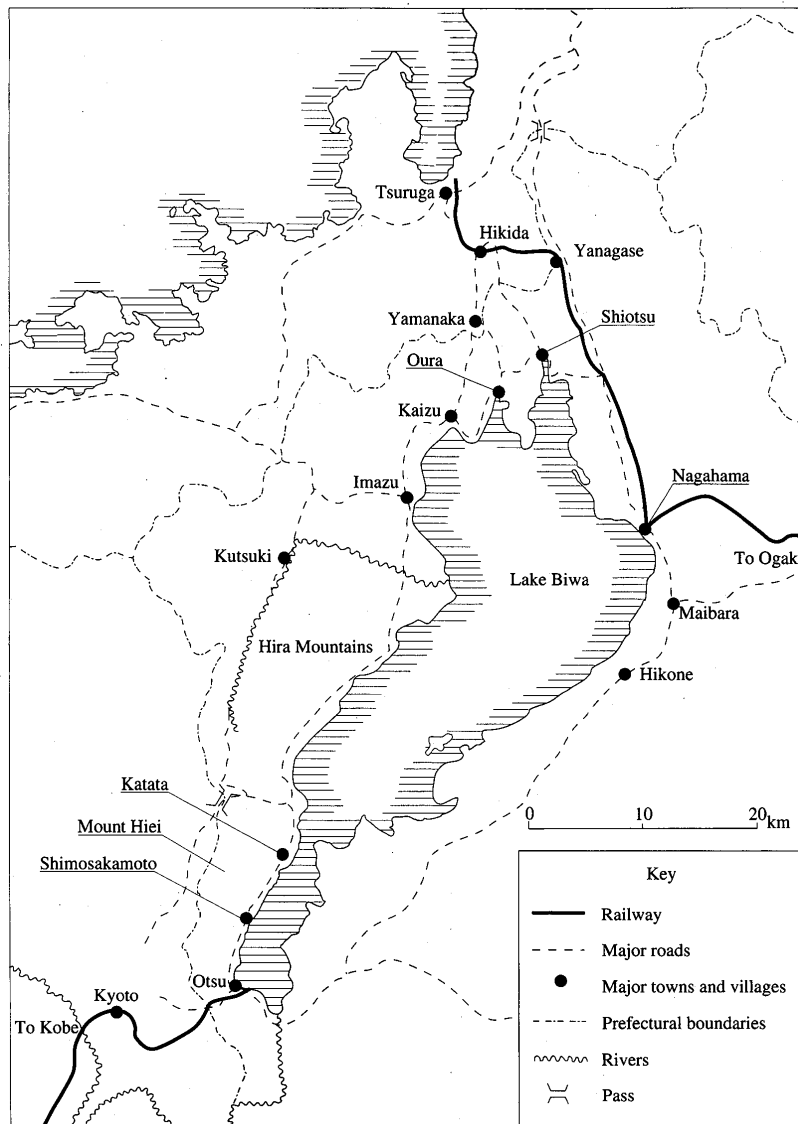


Figure 2 Transportation routes surrounding Lake Biwa in 1877.

Canals were not a new idea for Kyoto. The small Takasegawa Canal was built in the late 16th century by a local international merchant, Suminokura Ryōi (1554-1614), to transport barges by human hauling over nine miles from Nijo to the Yodo River for trade with Osaka. But, when the delegates of the Iwakura Embassy visited the 300 mile Erie Canal in upstate New York, Kume recorded that “Looking at the illustrations of barges on the Yodo River we feel ashamed.” The American technology of large canals using locks to overcome differences in elevation was something they brought back to Japan with great expectation of application.

At the age of twenty-one, Tanabe Sakurō (1861-1944), whose uncle had been a member of the Iwakura Embassy, was chosen to be the Chief Engineer of the Lake Biwa Canal project. Like many others who became leaders in the movement to modernize Japan, Tanabe had attended the new Tokyo Imperial College of Engineering (Kōbu Daigaku).¹¹³ He studied there under the head of the school, Henry Dyer, a Scotsman who had been recommended to Itō Hirobumi for the job when the Iwakura Embassy had visited Glasgow. Tanabe had written his thesis on building the Biwa Canal. Governor Kitagaki Kunimichi supported Sakurō in that effort, and eventually his daughter married the young engineer.

Construction of the seven mile canal started in 1885, included the digging of a tunnel through Aisaka Mountain, and was completed in 1890. The Biwa Canal was able to facilitate freight and passenger transport from any point along the perimeter of the lake directly to Kyoto, particularly via a ferry service that was established between Nagahama and Ōtsu. Additionally, the Biwa Aqueduct, built adjacent to the canal, provided fresh water to Kyoto and irrigation to the surrounding farmlands.

Electricity & Thomas Edison

Tanabe Sakurō had also planned to utilize the 140 foot difference in elevation between the surface water of Lake Biwa and the ground level of Kyoto to generate waterwheel power for potential textile and other manufacturing. He also was intent on investigating the possibility of using the new technology of generating electricity from waterwheels. To undertake that project, Tanabe traveled to the U.S. with Takagi Bunpei, an entrepreneur committed to the modernization of Kyoto, in 1888 to consult with top engineers about building something similar to the textile mills of Lowell and Holyoke, Massachusetts. He met with Clemens Herschel, the hydraulic engineer at the Holyoke Water Power Company who was developing his invention of the Venturi meter to measure the flow of water, and with James B. Francis, president of the American Society of Civil Engineers and inventor of the turbine which bears his name. That year the Holyoke Water Power Company had just installed its combination hydro-steam electric power plant to supply electricity to the city. However, the sharp and powerful 100 foot drop of water for the Holyoke station was too dissimilar to accommodate the gradual incline of Kyoto’s topography. Understanding the problem, the two American engineers advised Tanabe and Takagi to go to Aspen, Colorado to visit one of the first

¹¹³ All classes at the Imperial College of Engineering were taught in English. The courses included Telegraph Engineering, Civil Engineering, Naval Architecture, Mineralogy, Geology, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, and subjects dealing with the latest developments in science and technology.

functioning hydroelectric power plants in the U.S. and the world, of the type he sought. The two Japanese traveled to Aspen immediately to inspect the new power facility and were given a warm welcome by its creator, Walter B. Devereux, a mining engineer and entrepreneur. The Japanese decided to use the Aspen facility as the model for Kyoto and apply the new technology in Japan. On their way back home they stopped in San Francisco to order two 120 horsepower turbines from the Pelton Water Wheel Company, an invention of Lester A. Pelton that was developed in California's mining region and still used in many power plants today.

In 1890, the Keage Hydroelectric Power Plant (2,000 horsepower) was completed by Tanabe Sakurō and the following year Kyoto became the first city in Japan to be electrified. Japan's first electric streetcar railroad, the Kyoto Electric Railway, became operational in 1895.

The story of electricity from power generation to its numerous modern applications in Japan goes back to the landing of Commodore Perry and up through Thomas Edison's direct influence. The three Japanese giants in this field were:

Tanaka Hisashige (1799-1881): Born to the son of a tortoiseshell craftsman, Tanaka Hisashige became renowned as an inventor and master craftsman whose career spanned both the Edo period and the Meiji. At the age of fourteen he invented a machine and method of manufacturing *kasuri* (Japanese dyed fabrics) and then *karakuri* (mechanical dolls) with which he made public performances and were purchased by the nobility including the Shōgun. In 1837, Tanaka invented the *Mujin-to* lamp, using rapeseed oil and an air pressure pump to extend the duration of the light. He put the lamp into production, and then took up studying Western knowledge, including astronomy.

When Commodore Perry and his American fleet sailed into the entrance of Tokyo Bay on July 8, 1853, Japan was never the same. Tanaka Hisashige was immediately recruited by the Saga Domain to replicate the wondrous new machines that Perry had demonstrated and given to Japan's head of state. Tanaka succeeded, with the help of Dutch books and observations of Western ships at Nagasaki, in fabricating the prototypes for steam-powered warships, a steam locomotive, and an experimental telegraph. He was also involved in the construction of a reverberatory furnace in Saga to make reproductions of the English Armstrong cannon (used extensively by the British during their Second Opium War against China).

Following the Meiji Restoration, Tanaka moved to the Ginza in Tokyo. In 1875, he rented the second floor of a temple building and started to manufacture a telegraph system for the Meiji government. Modeled on the telegraph of Joseph Henry, Tanaka's telegraph proved to be the quality of any imported model. In addition to building an experimental telephone, he invented and produced the *Hoji-ki*, a timing instrument for emitting a signal over the telegraph precisely at noon each day.

When Tanaka Hisashige died in 1881, his adopted son and apprentice, Tanaka Daikichi, took over his business and founded Tanaka Engineering Works (later Shibaura Engineering Works). Tanaka Hisashige's telegraph factory was the beginning of what would eventually become today's Toshiba Corporation which manufactures an enormous array of electronic equipment from DVD players to nuclear power turbines.

Iwadare Kunihiko (1857-1941): After graduating from the Imperial College of Engineering, Iwadare worked for the Meiji government as a telegraph engineer. Anxious to go to America and to learn from the greatest inventor of the era, Thomas Alva Edison, he arranged a letter of introduction from Frazar and Company, which served as Edison's agent for distribution of the electric light and phonograph in Yokohama and Shanghai, in 1886. Primarily, because of his work in telegraph technology, Edison was already known to many Japanese. Those Japanese who attended and participated in the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia witnessed Edison demonstrate his award-winning Quadruplex Telegraph, capable of transmitting four messages simultaneously over a single telegraph wire.

Upon arriving in the U.S., Iwadare was introduced to Charles Batchelor, one of Thomas Edison's closest assistants, and was hired to work in the Testing Room of the Edison laboratory in Manhattan, New York. Iwadare was not the only Japanese to work for Edison but he stood out for his hard work and vivacious enthusiasm and became the Edison Pioneer from Japan. It was from Iwadare that Edison learned of Japanese history and culture.

After ten years of working for Edison, Iwadare Kunihiko returned to Japan hoping to accelerate Japan's modernization from the knowledge he had gained in working for the great American inventor. In 1895, Iwadare became the representative in Japan for the Electric Corporation of the United States of America.

The first telephone trial in Japan was done by the Graham Bell System in 1887 between Yokohama and Tokyo, and was soon installed in the Meiji government offices. Like the telegraph, the government oversaw the creation of the telephone infrastructure and in 1890 the technology became open to the public in and between Tokyo and Yokohama. This was followed by long distance service between Tokyo and Osaka in 1897. When Western Electric, the distributor of telephone equipment for the American Bell Telephone Company (Alexander Graham Bell and associates), decided to expand their operations into Japan for production and sales, their representative, Walter Tenney Carleton, held a series of meetings with Iwadare and a former official of Communications Ministry, Maeda Takeshiro. What resulted was the 1898 creation of the first joint Japan-U.S. business venture, the Nippon Electric Company (NEC), which eventually allowed Japan to manufacture its own telephonic equipment. By 1900, 18,136 miles of telephone wire had been erected in Japan with 45,714,241 messages transmitted, and by 1907 there were 56,176 miles of wire and 159,414,115 messages.¹¹⁴

Fujioka Ishisuke (1857-1918): Fujioka Ishisuke, the "Father of Electricity in Japan," was born in Iwakuni, southeast of Hiroshima, as the eldest son of a samurai. In 1875, he enrolled in the Imperial College of Engineering under the instruction of its Chair of Telegraphy, William Edward Ayrton. Three years later, under Ayrton's supervision, Fujioka had the honor of switching on Japan's first electric-arc lamp at the Ginza in Tokyo.

In 1884, Fujioka left for a tour of the U.S. to represent Japan at the Electrical Exhibition at Philadelphia sponsored by the Franklin Institute. He met with Thomas

¹¹⁴ *Fifty Years of New Japan* by Okuma Shigenobu; Smith, Elder, & Co., London, 1910, vol. I, p. 422.

Edison and reportedly pledged that he would personally be responsible for making Japan a nation that would be run by electric power.

Upon returning to Japan, Fukjioka was instrumental in founding the Tokyo Electric Light Company (later the Tokyo Electric Power Company), serving as chief engineer, with the objective of creating a power grid capable of running incandescent light bulbs and manufacturing facilities. Since imported light bulbs from America or Germany were expensive, Fukioka focused his energies on producing a “Made-in-Japan” light bulb and founded the Hakunetsu-sha company with his associate, Schoichi Miyoshi, from his home town. Ten years later, Fujioka created a prototype incandescent light bulb, based on Edison’s design, that burned for two hours in 1890. That evolved into the development and production of the famous dual coil filament Matsuda Lamp. Meanwhile, with the help of an American electrician named Potter and two Edison direct-current, coal-powered generators, Tokyo Electric Light began illuminating Tokyo.

Many Japanese today have been exposed to the historical figure of Thomas Alva Edison in their schooling and have a general knowledge of his importance to the progress of humanity. In Japan he is referred to as “King of the Invention.” However, the younger generations especially, don’t typically know the specific importance of Japan in assisting Edison to bring light to the world. Ironically, it is that specificity which is the generative cause of the general honor given to Edison in their nation.

The greatest challenge to Thomas Edison’s invention of the electric light bulb was the search for a proper filament. Platinum, a very expensive metal, had proven to be rather successful as a filament but, as always, Edison wanted his invention to be produced at a cost that would make it universally available for everyone. Hence, in 1880 he had his research team in Menlo Park, New Jersey concentrate their efforts on a carbon-based filament which ran the gamut of thousands of potential materials. Those carbonization experiments included the use of a sliver of bamboo cut from a ceiling fan in the laboratory that was set at a higher voltage for commercial use (40 candles). On July 21st, it was recorded that the bamboo filament displayed superiority to other materials. However, all bamboo is not equal and that finer grained bamboo was referred to as “Japanese Bamboo” which was distinct from the inferior quality of “Calcutta Bamboo.” On August 2, 1880, an experiment settled the question of what type of filament would be utilized: “Bamboo. Lamp burned 3 hrs. 24 mins. at 71 candles and have nearly 7 per h.p. – the best lamp ever yet made here from vegetable carbon.”¹¹⁵

Thomas Edison immediately engaged the services of William H. Moore of Rahway, New Jersey to conduct an expedition to China and Japan in search of the best bamboo available for his electric light bulb. Moore had experience as a trader in the Orient. In Edison’s efforts to procure the best “palm or bamboo” he expended an estimated one-hundred-thousand dollars sending expeditions to also explore the Amazon River basin, India, Indo-China, and Ceylon. After all the thousands of samples were received and examined, Edison wrote to the first man he had hired for the project, William H. Moore: “Your trip to China and Japan on my account to hunt for bamboo or

¹¹⁵ From the original laboratory notes; *Edison’s Electric Light, Biography of an Invention* by Robert Friedel and Paul Israel, Rutgers University Press; New Brunswick, New Jersey; 1986, p. 175.

other fiber, was highly satisfactory . . . you found exactly what I required.” That bamboo grew in Japan.

Upon Moore’s arrival in Japan in 1880, he met with Prime Minister Itō Hirobumi and Yamagata Aritomo, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, who informed him that the best bamboo in Japan grows in the old capital of Kyoto. There on Otokoyama Mountain, near the Iwashimizu Hachiman-gu Shrine in Yawata, Kyoto (now Yawata City in the Kyoto Prefecture), Moore found the object of his search – Madake Bamboo.¹¹⁶ Once the samples he had sent to Edison and were confirmed as the product to be used in the electric light bulb, Moore followed Edison’s precise instructions for harvesting and cutting, and shipping the bamboo. A nearby plantation owner, who provided bamboo to the Tokyo furniture business, was hired for the purpose and delivered several wagon loads of Madake bamboo a year which was enough bamboo to built millions of Edison’s light bulbs.

Kyoto bamboo was used by Edison for ten years, until it was replaced by Joseph Swan’s “squirted” cellulose technology. But that was hardly the end of Thomas Edison’s relationship to Japan. He even sent a central lighting system to the Emperor to light the Imperial Palace. In addition to other important technologies of the inventor such as electric power plants, Edison met and communicated with a variety of Japanese on subjects ranging from science to world politics. In 1909, Shibusawa Ichi headed a Japanese Commercial Commission which came to the United States and met with Thomas Edison in New Jersey. Other prominent Japanese who also met or associated with Edison include Kentaro Kanekō, Yukio Ozaki, Kokichi Mikimoto, Hajime Hoshi and Hideyo Noguchi.

The citizens of Kyoto and all of Japan have never forgotten the immortal Thomas Alva Edison and the historic role of Japan in creating the world’s first mass-produced electric light. To commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the incandescent light bulb Japan participated in the world-wide Golden Glow Electric Light Festival (a reference to the “golden glow” that the 3,000 attendees at Edison’s Menlo Park facility experienced on New Years Eve when he illuminated the grounds and laboratory with his new invention) by dedicating a memorial to Edison at Yawata.

The following year, 1931, Thomas Edison died. A memorial service was held at Hibiya Public Hall in Tokyo organized by the Japan Communications Association, the Japan Electric Association, and the Japan Telephone Association. It was at that meeting that a decision was made to construct a monument to Edison on top of Otokoyama Mountain (erected in 1934 and moved fifty years later to its present location).

¹¹⁶ Bamboo is a member of the grass family and can grow more than two-feet per day. Of the more than 1,000 species of bamboo in the world, Madake (*Phyllostachys bambusoides*; MA meaning “real” or “general”, and DAKE or TAKE means “bamboo”) proved to be the best for Edison’s purpose. It also helps substantiate of story about Edison who, while on a fishing trip, knocked a bamboo fishing rod into the camp fire. He noticed that the bamboo took a significantly longer time to be consumed by the fire than ordinary fire wood i.e. it possessed a quality of durability during carbonization. Today, Madake bamboo is still sought after by those manufacturing fishing poles. The most thorough account of Edison’s use of bamboo for the electric light can be found in *Thomas A. Edison and Japanese Bamboo* by Tatemoto Saburo, a pamphlet published by the Otokoyama Edison Historical Club in 1989.

Following the end of World War II, another monument was built at the Yawata railway station called “Declaration Against Nuclear Weapons,” composed of an enormous electric light bulb and cut bamboo with a bust of Thomas Edison nearby.

Ironically, the birthday of Thomas Edison is February 11th and falls on the same day as the date credited for the creation of Japan (the country of the ‘Rising Sun’) by the first emperor Jinmu in 660 A.D. Today, on every February 11th, at 10 a.m. in the morning there is a ceremony at the Iwashimizu Hachiman-gu Shrine to celebrate the birth of the Japanese nation. Then, at noon, there is a celebration of the birth of Thomas Alva Edison whose image hangs inside the shrine.

Shipping

As Japan made gigantic strides in the development of its internal agro-industrial enterprises and infrastructure, it also had to address the critical need for international trade and communication. As a nation state composed of islands, its former pre-Meiji policy of isolation had to be radically reversed. The dramatic efforts to solve that problem reflect the internal strife over the opposing alliances and ideas of the British Empire and the American System of political economy in Japan. The establishment of the Mitsubishi company by Iwasaki Yatarō epitomizes that conflict.

Iwasaki Yatarō (1835-1885) was born the son of a peasant in the Tosa daimyo and educated in the Chinese classics by relatives and local lower samurai. In 1866, he began working at the Nagasaki Agency office of the Tosa, primarily to handle the voluminous increase in arms purchases as the entire nation prepared for the Meiji Restoration. He effectively became the chief quartermaster and trouble-shooter for Tosa at Nagasaki, which included his borrowing 300,000 *ryō* gold pieces from an American trader in exchange for monopoly rights on Tosa’s naphtha. In 1871, when the daimyo bureaucracies were dissolved, Iwasaki took charge of Tosa’s businesses and privileges, including those for tea, lumber, silk, naphtha, mining, coal, and its small fleet of eleven ships (six were steam powered). With the success of those enterprises, in 1873 he founded the Mitsubishi Shōkai (Mitsubishi Trading Firm) with a focus on shipping.

Mitsubishi’s major competitor was the Steamship Mail Company (Yūbin Jōkisen Kaisha) dominated by the old aristocratic Mitsui clan (the Mitsui was the wealthiest and most prominent family at the end of the Edo period and switched sides after the success of the Meiji Restoration) who developed extremely close ties to the British. With their influence they were able to purchase fifteen steamships from the Meiji government with credit and subsidies. When Ōkuma Shigenobu replaced Mitubi ally, Inoue Kaoru, as the Minister of Finance he chose Mitsubishi Shōkai over the Mitsui interests to facilitate the nation’s shipping needs.

The 1874 Formosa Incident forced the government to buy thirteen ships (at a cost of over \$1.5 million) to transport 3,600 Japanese troops to Formosa (Taiwan). The contract to transport government troops and supplies with those government ships was given to Iwasaki’s Mitsubishi Shōkai. As the Steamship Mail Company then faced bankruptcy, Ōkuma had the government purchase the company’s eighteen ships and resell them to Iwasaki utilizing a long-term low-interest rate government loan. In

addition, the thirteen ships used in the Formosa expedition were given to Mitsubishi. When the British instigated the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877, it was Mitsubishi alone that could provide the necessary transportation to preserve the nation. By the end of that year, Mitsubishi operated 80% of all ships in Japan.

Now that Mitsubishi controlled Japan's coastal shipping, Ōkuma continued to implement the objectives set by Ōkubo. Mitsubishi Shōkai established Japan's first international shipping route from Yokohama to Shanghai, China in 1874. With government assistance, Iwasaki was able to buy out its main competitor, the American Pacific Mail Steamship Company which including their ships, wharves and warehouses. The stage was then set to take on the British owned Peninsular and Oriental Navigation Company (P&O) which had deployed extra ships in an attempt to dominate the Hong Kong-Shanghai-Yokohama route. With the concerted efforts of the government, Mitsubishi forced the P&O Line to withdraw from that route in less than one year.

Mitsubishi then opened new routes to Hokkaidō, Vladivostok, and Korea. Iwasaki was so optimistic that he told his employees that one day Mitsubishi ships would "encircle the world." To fulfill that objective Ōkubo initiated actions to establish a merchant marine and had a government decree issued in 1875 directing Mitsubishi to create a school for training sailors. That nautical college, the Yūsen Kisen Mitsubishi Kaisha Shōsen Gakkō, was founded in January 1876 and began graduating its students one year later.

Unhappy with these developments, the British press and their Japanese allies orchestrated a vile "corruption campaign" that targeted Iwasaki and included staged rallies to "Eliminate the Sea Monster." Mitsui created the Cooperative Transport Company (Kyōdo Unyu Kaisha) with an enormous capitalization of six million yen. With Ōkuma having left the Ministry of Finance and Mitsui's faction back in power, Mitsui received government support and hoped to take over Mitsubishi. In 1885, a meager was made between the two opposing forces that established the Nippon Yūsen Kaisha (the Japanese Mail Steamship Company or NYK). Two days after the merger, Iwasaki Yatarō died of stomach cancer. More than 50,000 people attended his funeral.

Iwasaki Yanosuke, his younger brother, became president of Mitsubishi and began investing in land-based industries, such as, coal and copper mining. Mitsubishi also procured the Nagasaki Shipbuilding Yard from the government in 1887, resulting in the design and construction of Japan's first steel steamship, the Yugao-maru. Of course, Mitsubishi went on to become one of Japan's largest and successful corporations.

Asserting its original American System approach to solving economic problems, in 1977 the Mitsubishi Research Institute proposed a Global Infrastructure Fund to finance large infrastructure projects in key areas in the developing sector, to revive industrial investment. This was done to counter the idiotic and malicious efforts of the British and allied Wall Street financial interests to force the world into accepting their insane Malthusian dogma of a "post industrial" society, in the wake of their 1971 success in ending President Franklin Roosevelt's *Bretton Woods System* for global development. The decoupling of the U.S. dollar from gold initiated unregulated currency speculation and opened the Pandora's Box of *Free Trade* looting and mass murder by those financial interests.

On Free Trade *by Nishimura Shigeki*

Nishimura Shigeki, a Confucian scholar and educator, was a founding member of the Meirokusha (Meiji Six Society). This excerpt is from an article which appeared in that society's journal, the Meiroku Zasshi, on February 1, 1875.

“In this discussion of free trade, I would like to consider its injuries. If you should ask what country is injured by free trade, I would respond that it is our Japanese Empire that is being injured. ...

“Advocates of free trade generally seem to have come to think that our country should adopt this policy after they have seen the prosperity of England, where free trade is practiced. Should you compare the trading position of our country with that of England, however, there is not the slightest similarity. England herself readily opened up trade, but our country opened trade under irresistible pressure from the Americans. Whereas the English people are good at figures and technically skilled, England has no uncultivated land, as she has labored to develop her soil; and she has no waste manpower as her people are industrious. There is much untapped wealth in the undeveloped soil of our country, and there is much wasted manpower among our idle people. When England opened up free trade, she alone was accomplished in trade and industry while other countries were all unskilled. But when our country opened up free trade, we alone were unskilled in trade and industry while others were all skilled. When one considers these factors comparatively, it should be self-evident that our country should not carry on free trade. ...

“The Americans are resolutely carrying out a protective tariff policy, saying that they levy heavy duties on foreign imports in order to stimulate their national industry. If we now compare the trade positions of our country and America, the two are identical in that they opened up trade later than other countries. They are also alike in not having developed the resources of their soils. Even though our people are far behind the Americans in figures, the Americans also resemble us in being far below the Europeans in industry. Their only point of difference is that they voluntarily opened trade while we were forced to do so. I beg the gentlemen of perception to consider whether our commercial principles should emulate those of England, which differs from our country on four counts, of those of America, which differs from our country on one out of four counts. ...

“We have already intimately tasted the injuries of free trade during the more than ten years since the opening of trade. As with the introduction of a strange, unnamed fruit from foreign lands, there could be none who knew the taste or the nature when it was first introduced. Even though we have suffered from extreme poisoning, having already eaten the fruit for years, some still stubbornly ignore the facts and state that the food is not injurious. I cannot understand the minds of such people. ... Now can we regard as a good doctor the physician who, having seen the disequilibrium in the body, administers no medicine at all and advises the patient to await a natural recovery? How can the doctor make amends to the patient if the sick man should finally die after his body has become progressively weakened without recovering equilibrium? How can those responsible for protection of the country not employ medicine for correcting the abnormality?

“I earnestly beg that, having now an opportunity to correct the trade policies, we adopt protective tariffs in emulation of the American methods, on the one hand to prevent reckless export of hard currency and on the other to stimulate industrial progress.”

Japan Celebrates America's Independence from Britain

In 1876, the United States held a Centennial Exhibition to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776 that had proclaimed the “inalienable rights” of all Mankind from the inhuman tyranny of the British Empire. While a total of 37 nations were officially represented at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia (in addition to the 19 colonies of the British Empire) to display their cultural, and agro-industrial accomplishments, it was organized by Henry Carey and his associates to demonstrate, as a scientific proof of principle, the triumphal success of the founding principles of the world's first republic. Most notably that meant the superior achievements of the American System of political economy. Materially, that was epitomized by America's construction of the world's greatest steam engine – the Corliss Engine – which powered all the industrial mechanisms in Machinery Hall.

Tucked away in a far corner of the west wing of the Main Building, behind Tunis, was the small but important exhibit of the Kingdom of Hawaii. Among the Hawaiian displays of sugars, coffee and other products was a book brought by Rev. Samuel Damon – the Japanese translation by Nakahama Manjiro of Nathaniel Bowditch's *New American Practical Navigator* – which was a staple among captains and navigators of U.S. ships.

Appropriately, the Japanese pavilion was only a few feet from the viewing of Manjiro's translation. The Japanese organizing for the Centennial Exhibition began in 1874 with the allocation of \$600,000 and a commission of twenty-five people, the most sent by any nation, and was headed by Ōkubo Toshimichi. Samples of crafts were gathered from across Japan, along with the timber to construct two traditional Japanese buildings. Seven thousand packages were sent to Philadelphia along with the carpenters and workmen to reassemble the buildings on the Exhibition grounds.

The Japanese displays of pottery bronzes, porcelain, lacquer wares, furniture, silks, carvings, toys, and other items were extremely impressive and won them 142 awards. As mentioned before, there was also a section devoted to education, displaying scientific instruments and educational implements, such as text products (in various languages) and a classroom desk being used by teachers in the new Meiji schools.

The close relationship between the U.S and Japan, at that time, was also on public display during the July 4th Centennial celebrations when Philadelphia hosted 250,000 visitors. The reviewing stand erected in front of Independence Hall to review the marching troops, included the Civil War hero and then Commanding General of the U.S. Army, General William T. Sherman, and Lieutenant-General Saigo Tsugumichi (the brother of Saigo Takamori) of the Imperial Army of Japan and vice-president of the Japanese commission to the Exhibition.

The Japanese attendees, like the other nine million people who visited the Centennial Exposition, left with a clear understanding that the U.S. had eclipsed the British Empire as the world's leading agro-industrial power. This was something that even the British were forced to acknowledge. The official British Report on the 1876 Centennial Exhibition was authored by engineer John Anderson, and stated the simple truth:

“If we are to be judged by the comparison with Americans in 1876, as doubtless we shall be in the minds of other nations and in their official reports, it is more than probably that the effect will be to confirm . . . that we are losing our former leadership and it is passing to the Americans.”

The Times of London was more to the point when it wrote that, regardless of the U.S. having the home ground advantage, “the products of the industry of the United States surpassed our own oftener than can be explained by this circumstance – they revealed the application of more brains than we have at our command.” And went on to say that “The American invents as the Greek sculptured and the Italian painted: it is genius.” This was evidenced by the fact that, in the wake of the Centennial Exhibition, the common foreign reference of identifying Americans as “frontier primitives” was replaced by the idea that “every American is an engineer.”¹¹⁷

The Philadelphia Exhibition had such a positive impact on the Japanese delegation and government, that Japan sponsored its own National Industrial Exhibition in Tokyo the following year, though it was temporarily postponed due to the Satsuma Rebellion.

Fukuzawa Yukichi: Founder of Modern Japan

As vitally important as the material acquisitions of modern technology were for developing the nation of Japan, there was one man who stood above all others – Fukuzawa Yukichi – in understanding that there was something more precious and far more necessary for the success of his country. It could not be quantified or deduced from the senses and yet was more powerful than any Western battleship or locomotive engine.

Following the overthrow of the Tokugawa regime, when there was much discussion amongst the intellectual leadership of the Meiji Restoration about establishing colleges of higher learning, Fukuzawa completely disagreed. Ironically, Fukuzawa had established his Keiō-gijuku (private school of Western learning) three years before the Meiji came to power, but he demanded that in order to end the feudal system the first thing that every Japanese had to be taught and know was the “idea of freedom.” For Fukuzawa, “freedom and independence refer not only to the private self, but to the nation as well” and the two are inexorably linked.¹¹⁸ He goes on to say that:

“Each individual man and each individual country, according to the principles of natural reason, is free from bondage. Consequently, if there is some threat that might infringe upon a country’s freedom, then that country should not hesitate even to take up arms against all the countries of the world.”¹¹⁹

¹¹⁷ The *London Times* statement is quoted by General Hawley in his *Report of the President to the Commission* at the final meeting of the Centennial Commission, January 15, 1879.

¹¹⁸ Fukuzawa, *An Encouragement of Learning*, translated by D.A. Dilworth and U. Hirano, Sophia University, Tokyo, 1969, p. 3.

¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 3.

In his sojourns to the U.S. he had witnessed the Americans practicing, with all their imperfections (which he noted, especially their primacy on the “pursuit of profit”), the principles from the Declaration of Independence that, “We hold these truths to be self-evident: all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” Fukuzawa wrote:

“Heaven never created a man above another nor a man below another,’ it is said. Therefore, when men are born, Heaven’s idea is that all men should be equal to all other men without distinction of high or low or noble and mean, but that they should all work with body and mind, with dignity worthy of the lords of creation, which they are, in order to take all things in the world for the fulfillment of their needs in clothing, food, and dwelling, freely but without obstructing others, so that each can live happily through life.”¹²⁰

In those founding principles that enabled the Americans to defeat the vastly superior military power of the British Empire, Fukuzawa saw the hope for Japan and humanity:

“They finally rebelled against British rule; after eight years of bitter fighting, they managed to eke out a close victory over the British and then to lay the first foundation of a great independent nation. This country is the present United States of America.

“Now, the reason for her gaining independence was not that her people had selfish desires or temporary ambitions; it had its basis in the natural principle of impartial justice. Defending the rights of man, these people simply tried to exercise their God-given rights fully. Their ideals can be read in the Declaration of Independence they composed at that time. Was there even the slightest thought of selfishness when those 101 founding fathers stepped forth on Plymouth Rock amidst the wind and snow on 22 December 1620? Indeed, they had nothing in their hearts but reverence for God and love of man.”¹²¹

Like the Founding Fathers of the American republic, Fukuzawa’s idea of *freedom* was not that of some British liberal variation of a Lockean, “social contract”-style philosophy so common today (i.e. freedom = no one telling you what to do). Rather, it was situated in Leibniz’s concept of the “pursuit of happiness” being the freedom to develop the creative potential of the human mind, distinct from the oligarchical view of man as a beast, which Fukuzawa propounded:

“In both China and Japan there evolved an absolute autocracy or theocracy in which the exalted pedigree of the ruler was Heaven-bestowed and both the most sacrosanct and most powerful were united in one person. It controlled social intercourse and, penetrating deep into men’s minds, determined the direction their thoughts were to take. Since the minds of those who lived under such a

¹²⁰ Ibid., p. 1. These are the opening lines of the work.

¹²¹ Fukuzawa Yukichi, *An Outline of a Theory of Civilization*, Sophia University, Tokyo, 1973, p. 42. The “founding fathers” referenced here were the Pilgrims that had fled England to the New World, landing in what today is the State of Massachusetts.

rule were always faced in one direction and they had no freedom to think for themselves, their creative ideas were practically nil. When ever this system of social intercourse was upset by even a minor upheaval, whether a just one or not, the result each time was that a breath of freedom entered men's minds."¹²²

In his masterful 1875 work, *An Outline of a Theory of Civilization (Bummeiron-no Gairyaku)*, Fukuzawa's opening statement is "A theory of civilization concerns the development of the human mind." This was the revolutionary concept that Fukuzawa believed was necessary to transform Japan and, through his many facets of activity, he devoted his entire life to achieving that goal. His mission was in large part due to his father, Fukuzawa Hyakusuke.

Born in 1835 to a poor low-ranking samurai family of the Okudaira clan of the coastal town of Nakatsu, located in the Ōita prefecture of the southern island of Kyūshū, Fukuzawa Yukichi was the youngest of five children. His father, who died when Yukichi was only eighteen months old, was in charge of his lord's treasury in Osaka where Yukichi and all his siblings were born. Though his father's circumstances didn't allow it, he always wanted to become a scholar of Chinese philosophy and considered himself a Confucian in the tradition of the Japanese philosopher Itō Tōgai (1670-1736). Itō Tōgai and his father Itō Jinsai (1627-1705) played a significant role in the development of the philosophical underpinnings of many of those who led and supported the Meiji Restoration.

In opposition to the official "neo-Confucianism" of the Tokugawa regime, which promoted an ideal of submission to authorities and a theory of the four classes of society, Itō Jinsai founded the Kogaku School (Study of Antiquity) in Kyoto which focused on the Chinese classics and Mencius' assessment of Confucius that placed rational thought and morality of the common people above that of the arbitrary laws of rulers. His most famous work was *Gomōjigi*, a 1683 commentary on Mencius and Confucius. It was his son Itō Tōgai, with whom he founded the Kogidō Academy (Study of Ancient Meaning), and who made his writings accessible in Japanese for those unfamiliar with traditional Chinese characters. Under Itō Tōgai, who also wrote, the Kogidō Academy flourished during the 18th century and had a significant influence among Japanese thinkers.

The intellectual desires of Fukuzawa Hyakusuke were adopted by his youngest son who reported in his *Autobiography* that:

"He had determined to put his son [Yukichi] in a monastery so that he might have some wider field of thought and life which had been denied to himself. When I think of this, I realize his inward suffering and his unfathomable love, and I am often moved to tears. To me, indeed, the feudal system is my father's mortal enemy which I am honor-bound to destroy."¹²³

Fukuzawa Yukichi was not a samurai warrior and he never became a minister in the Meiji government although he had been asked. Though he did make some income from his publications, he was not a man of wealth and temporal power. Yet, his portrait is proudly displayed on the Japanese 10,000 yen banknote. With the exception of being

¹²² Fukuzawa Yukichi, *An Outline of a Theory of Civilization*, p. 20.

¹²³ *The Autobiography of Yukichi Fukuzawa*, p. 6.

a member of the Tokyo Prefectural Assembly from which he resigned in 1879 (serving less than a year), he held no other political office and did not participate in partisan politics. Yet, this man, clothed in traditional Japanese attire, changed the history of Japan. When contemplating any potentially controversial decision, the Japanese government had to factor in the expected response from Fukuzawa. The power that Fukuzawa wielded, which by accounts of some contemporary observers influenced two-thirds of the Japanese youth, was the *power of ideas*.

On orders from his clan, Fukuzawa opened a school in Tokyo in 1858 to instruct youth from that clan in Dutch studies. It was switched to English studies five years later and began using textbooks which he had obtained during his second trip to the U.S.

In 1866, Fukuzawa published *Seiyō Jijō (Things Western)*. This and his subsequent works on the West (from politics and culture to travel and food), including numerous translations, made him renowned in Japan as the expert on the subject. The following year, on the eve of the Restoration, in addition to his writings on the West he published a translation titled *Rifle Instruction Book (Raijū Sōhō)*. At that time he also purchased property to start his own school – the Keiō-gijuku – “The only school in the whole country where any real teaching was being done was Keiō-gijuku.”¹²⁴ When the military forces of the Shōgun made their final stand at the Battle of Uneo, only five miles from the school, Fukuzawa continued to lecture his students. In recalling the incident, he stated in a later lecture:

“As I see it, our own Keiō-gijuku stands for Western studies in Japan as much as Dejima [in Nagasaki] did for Dutch nationalism. Whatever happens in the country, whatever warfare harasses our land, we have never relinquished our hold on Western learning. As long as this school of ours stands, Japan remains a civilized nation of the world.”¹²⁵

With the success of the Meiji Restoration, Fukuzawa renounced his samurai status to become a commoner and published his *Pronouncement at the Establishment of Keiō-gijuku (Keiō-gijuku-no Ki)*. The school was capable of boarding 100 students, which was extraordinary for that period, and moved to its permanent location in 1871 at Mita in central Tokyo. Meanwhile, Fukuzawa had created his own publishing company and in 1872 produced his *Encouragement of Learning* (the first of seventeen essays) which sold 200,000 copies in its first edition. He wrote textbooks for young children and, in addition to founding a School on Medicine at Keiō, he also built an Elementary School. Today, Keiō University is still operating as one of the premier private schools in Japan.

As his work in educating the general public and his students progressed through the publications, Fukuzawa began the process of breaking the old cultural matrix in Japan which did not provide for public speaking. At first he began by inviting students to his home to engage in public speaking and debates, and then he constructed a meeting hall on campus for that purpose. At that time, he also worked with Mori Arinori to establish the Meiji Six Society (*Meirokeisha*) which also promoted public speaking as a means of organizing the population.

¹²⁴ Ibid., pp. 210-211.

¹²⁵ Ibid., p. 211.

The effort to establish a society of Japan's leading intellectuals, who became the Meiji Six Society in 1874, was spearheaded by Mori and included nine other charter members: Nishimura Shigeki, Nishi Amane, Tsuda Mamichi, Katō Hiroyuki, Nakamura Masanao, Sugi Kōji, Mitsukuri Shūhei, Mitsukuri Rinshō, and Fukuzawa Yukichi. With the exception of Mori, all the other members had attained their knowledge of the West by working, in one way or another, for the Tokugawa Bakufu. Seven had been members of the Institute for Barbarian Letters (Bansho Shirabesho), established by the Bakufu in 1856 for the purpose of Western studies. Most were from lower samurai families and many became engaged in Meiji government affairs in various degrees.

The Meiji Six Society immediately began publishing its journal, the *Meiroku Zasshi* which was issued several times a month (the peak was five times per month) with a circulation of 3,000 each issue. It addressed and debated the broader leading issues of day which included economics, religion, the role of women, government policies, and history, as well as the deeper philosophic ideas of such ideas as freedom, truth and virtue. Its inaugural issue, in early 1874, included a provocative and challenging essay on the role of scholars by the society's most famous member, Fukuzawa. This was at the same time when Fukuzawa was writing his *An Outline of a Theory of History* in which he points out that the current generation of Japanese scholars is historically unique and critically important:

“Contemporary Japanese culture is undergoing a transformation in essence, like the transformation of fire into water, like the transition from non-being to being. The suddenness of the change defies description in terms of either reformation or creation. Even to discuss it is extremely difficult.

“I trust that we present-day scholars will measure up to this challenge. But let me point out that in addition we have an opportunity for greatness thrust upon us. Since the opening of the ports Japanese scholars have been assiduous in mastering Western Learning. Though the results have been sketchy and limited so far, we have been able to get some idea of Western civilization. Yet just twenty years ago we scholars were steeped in a purely Japanese civilization; there is little danger of our falling into vague inferences when discussing the past. We also have the advantage of being able directly to contrast our own personal pre-Meiji experience with Western civilization. Here we have an advantage over our Western counterparts, who, locked within an already matured civilization, have to make conjectures about conditions in other countries, while we can attest to the changes of history through the more reliable witness of personal experience. This actual experience of pre-Meiji Japan is the accidental windfall we scholars of the present day enjoy. Since this kind of living memory of our generation will never be repeated again, we have an especially important opportunity to make our mark. Consider how all of today's scholars of Western Learning were, but a few years back, scholars of Chinese Learning, or of Shinto or Buddhism. We were all either from feudal samurai families or were feudal subjects. We have lived two lives, as it were; we unite in ourselves two completely different patterns of experience. . . . For my whole purpose has been to take advantage of the present historically unique opportunity to bequeath my personal impressions to later generations.”¹²⁶

¹²⁶ Fukuzawa Yukichi, *An Outline of a Theory of Civilization*, pp. 2-3.

Fukuzawa was also writing for his own journal, the *Minkan Zasshi* (*People's Journal*), which was started at the same time as the *Meiroku Zasshi*. The circulation of Fukuzawa's ideas escalated further when the first issue of his own newspaper, *Jiji Shimpō* (*The Times*) appeared on March 1, 1882. He had made the decision to start the newspaper, after he had been approached by government ministers Ōkuma, Itō, and Inoue a year earlier to do so. The government had made a secret decision to establish a nationally elected government assembly, the Diet, and wanted Fukuzawa to promote it publicly. Though Fukuzawa supported the idea, the project didn't materialize, so he started *Jiji Shimpō* on his own as a "nonpartisan" publication. It became a successful daily paper.

Fukuzawa Yukichi's entire adult life was committed to developing a modern and independent Japanese nation, and he knew who the enemy was:

"I must take advantage of the moment to bring in more of Western civilization and revolutionize our people's ideas from the roots. Then perhaps it would not be impossible to form a great nation in this far Orient, which would stand *counter to Great Britain* of the West, and take an active part in the progress of the whole world. So I was led on to form my second and greater ambition. . . . I should like to encourage a religion – Buddhism or Christianity – to give peaceful influence on a large foundation created for the study of higher sciences in both physical and metaphysical fields."¹²⁷

[Note: More will be discussed about Fukuzawa in the concluding portion of this paper regarding his relationship to the Sino-Japanese War and in the final section on 'Solving the Problem.']

Special thanks to Kasai Motoki for his critical collaboration on the subject matter presented here, as well as, his assistance in research, translating, and editing. Saito Asuka also collaborated, in particular, by locating and translating the original prefaces to the two Japanese editions of works by Henry Carey and Friedrich List. Also, Anton Chaitkin's work on Dan Beach Bradley and Thailand was a valuable resource.

¹²⁷ *The Autobiography of Yukichi Fukuzawa*, p. 334. Emphasis added.

Appendix

A. Bismarck and the Japanese Constitution

As much as many leading Japanese figures admired the American system of government, they were faced with the inexorable situation of having an Emperor, albeit a progressive and benevolent Emperor. Even those who desired some-type of republican form of government understood that first the general Japanese population had to be broken from the mental shackles of feudalism. Eventually, the consensus of the leadership settled on the Prussian/German form of rule which allowed for a parliament and an Emperor.

On March 16, 1873, the Japanese delegation had a dinner meeting with Chancellor Otto von Bismarck. His blunt honesty regarding the prospects of nations aspiring to independence amid a brutal sea of British imperialism, including their puppet Napoleon III, would have an enduring affect on his guests and the future of their nation. Bismarck told this guests:

“Nations these days all appear to conduct relations with amity and courtesy, but this is entirely superficial, for behind this façade lurks a struggle for supremacy and mutual contempt. As all you gentlemen know, when I was a young boy Prussia was weak and poor. To describe the state of affairs in this small nation in those times always fills me with such indignation that I cannot dispel the image from my mind. From the very beginning, the so-called international law, which was supposed to protect the rights of all nations, afforded us no security at all. In cases involving a dispute, a great power would invoke international law and stand its ground if it stood to benefit, but if it stood to lose it would simply change tack and use military force, so that it never limited itself to defense alone. Small nations like ours, however, would assiduously abide by the letter of the law and universal principles, not daring to transgress them so that, faced with ridicule and contempt from the greater powers, we invariably failed to protect our right to autonomy, no matter how hard we tried. ...

“We hear of the distress caused to nations by the way in which Britain and France covert overseas colonies, exploiting their resources and wielding power as they please. So the day has not yet come when we can place our trust in amicable relations in Europe. You gentlemen as well must not drop your guard of vigilance and apprehension, for having been born in a small nation myself and knowing the state of affairs here intimately, this is the point I appreciate most deeply. It is also precisely why I am determined not to let public debate divert me from my quest to win full sovereign rights for our nation. So while Japan may now have amicable diplomatic relations with a number of countries, its friendship with Germany should be the most intimate of all because of the true respect in which we hold the right of self-government.”¹²⁸

¹²⁸ *The Iwakura Embassy 1871-73, A True Account of the Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary's Journey of Observation Through the United States and Europe*, Compiled by Kume Kunitake, Translated by Martin Collcutt; The Japan Documents; Chiba, Japan, 2002; Volume III, Continental Europe, I; pp. 323-324.

Preface to Japanese edition of List's *The National System for Economy*

The Preface was written by Tomita Tetsunosuke for the 1889 Japanese edition of the book by the German promoter of the American System of political economy Friedrich List. This translation was done by Saito Asuka and Kasai Motoki.

The foundation of the nation state is agriculture, industry, and commerce. It is a universal truth that if these principles are valued then the nation prospers, and if neglected it declines.

Therefore, economists are responsible for developing these principles. Also, those economic scholars must know the current history of the causes behind the nation's economic condition. Those who study economics ought to investigate the economic conditions of the nation from which the author originates. And, in order to capture the logic behind their theories it would not be difficult, thereby, to discover the true intention of the authors.

The British Empire is the most prosperous country with its Free Trade policy, and yet Germany and the U.S. are developing rapidly with Protectionism – in fact, they will soon be as prosperous as the British.

Yet, none of these countries had their policies from the beginning. Upon facing the disastrous economic conditions of the German nation, Friedrich List dedicated himself to reform the national policy and develop the nation's industries. Towards that purpose he began studying political economics and acting on those ideas. As a consequence, List was imprisoned and forced into exile. However, he never forgot his fatherland and when he returned wrote a book in 1841 entitled *The National System of Economy*. This book deals with the theory of political economy based on the rise and fall of the European nations and argues that without industrial development there won't be agricultural development. To defend his nation List promotes industrialization rather than blindly following the doctrines of Free Trade.

Germany was fortunate enough to have the great ruler [Otto von Bismarck] and powerful citizens typified by Mr. List, and such is the reason behind the prosperity of Germany.

I wanted to introduce Mr. List's ideas into Japan, because it will give the necessary direction to the Japanese economy. Since I have been so busy, I was happy to hear that my friend Mr. Ōshima finished the translation.

[The Chinese characters used for Friedrich Lists name are 李士德]

Outline for the Concluding Portion of this Report

The basic research has been done and needs to be written. One specific area of research that is still being ongoing is to obtain a more in-depth understanding of the Japanese networks involved with Sun Yat-sen which will be undertaken the next time Asuka or Motoki are back to Japan.

5. PERFIDIOUS ALBION IN JAPAN

- A. British System overview
 - a. India, China and the Opium Wars
 - b. Brit System = Slavery
- B. U.S. Civil War
 - a. British role in creating and helping Confederacy (destroy U.S.A.); this was a global strategic conflict (including assassination of Lincoln)
 - b. Brits take advantage of US not being able to deploy on the Asian flank
- C. Sir Harry Parkes, Satow, et al (beginning 1865)
 - a. Parkes prior role in China
 - b. Sabotage of US influence
 - i. Brits create "Japanology" to profile population which escalates during the period which the government freezes them out, the 1870s, when US policy is dominate
 - ii. Brits promote fractionalization in Japan; Satsuma Rebellion
- D. Beginning of the Sino-Japanese War 1894-1945
- E. Brits Sabotage the first Eurasian Landbridge
 - a. Whistler, Count Witte & the Russian Trans-Siberian Railroad
 - b. Sir Leon Britten's response to Helga in China over LaRouche proposal for a modern Eurasian Landbridge project
 - i. British geopolitics
 - ii. Control the naval chokepoints (Suez, Gibraltar, Singapore, etc.) and control the oceans with Royal Navy (Dreadnaught/battleship program began in 1905)
 - c. U.S. operations in Asia versus the British Empire
 - i. Henry Carey and his network (national & international)
 - ii. China and Brookings railroad project
 - iii. Russian and Baldwin locomotives, etc.
 - iv. Grant in Japan
 - Edward House (ran *Tokio Times*) [NB: copies of that newspaper have been found and are a wealth of information]; House worked with Grant in US via Jap/US Friendship Society on new treaty
 - Grant's cultural influence in Japan (Noh plays)
 - Grant's advise on foreign loans, etc.

- v. Sun Yat-sen's rail program for China
- F. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance
 - a. Reference quote again from Vice-Admiral Yoji Koda regarding Russo-Japanese War
 - b. 1902 Alliance creates spheres of influence for Japan (Korea) and Britain (China); setup for Japan to fight Russia
 - c. Russo-Japanese War
 - i. Anglo-Japanese Alliance renewed in 1905
 - ii. Strategic objective of Brits to destroy the landbridge and any significant Russian operations in the Pacific
 - iii. Ito and Witte attempt to prevent the war
 - iv. 1905 Revolution in Russia (Witte gets Czar to put forward reforms of government)
 - v. role of traitorous-anglophile President Theodore Roosevelt to mediate peace settlement
 - vi. British objectives
 - 1. Russo-Japanese War was a key component of King Edward VII's preparations for World War and global domination by the British Empire
 - 2. Japan is now setup to follow an "alliance" with Britain in that World War

6. WORLD WAR & SUN YAT-SEN

- A. Counter pose Britain's manipulation of Japan with Sun Yat-sen
 - a. *The Vital Problem of China*
 - b. Sun Yat-sen's relationship to Japan
 - i. His network, supporters & operations
 - ii. Letter to Okuma; proposal for China-Japan joint economic development
- B. Failure of Japanese leaders to adopt Sun Yat-sen's proposals proved prophetic:
 - a. Japan betrayed at Versailles Treaty
 - b. Continued British manipulations (i.e. "spheres of influence"/geopolitics) would lead to Manchukuo and the horrific consequences of World War II
 - i. Affinity of the Japanese elite (including the best people) with the oligarchic system ala the British Empire
 - ii. There was no true or completed revolution in Japan
 - c. British succeed in pitting the two historic allies of Japan and USA against each other with World War II
 - i. U.S. War Plans Red & Orange
 - ii. FDR dies; Truman/Brits undertake nuclear attack on Japan
 - ii. Key role of Douglas MacArthur with Westphalia Treaty approach to Japan after the war

7. SOLVING THE PROBLEM: A DIALOGUE OF CIVILIZATIONS

[this concluding section is presently more a collection of ideas to be elaborated, rather than a strict outline]

Failure of Japan: despite the best efforts of people, such as Fukuzawa, the Japanese population did not undergo a fundamental philosophical revolution e.g. the current role of women, foreign workers, etc. and most importantly the idea of the world historic individual vis-à-vis true creativity versus imitation.

Fukuzawa had the correct idea when he identified the approach to solving the problem: “A discourse on civilization is a discourse on the development of the human mind.” This echoes Vernadsky.

Sun Yat-sen as the historic paradigm for a Dialogue of Civilizations in Asia

- Melds the best of Eastern philosophy (China) and the West (U.S.A.)
- *San Min Chu I* is must reading for any serious person dealing with these issues

Not since General Douglas MacArthur led the reconstruction of Japan, following the end of the Second World War, has Japan had the advantage and opportunity to access the workings and products of a great American mind – Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

Peace through Development

- LaRouche’s 50 Year Development Policy for the Indian-Pacific Oceans Basin/ Mitsubishi’s GIF
- Eurasian Landbridge
- Earth’s Next 50 Years
- Four Powers/New Bretton Woods
