個人ノ間ニ爭端ヲ生シタル等ノ故ヲ以テ辭柄ヲ設ケサラシムヘシ一旦已ムヲ得サル必要在リテ兵ヲ派スルモ其事ノ定ル後ハ直ニ之ヲ撤回セサルヘカラス

李　閣下ハ更ニ草案ヲ作ラレタル歟

大使　然リ望ヲクハ此上多少ノ故障ナカランコトヲ

（左ニ草案ノ寫ヲ載ス）

一議定、兩國各撤駐紮朝鮮之兵、自畫押蓋印之日起、以四個月爲期、限內各行盡數撤回、以免有兩國滋端之虞、大淸國兵、由馬山浦撤去、大日本兵、由仁川港撤去、

一兩國均允、勸朝鮮國王、使其教練兵士、足自護治安、又由朝

鮮國王、選他外國武弁一人或數人、委以教演之事、

一將來於朝鮮國、若有紛難、兩國或一國、要派兵、應先互行文知照、及其事定、仍即撤回、不再留防、

李　（草案ヲ熟閱シテ）大体ニ就テハ異論ナシト雖モ聊カ字句ヲ修正セントス我ニ於テハ朝鮮ニ重大ナル變亂ノ起リタルトキハ又兵ヲ派セサルヲ得ス故ニ第三項ヲ更メテ朝鮮國若有變亂重大事件中日兩國或一國要派兵云々トノ明文ヲ揭ケンコトヲ望ム

大使　第三項ノ修正ハ別ニ本大臣ニ於テ異論ヲ挾ム所ナシト雖モ抑モ此草案ノ趣意ハ兩國共ニ朝鮮ニ兵ヲ派ス

ルヲ要スルヿハ最モ重大ノ場合ノミニ限リ瑣細ノ事件ヲ以テ出兵スヘカラサルヲ兩國相互ニ約諾スルニ在リ蓋シ此事ハ閣下ニ於テモ明ニ了解セラレサルヘカラサルナリ

李　實ニ然リトス例ヘハ露國朝鮮ヲ侵略セントスルトキハ我國直ニ出兵セサルヲ得ス其他之ニ等シキ重大事件ノ起リタルトキモ亦兵ヲ派スヘシ尤モ此場合ニ於テハ直ニ貴政府ニ通報センヿヲ要ス

大使　可ナリ今閣下ノ述ヘラレタル事ハ永ク記臆シテ忘ルヽヿナカルヘシ

李　今本大臣ノ述ヘタル露國朝鮮ヲ窺フ事ハ止タ貴我兩國全權大臣ノ密諾トシテ互ニ記臆センヿヲ希望ス

吳大激　異日朝鮮ニ危急ノ變ヲ生シタルトキハ本大臣ハ職、武官ニ在ルヲ以テ必ス貴國ノ將官ト便宜妥籌スルヿアルヘシ然レトモ將來此ノ如キ凶事ナカランヿヲ冀フ

大使　本大臣ニ於テモ亦其意ニ外ナラス

李　此草案ニ加筆シタル點ハ僅ニ字句ノ修正ニ止リ別ニ辯スルノ要ナキヲ信ス其他ノ事項ハ皆本大臣ニ於テ承諾スルヿヲ得

大使　諾了、唯タ文字ノ修正ニ止リ意義ニ變動ナキ以上ハ

本大臣モ亦異議ナシ是ニ於テ本案ハ全ク協議整フタルナリ

(一)字句ノ修正ハ第一大清國ヲ中國トシ大日本國ノ大ヲ削除シ、第二項教練ノ上使其ノ二字ヲ削リ足ノ下ニ以選ノ下ニ傭ノ字ヲ加ヘ、第三項朝鮮國ノ上於ノ字ヲ削ル、皆意義ニ異同ナキヲ以テ英文筆記ニ載セス)

李　此條約ノ手續ニ付閣下ト議スル所アラン我國ノ例凡ソ外國ト訂約スルニ當リ我先ツ漢文ヲ作リ其外國使臣自國文ヲ作ルナリ故ニ今般ノ事モ亦我方ニ於テ漢文ヲ製シ貴方ニ於テ日本文ヲ製セラレンコヲ望ム又皇帝

批准ノ事ハ互ニ正式ヲ守テ交換ノ手續ヲ經ルトキハ徒ニ煩ヲ滋シ時ヲ費スヲ以テ兩皇帝批准ノ後互ニ通知スルニ止メハ大ニ簡便ヲ得ヘシ

大使　洵ニ貴說ノ如シ然レトモ漫然批准ノ後ト云ハンヨリ寧ロ互ニ期ヲ定メテ通知スル事ヲ約スヘシ

李　素ヨリ謂レナク遷延スルコトナシ今日マテ討論審議シテ粗ホ閣下ノ意ニ適セン爲ニ本大臣ハ非常ノ讓與ヲナセリ此上ハ唯タ批准ヲ待ツノミ然レトモ我政府ノ認可スルヤ否ヤニ至テハ本大臣ノ甚タ危懼スル所ナリ

大使　閣下ノ所謂批准ハ一國ノ君主タル者常ニ享有シテ

之ヲ實行スルニ信義ヲ以テスルノ批准タルヲ信ス又閣
下ハ畫押蓋印ノ權ヲ有スルニ因リ此ニ本大臣ト本案ヲ
商辨立約スル所ノモノハ皆終局ノ決定タルヲ附言ス

李　兎ニ角我皇帝ノ批准ハ必ス之ヲ要ス初メ吳氏ノ起
稿シタル草案ニ依レハ朝鮮ニ兵ヲ派スルノ權ハ獨リ我
國ノミ之ヲ保有スヘキノ意ナリ即チ載セテ氏ノ草案第
四條ニ在リ抑モ氏ノ此意見アルモノハ誠ニ簡短ニシテ
明白ナル理由ノ存スルアリ何ソヤ曰ク我國ハ何時タル
ヲ問ハス便宜兵ヲ朝鮮ニ派スルノ權ヲ有ス之ニ反シテ
貴國ノ朝鮮ニ於ケルハ條約上ノ交涉アルノミニ據ルヲ

以テ復ヒ兵ヲ派スルノ要用ナキ事則チ是レナリ事理既
ニ此ノ如クナレハ本大臣ノ吳氏ヲ說テ此非常ナル讓與
ニ同意セシムルニ付キ本大臣ノ竊カニ苦心罄力シタル
モノハ恐クハ閣下想像ノ外ニ在ルヘシ

大使　唯タ此上ハ批准ニ付一定ノ期ヲ約スルヲ要ス貴方
ニ於テ凡ソ何日ノ後之カ知照ヲ爲シ得ラルヘキ歟

李　此條約ニ蓋印シタル後四個月ヲ期シテ兩國ノ兵ヲ
撤回スヘシ

大使　其事ハ既ニ確定セリ今本大臣ノ閣下ニ問フ所ノモ
ノハ凡ソ何日ノ後批准ヲ報知スルヿヲ得ルト云フ一事

ナリ但シ批准ノ知照ハ兩國兵ノ撤回ヲ擧行スル前ニ於テ双方之ヲ爲サヽルヘカラス

李　既ニ貴我兩全權大臣ノ間ニ論議シタル結果ヲ總理衙門ヲ經テ我皇帝陛下ニ上奏スル時北京ニ於テハ顯職ニ在ル者ヲ召集シテ其事ヲ會議セシムルヲ例則トス故ニ我國ヨリ批准ヲ知照スルニハ許多ノ日子ヲ要スヘシ

大使　貴政府ニ於テ會議ヲ盡サヽルヽコハ全ク貴政府ノ内事ニシテ本大臣ノ與リ知ル所ニ非ス是ヲ以テ本大臣ハ豫メ其期ヲ定メ以テ双方知照ノ日ヲ約セサルヘカラサルナリ

李　然ラハ先ツ二個月以内ト約スヘシ閣下ノ有スル所ノ委任狀ノ旨ニ遵ヘハ凡ソ閣下ノ訂約スル所ノモノ向後批准ヲ要セストアリ而テ本大臣ノ訂約スル所必ス批准ヲ經サルヘカラス是レ閣下帶フル所ノ權遙ニ本大臣ノ權ニ超ユル所以ナリ

大使　然レトモ既ニ貴方ニ於テ批准ヲ要セサルヘカラストセハ双方均シク之カ手續ヲ經ンコヲ欲シ我ニ於テモ亦批准ヲ經サルヘカラス

李　貴國朝鮮ヲ併呑スルノ念毫モアルコトナシト保證セラルヽモ若シ他國ノ朝鮮彊土ヲ侵シタルトキハ貴我兩

國相連衡シテ防護ノ法ヲ講セサルヘカラス

大使　朝鮮今日ノ狀況ヲ以テ永ク維持セン㆓希望ニ堪ヘス

李　若シ貴我兩國ノ間密約ヲ結フ㆓アラハ露國ハ決シテ力ヲ朝鮮ニ試ムル如キ㆓ナカルヘシ嘗テ露國公使ニ面會シタル時其意見ヲ聞クニ公使ハ答フルニ露國ハ毫モ朝鮮ニ對シテ望ヲ繫ク所ナシ如何トナレハ露國政府ハ「シベリヤ」地方ニ施スヘキ政績未タ悉ク擧ケサレハナリ等ノ言ヲ以テセリ然レトモ英佛獨三國ノ公使等ハ本大臣ニ告ケテ露國朝鮮ヲ侵略スルノ意勃々タリト云ヘ

リ二者其主旨ノアル所全ク反對ニ出ルモノナリ閣下ハ果シテ孰レヲ信シ孰レヲ疑ハル、歟

大使　恐クハ英佛獨三國ノ公使等ハ公然タル使節ノ資格ヲ以テ述ヘタルニ非サルヘシ

李　素ヨリ是レ閑談ニ過キス決シテ公然タル資格ヲ以テ應答シタルモノニ非ス

大使　本大臣ハ此問題ニ答フルニ露國公使ノ言ヲ信スルノ意ヲ以テセサルヘカラス凡ソ國ト國トノ交際ニ於テ互ニ相疑フトキハ之カ爲メ竟ニ其間ニ釁端ヲ啓キ容易ナラザル變動ヲ招クニ至ルヿアリ故ニ其事ノ實跡ヲ顯

ハサヽル間ハ斷シテ露國ノ害心アルヲ明言スルヿ能ハサルナリ

李　朝鮮ハ我接壤ノ國ナリ向來朝鮮戒備ノ事ニ至テハ我國深ク心ニ銘シテ忽諸ニ附スヘカラス

大使　苟モ一國タルモノ其疆土ヲ防護スル爲ニ須ク戒備ナカルヘカラス

李　聞ク露國ハ浦鹽斯德ニ海軍屯所ヲ設クト雖モ此地氷結シテ四季尚ホ融解スルヿナシ是ヲ以テ露國ノ東洋ニ艮港ヲ得ントスルノ意頻ナリ露國今日ノ急務ハ實ニ東洋ニ一艮港ヲ占領スルニ在リ勢ヒ此ノ如クナルヲ以

テ或ハ疑フ露國ハ數年ヲ出スシテ必ス東洋ニ大事ヲ擧ケンヿヲ若シ一旦露國艮港ヲ朝鮮海ニ得テ海軍屯所ヲ其所ニ設クルニ至ラハ貴我兩國ニ影響スル決シテ輕キニ非ス閣下露國將來ノ擧動ニ就テ見ル所アラハ幸ニ垂教ヲ吝ム莫レ

大使　其事ニ付テハ流傳ノ說頗ル多シト雖モ本大臣ノ親シク見聞スル所ニ仍レハ孰レモ確然タル憑據アルヿナシ

李　浦鹽斯德ハ一年ノ內五個月ヲ除クノ外ハ常ニ氷結スルヤニ聞ケリ元山津果シテ艮港ナルヤ

大使　艮港ニ非スト聞ケリ

李　頃日米人英人ノ元山津ヲ經テ此地ニ來リタル者本大臣ニ告ルニ其艮港タルヲ以テセリ

大使　元山津ノ事ヲ云ハルヽ歟

李　過日英國水師提督及ヒ米國水師提督ハ二日間元山津ヲ測量シテ歸リ報シテ艮港ナリト云ヘリ閣下必ス此艮港ヲ忘ルヽ勿レ然ラサレハ遂ニ他ノ手裏ニ落ルニ至ラン

大使　元山津ハ如何ナル艮港歟知ラスト雖モ凡ソ港ノ艮否ヲ判別スルハ其大小如何ヲ知ルニ若カス而シテ其大

小ハ大船巨舶ヲ繫泊スルニ適スルヤ否ヤニ在リ

李　元山津ハ舳艫相接スルモ差支ナキ艮港ニシテ且年中氷結ノ憂ナシト云フ

大使　否冬季ニ於テハ氷結ノ憂アリト聞ケリ

李　本大臣ノ聞ク所ニ據レハ然ラサルナリ

大使　其事ハ貴我ノ間件ニ非サレハ請フ姑ク話スルヲ休メヨ却テ說ク撤兵ノ事ハ既ニ條約草案ヲモ議決セリ就テ我談判ヲ要スル三件ノ內既ニ九ハ妥協ヲ經タリト雖モ他ノ二件ハ閣下果シテ之ヲ處辦スヘキ歟

李　其二件ニ就テハ此上論議セサルヲ善シトス然ラサ

レハ復タ辯爭セサルヲ得サルニ至ラン

大使　撤兵ノ件ハ則チ我要求ノ一ニシテ他ノ二件トハ全ク性質ノ異ナルモノナリ既ニ是等ノ事ニ就テハ過日來閣下ニ詳述シタリ故ニ他ノ二件ニ付貫方ヨリ斷然決答アランコヲ望ム本大臣ハ必ス我要求ニ付滿足ヲ得サルヘカラス過日閣下ノ說ニ我將官ヲ罰セント欲セハ又宜シク竹添公使ヲモ罰スヘシト云ハレタルコヲ今尙ホ胸裏ニ記臆セリ既ニ今日ニ至テハ双方共ニ滿足ヲ得ヘク妥當ノ局ヲ結ハンコトニ力ヲ戮ハサヽルヘカラス

李　然ラハ則チ撤兵ノ事ニ關シ閣下ノ嘗テ主張セラレタル如ク相互均一ヲ主トシテ其間件ヲ商定セサルヘカラサルナリ蓋シ其均一ト云フハ咎ヲ我將官及ヒ竹添公使ニ均シク歸スルニ在ルノミ本大臣一已ノ見ヲ以テスルモ此件ヲ商定スルノ道之ヲ他ニ求ムルモ得ヘカラス

大使　閣下一家言ヲ以テセハ本件ヲ商定スルニ此法ヲ以テセンコヲ望マルヽナラント雖モ本大臣ノ反覆詳論シタルモノハ素ヨリ本大臣一已ノ見ニ非ス即チ我一國ノ所見ナルコハ閣下ノ已ニ諒知セラルヽ所ナラン

李　然ラハ此件ニ付テ閣下ノ見ハ果シテ何邊ニ在ルヤ幸ニ教ヲ乞フ

大使　本大臣ノ卑見ニ據レハ咎ノ歸ノスヘキモノハ獨リ貴將官ナルヲ信シテ疑ハス

李　閣下ノ高見果シテ今述ヘラルヽ如クンハ全ク本大臣ノ所見ニ反對スルヲ以テ到底協議ヲ遂クルノ望ナキカ如シ

大使　然リト雖モ兩國ノ和好ヲ重ンシ雙方ノ意ニ適スヘク協議ヲ遂クルノ外ナシ

李　是ヲ以テ本大臣ハ閣下ニ懇請スルニ報酬トシテ我ニモ亦滿足ヲ與ヘラレンコトヲ以テスヘシ竹添公使ハ嘗テ貴國領事トシテ此地ニ駐劄セラレ本大臣等公使ト相

識ルコト久シ而テ閣下ハ今我將官ノ處罰ヲ要求セラルヽモ本大臣ノ舊識タル竹添公使ノ罪ヲ鳴シテ其處罰アランコヲ主張スルハ實ニ本心ニ於テ忍ヒサル所ナリ

大使　或ハ情實ニ於テ然ルコトアラント雖モ今回ノ事苟モ私交ニ關セサルナリ

李　然リ故ニ閣下此一方ニ向テ主張セラルヽトキハ本大臣亦已ムヲ得ス彼ノ一方ニ向テ主張スル所アラサルヲ得ス

大使　何等ノ情故アルモ決シテ此案件ヲ拋擲スルコト能ハス既ニ閣下ニ對シテ反覆詳論シタル如ク貴政府ハ必ス

貴將官ノ所爲ニ就テ處分スル所アラサルヘカラサル旨
ヲ主張スルノ外ナシ

李　果シテ然ラハ竹添公使ヲモ處罰セサルヘカラス

大使　其事ニ就テハ既ニ說明ヲ盡シテ餘蘊アルナシ抑モ
何等理由ノ在ルアリテ本大臣ノ此要求ヲ爲ス歟ハ既ニ
閣下ノ知悉セラル、所ナリ竹添公使ノ所爲ハ專心一意
其駐剳國ヽ王ノ再三ノ需メニ應スルニ在リタルヲ以テ
何レノ點ヨリ之ヲ論スルモ竹添公使ノ所爲ハ一トシテ
正理ニ協ハサルモノナシ之ニ反シテ貴國ノ將官ハ抑モ
何等ノ理由在ルアリテ竹添公使ヲ銃擊シタル歟將官ノ

所爲一トシテ不法ノ攻擊ヲ加ヘタルニ非スト認ムルヿ
ヲ得ス其他貴國兵ノ京城居留ノ我臣民ニ兇暴ヲ行フタ
ルヿニ付現ニ其慘狀ヲ目擊シタル我臣民ノ口供ヲ徵シ
テ既ニ前回ニ於テ貴閣ニ供セリ惟フニ閣下ハ深ク意ヲ
留メテ其詳ヲ悉サレタルナラン是等ハ本案事体ノ關ス
ル所極メテ重大ナルヲ諒察シ猶ホ潛心再考セラレンヿ
ヲ望ム

李　本大臣ハ我將官ノ竹添公使ニ銃擊ヲ加ヘタルノヿ
ハ更ニ事實ト認メ難シ何トナレハ我將官モ亦國王ヲ保
護スル爲ニ王宮ニ入リタルノ外他意ナキヲ以テナリ當

日朝鮮ノ官民ハ共ニ我軍營ノ轅門ニ來リ兵ヲ率テ王宮ニ入リ以テ國王ヲ保護セン□ヲ歎願セリ是ニ於テ我將官ハ其所願ヲ聽容シ國王一身ノ危險ヲ恐レ已ムヲ得ス兵ヲ率テ王宮ニ赴クニ至レリ而テ王宮ニ入ラントスル時不意ニ城中ヨリ先ツ槍ヲ發セラレタリ素ヨリ我將官ハ貴國公使及ヒ其護衛兵ヲ銃撃スルノ念ナシ嘗テ閣下ノ述ヘラレタル如ク城内韓兵ノ守衛アリ而テ貴我ノ兵共ニ相隔絶ス故ニ我兵先ツ發槍セリトスルトキハ理當ニ韓兵ヲ攻撃セサルヘカラス是ニ依テ觀レハ我兵ノ貴國兵ヲ攻撃スルヲ得サルヤ瞭然タリ

大使　我方ニ於テモ亦然リトス

李　此故ニ双方咎ノ歸スヘキナシト云ヘリ

大使　然レトモ當時ノ事實歷々徵スヘキアリ其貴國兵ヨリ攻撃ヲ加ヘタルハ明白トス故ニ本大臣ニ於テハ貴政府ヨリ相當ノ滿足ヲ得ンコヲ要求スルナリ

李　我將官ノ貴國兵ヲ攻撃スルノ念慮ナキハ瞭然タル證據アリ若シ我將官ニシテ初メヨリ惡意ヲ挾ムトキハ竹添公使ニ書ヲ送ルノ謂レナシ而テ我政府ハ將官ヲ罰スルニ躊躇スルコナカルヘシト雖モ如何セン當日ノ朝書ヲ竹添公使ニ送テ豫メ告ル所アルハ其貴國兵ニ向テ

害心ナキヲ見ルニ足ルモノアリ

大使　本大臣ハ前三回ノ談判ニ於テ確證ヲ提ケテ我要求ノ基ク所ヲ細大漏スナク詳ニ之ヲ閣下ニ述ヘタリ故ニ此上論議ヲ悉スモ双方其固持スル所ヲ反覆スルニ止マリ徒ラニ日時ヲ費スノミ依テ本日ハ單ニ貴將官銃撃ノ事幷ニ貴國兵兇暴ヲ我臣民ニ加ヘタル事ニ關シ相當ノ滿足ヲ要ムル事ニ付テ判然タル決答ヲ得ンコヲ請求ス

李　既ニ辯明シタル如ク貴國臣民ノ提出シタル證據ハ未タ以テ事實ヲ確定スルニ足ラス該證據ヲ熟閱スルニ我兵ノ現ニ兇暴ヲ行フタルヲ親シク目撃シタルノ證ニ非スシテ唯タ其傳聞想像ニ係ルモノニ過キス

大使　請フ失言スル勿レ若シ其口供ヲ熟覽セハ即チ實況ヲ目撃シタル證人ノ供述シタルヲ發見スヘシ

李　京城變亂ノ時ニ當リテ上下周章雜沓ノ間殆ント清韓兩兵ヲ辨別セサルニ由ルコアラン

大使　我臣民ノ朝鮮ニ居留スル者ニシテ能ク貴國兵ト韓兵ト識別セサル者アランヤ本大臣ハ其點ニ付テ毫末モ疑ヲ容レス假ニ韓兵ノ兇害ヲ加ヘタリトスルモ僞テ貴國兵ト云フニ於テ何ノ我ニ稗益スル所アランヤ此一事ヨリ察スルモ猶ホ我遭難臣民ノ供述ハ明白ナル事實ト

スルニ足ルヘシ

李　然レトモ貴國臣民或ハ我駐兵ト商民ノ識別ヲ誤リタル歟モ亦未タ知ルヘカラサルナリ假令貴國臣民ハ兇害ヲ我兵ニ受ケタリト云フモ其證據ヲ按スルニ一モ我兵タルノ實證ヲ擧ケス是レ其行兇者ハ我兵ナリト立證スルコヲ得サルニ由ル

大使　變急遽ニ起リ殘虐暴戻到ラサルナク修羅ノ一場ニ臨ンテ如何シテ歟此供述ヨリモ更ニ綿密ナル證據ヲ得ヘキ歟普通ノ感覺ヲ有スル人ヲシテ之ヲ判セシメハ誰カ其證據ノ不備ヲ云フ者アランヤ

李　或ハ然ラン假令閣下ハ何ト云ハルヽモ我方ニ一ノ憑證ヲ有セサレハ此案件ヲ決定スルニ由ナキヲ如何セン唯タ我官吏ヲシテ事實ヲ査明セシメ而テ後憑證ヲ蒐集スル外途アルコトナシ

大使　假ニ閣下自ラ其事實ヲ査明シ果シテ貴國兵ノ中ニ此大罪ヲ犯シタル者ヲ獲ハ則チ閣下ハ應ニ如何ニ之ヲ處分スヘキ歟閣下果シテ能ク貴國ノ軍律ニ從ヒ之ヲ處斷スヘキ歟

李　本大臣我兵ノ內ニ果シテ犯罪人ヲ發見セハ必ス處スルニ我陸軍々律ヲ以テスヘシ若シ其犯者常人ナレハ

直ニ斬罪ニ處スヘシト雖モ先ツ日人ニ兇暴ヲ行フヲ目
撃シタル者ノ證據ヲ得サルヘカラス而テ一タヒ其證ニ
據テ我法衙ノ鞫審ヲ經ルノ後果シテ有罪ト判セラレタ
ル者ハ決シテ其刑ヲ免ルヽヿ能ハス然レトモ此事ニ關
シテ提供セラレタル事實ノ證據ニシテ他ニ確然タル證
據アリテ爲ニ他日萬一ニモ無効ニ歸スルヿアラハ實ニ
閣下ノ爲ニ惜マサルヲ得サルナリ其他ノ事ハ瑣細ニ屬
スルノ件ナリ

大使　閣下ハ今回ノ事件ヲ以テ其關スル所重大ナラス
ト云フモ我ニ在リテハ實ニ重大ノ事ト認メサルヲ得ス

李　本大臣ハ既ニ承諾シタル事項ノ外更ニ承諾スルヿ
ヲ得ス然レトモ我兵ノ中果シテ有罪ト決セラレタル者
アレハ素ヨリ刑ニ處スヘシ是等ノ事ニ至テハ本大臣專
ラ公平ヲ旨トシ更ニ假借スル所ナシ

大使　貴意ヲ了セリ而テ閣下ノ今陳述セラレタル事要ヲ
書ニスルヿヲ得ル歟猶ホ之ヲ詳言スレハ閣下ハ貴國ノ
官吏ヲシテ事實ヲ査明セシメ果シテ兵營ノ中ニ我臣民
ニ兇害ヲ加ヘタル者アルヤ否ヲ鞫審スルヿヲ書シ其文
ヲ以テ本大臣ニ致スヿヲ得ル歟

李　素ヨリ妨ケス則チ公文ヲ送テ閣下ニ告ルニ本大臣

ハ尙ホ此件ノ査明ヲ遂ケ然ル後果シテ我兵ノ中ニ犯者ヲ獲ハ必ス陸軍々律ニ從ヒ處分スヘシトノ意ヲ以テスヘシ

大使　將官處罰ノ件ニ至テハ既ニ互ニ論議ヲ悉シタルモ閣下本大臣ノ請求ヲ容レサルニ於テハ竟ニ協議ヲ遂ク ルヿヲ得サルノ恐アリ

李　雙方各固ク持スル理由アル時ハ到底協議ノ望ナシ例ヘハ我將官ハ當日ノ朝八時ニ於テ書ヲ竹添公使ニ致セリト云ヒ公使ハ午後三時ニ至ルマテ之ヲ接手セストト云フ其齟齬スルノ甚シキ此ノ如シ而テ此書翰ハ本件ヲ

決定スルニ於テ最モ重大ノ證據トス何トナレハ書中公使ニ告ルニ國王一身ノ安全ヲ保護スル爲ニ且ハ其護衛兵ヲ輔ケン爲ニ來ル等ノ文字アルヲ以テナリ又傍ラ貴國公使幷ニ其護衛兵ニ對シテ毫モ害心ヲ含マサルヲ證明スルニ足ルモノナリ

大使　貴將官ノ果シテ害心ナキハ今既ニ閣下ノ述ヘラルヽカ如クナラント雖モ如何セン現ニ形迹ヲ遺シタル事實ヨリ考フルトキハ貴將官ノ所爲ハ全ク其書翰ニ云フモノト相表裏ス則チ既ニ該書翰ニ述フル如ク貴將官ノ意果シテ我公使及ヒ其護衛兵ヲ輔クルニ在ラハ必ス我

公使ニ向テ既ニ陳述シタル如キ不正ノ銃撃ヲ加ユルニ至ラサリシナラン之ヲ要スルニ貴將官ハ書ニ筆スルモノト實ニ行フモノト全ク表裏反覆シタルモノト謂ハサルヘカラス

李　若シ竹添公使ニシテ之カ返書ヲ送リ以テ我將官ニ告ルニ兵ヲ率并テ王宮ニ入ルノ要用アルヤ否ヤ或ハ其他ニ渉テ協議スル所ヲ以テセハ此ノ如キ兩國兵ノ軋轢ヲ免レタルヤ疑ヲ容レス又竹添公使ハ人ヲ遣シテ我將官ト協議セシムル所アラシムル歟或ハ自ラ我軍營ニ至テ事ヲ計ラハ可ナリト雖モ同公使ハ一モ此ノ如キ注意

ヲ取リタルコトナシ殊ニ同公使ハ當時書記官ヲ伴ヒタルヲ以テ自ラ我將官ト協議スルコトヲ得ルノミナラス書記官ヲシテ之ヲ爲サシムルモ亦可ナリ孰レモ今日ノ間難ヲ避クルノ便ニ乏シカラサリシモ同公使ハ更ニ此等ノ事ヲ盡サヽリキ

大使　然レトモ一旦事ノ發シタル後ニ至テハ今閣下ノ述ヘラルヽ如キ手續ハ竹添公使ニ於テ之ヲ盡スノ餘裕アルノ理ナシ況ンヤ同公使ハ貴國兵ノ王宮ニ入ル前ニ於テ之ヲ知ルニ由ナキニ於テヲヤ又況ンヤ貴將官ノ當日午前ニ寄送シタリト云ハルヽ書翰ハ午後時既ニ遷リタ

ル後銃丸ニ相伴フテ竹添公使ノ手裏ニ落チタルノ事實
アルニ於テヲヤ

李　或ハ然ラン然リト雖モ竹添公使ハ其翌朝ニ至ルモ
猶ホ返翰ヲ送ラス是ヲ以テ我將官ハ更ニ書ヲ送テ問フ
ニ何ノ故ニ前日直ニ復信スル所ナキヤヲ以テセリ

大使　何ニ據テ以テ貴將官ノ書翰ハ當日朝竹添公使ノ確
カニ接收シタルヲ證スル歟

李　今述ヘタルモノハ則チ我將官ノ第二書ヲ指セルナ
リ

大使　第二書ノ事ハ本大臣之ヲ知了ス然レトモ第一書ハ

果シテ閣下ノ云ハルヽ時刻ニ竹添公使ノ手裏ニ達シタ
ルヤ否ハ何ニ由テ之ヲ證スルコヲ得ル歟

李　前日朝第一書ヲ送リタル事ハ其第二書ヲ以テ之ヲ
證スルニ足ルヘシ

大使　第二ノ書翰ハ其後ニ至テ送ラレタリト云フニ過キ
サルノミ閣下ハ其一書ヲ以テ重要ノ憑證トスルモ其書
翰ハ果シテ時機ヲ失フナク竹添公使ノ手裏ニ達セサル
ニ於テハ何ノ効力カ之レアランヤ本大臣既ニ數回辯論
シタル如ク該書翰ハ當日晝後其時機ニ後レ爭鬪既ニ始
マルノ後竹添公使ノ始メテ之ヲ接收シタルモノナルヲ

以テ之カ返信ヲ致スニ由ナカリキ殊ニ該書翰ニハ將官
ノ之ヲ發シタル當日ノ日附幷ニ時刻ヲ記載セサルノミ
ナラス何人ヲシテ何時ニ携ヘテ之ヲ竹添公使ニ致サシ
メタルヤ未タ閣下ノ確證ヲ見ス幸ニ其證據アラハ請フ
之ヲ示セ

李　其事ニ至テハ我理事員ノ歸朝ヲ待テ査明スル所ア
ラン

大使　貴政府已ニ此等ノ事ヲ査明スル爲ニ特ニ二名ノ委
員ヲ實地ニ派出シ業已ニ査覈ヲ遂ケタルニ非スヤ

吳大澈　王宮ノ中ヨリ先キニ槍ヲ發シタリ其時ニ當テ日

韓兩兵ノ共ニ王宮ヲ守衞シタレハ蓋シ日兵韓兵ヲ指揮
シテ我淸兵ヲ銃擊セシメタルナラン

大使　我兵ノ指揮ニ依テ韓兵先ツ發槍シテ貴國兵ヲ擊チ
タリト云フハ何ノ證據アリヤ

吳大澈　初メ朝鮮國王ニ對シテ非謀ヲ企ツル者アルノ報
ヲ我陣營ニ得タル時竹添公使ハ早ク既ニ兵ヲ將テ王宮
ニ在リキ抑モ此報ヲ得タル以來十八、十九兩日（陰曆）間我兵
ハ營中ニ在リテ嚴正ナル規律ノ下ニ立チ寸歩モ自ラ動
クヲ許サス故ニ竹添公使ニシテ十九日ノ朝ニ於テ王宮
ヲ退カハ斯ノ如キ不幸ノ鬪爭ヲ釀スニ至ラサルヤ必セ

リ

大使　竹添公使ハ屢王宮ヲ辭セントヲ請ヒタレトモ國王
懇ロニ之ヲ留メテ其退宮ヲ許サヽリキ

李　朝鮮人ハ上下トナク竹添公使ノ王宮ヲ退クヲ希
望シタリ然ルニ竹添公使ハ此望ニ背キ敢テ王宮ヨリ退
カサリキ

大使　決シテ然ルニ非ス今閣下ノ述ヘラルヽ所ハ悉ク誤
聞ニ出ツルナルヘシ聊カ閣下ノ參考ニ供セン爲メ當時
ノ事實狀況ヲ述フヘシ閣下及ヒ吳氏ノ所述ヲ聞クニ論
點分レテ二トナリ第一ハ韓兵我兵ノ指揮ニ依テ王城内

ヨリ先ツ槍ヲ發シタル事第二竹添公使ハ宮中上下ノ希
望ニ背キテ強テ王宮ニ留リタル事是ナリ先ツ第一ノ點
ニ就テ云ハンニ韓兵ハ決シテ我兵ノ指揮ノ下ニ居ラサ
ルノ理由ヲ了解セラレサルヘカラス我兵寡少ニシテ貴
國ノ大兵ヲ攻擊スヘキノ數ニアラス之ニ反シテ貴國兵
ハ三方ヨリ軍隊ノ攻擊ヲ我兵ニ加ヘタリ是等ノ事實ハ
既ニ屢閣下ニ證明シタル所ナリ然ルニ貴方ニ於テハ我
兵ノ先ツ發槍シタルノ事實證據ヲ一モ提供スルコトナシ
想フニ唯タ我兵ニ懸疑シテ更ニ事實ノ存スルナキニ由
ルヘシ第二ハ全ク誤聞ニ係ル初メ竹添公使ハ國王再三

ノ求ニ依リ兵ヲ率テ王宮ニ入リタル時國王ハ夜ニ入リ
朕ノ需ニ應シ速カニ來衛スルハ朕ノ最モ滿足シ且厚謝
スル所ナリトノ勅語アリタリ而テ其翌日米國公使以下
各國使臣ニ謁見ヲ許サレタル時竹添公使モ亦共ニ王闕
ヲ辭センコトヲ請ヒタルモ國王固ク留メテ許サス公使已
ムヲ得スシテ留リテ六日ノ朝ニ至リ公使復タ辭センコ
ヲ請ヒタルモ國王尚ホ許サス今暫ク朕ノ側ニ侍センコ
ヲ望ムトノ勅語アリテ公使モ亦辭別スルニ忍ヒサリキ
是等ノ事實アルニモ拘ハラス上下ノ意ニ背キ強テ王宮
ヲ退クコトヲセストト云ハルヽハ抑モ亦何等ノ證據アル歟

吳大澂　變亂ノ初ニ當テ朝鮮國王ハ外ニ何等ノ異狀アル
歟ヲ知ラス偶侍從ノ御衣ヲ脫シテ民服ニ更ヘ庶民ニ裝
フテ以テ難ヲ日本國ニ避ケ玉フヘシト奏スルニ及テ初
テ事ノ逼レルヲ知リタリ

大使　不可思議ノコトナリ其日本國ニ避クルヲ奏聞シタル
者ハ誰ソ

吳大澂　當時國王ノ側ニ侍シタルモノ數人アリ即チ竹添
公使及ヒ書記官金玉均等ノ黨タリ其日本國ニ避ケラレ
シコトヲ奏聞シタルハ其何人タルカ國王モ亦詳ニセサリ
キ

大使　苟モ一國ノ君主タルモノ其國都ヲ去テ外國ニ遁ルヽニ至テハ實ニ容易ナラサル事ナリト推察ス將又吳氏ハ事實査明ノ爲メ特ニ朝鮮ニ派出セラレタレハ素ヨリ其顚末ヲ詳ニシ且總テ證據物等モ蒐集シテ歸國セラレシナラン望ムラクハ是等ノ證據物ヲ一覽スルヲ許サンコヲ

吳大激　朝鮮國王ヲ日本國ニ避クルニ付テハ恐クハ日本政府其事ヲ聞テ喜ハレサルヲ信ス

大使　足下ハ國王ニ此事ヲ勸タルハ我竹添公使ノ所爲ナリト云フ意歟

吳大激　該國王ハ其日本國ニ遁ルヽヲ請ハレタルヲ國王親ラ本大臣ニ語ラレタリ

大使　抑モ國王ニ請フタル者ハ誰ト爲ス歟

吳大激　亂黨ナリ

大使　足下亂黨ト云フ歟夫レ亂黨ハ朝鮮ノ亂黨ニシテ事朝鮮ノ內事ニ關ス我政府亂黨ト何等關與スルヿナシ既ニ足下ハ韓兵日兵ノ指揮ニ依テ淸兵ニ發槍シタリト云ヘリ此事既ニ一タヒ足下ノ口角ヨリ出タル以上ハ我兵韓兵ト相結テ貴國兵ニ先タチ發槍セリト云フ確實ノ證據アルヤ本大臣ハ是非トモ其證據ノ有無ヲ糺サヽルヲ

得サルナリ

吳大澈　十七日ノ夜郵政局ニ宴アリ此日貴國ノ兵或ル場所ニ彈藥ヲ運搬セリト聞ク其夜竹添公使ハ病ト稱シテ宴ニ赴カス而テ自ラ兵ヲ率テ王宮ニ入リタル等ヲ以テ見レハ當日竹添公使ハ全ク虛病タリシハ明ナリ

大使　本大臣ハ郵政局ノ宴及ヒ彈藥運搬ノ事ニ付テ足下ニ聞カンコトヲ求メタルニ非ス今ノ足下ノ云フ所ハ本大臣ノ質問ニ應スル答ナラス尙ホ復ヒ足下ニ問フ我兵ノ韓兵ヲ指揮シテ淸兵ニ發槍セシメタリトノ的證アラハ請フ之ヲ本大臣ニ示セ

吳大澈　韓兵ノ先キニ發槍セルハ果シテ日兵ノ指揮ニ依ラストセハ則チ竹添公使ハ必ス之ヲ制止スルコトヲ得タルナラン

大使　發槍ハ先ツ王宮ノ外面ヨリ起リタリト云フコトニ付テハ本大臣屢之ヲ陳述セリ若シ果シテ此事ヲシテ誤ナカラシメハ竹添公使ハ何ニ據テ發槍ヲ止ムルヲ得ンヤ假ニ貴說ノ如ク韓兵先ツ槍ヲ發シテ貴兵ヲ擊チタリト思考スルモ猶ホ韓兵ハ竹添公使ノ命令ノ下ニアル者ニ非ス故ニ竹添公使之ヲ制スルノ權ナキヤ論ヲ待タサルナリ然レトモ眞正ノ事實ハ則チ然ラス貴國ノ兵反テ韓

兵ト相結テ我公使及ヒ其護衛兵ニ不正ノ攻撃ヲ加ヘタルコトニシテ我ニ確然タル的證ノ存スルアリ然ルニ足下ハ韓兵ハ我兵ノ指揮ニ依リテ貴國兵ヲ攻撃シタリト云ヒナカラ未タ韓兵先ツ發槍シタルノ證據ヲ擧ケサルハ何ソヤ

吳大澂　本大臣ハ其點ニ渉リ細カニ論スルヲ欲セス蓋シ之ヲ論スルニ當リテハ罪ヲ竹添公使ニ歸セサルヲ得サルニ至ルヲ以テナリ本大臣ハ唯タ其實況ヲ述ヘタルマテナリ閣下幸ニ末節ニ渉リテ細論スルコト勿レ

大使　足下既ニ自ラ韓兵ハ日兵ノ指揮ニ依リテ攻撃ヲ我ニ加ヘタリト明言シタル以上ハ必ス之カ證據無ルヘカラス然ラサレハ足下ノ一言ハ我國ニ對シテ失敬ノ過言ナリ殊ニ當時朝鮮ニ在リタル我兵ヲ指揮シタル士官ニ對シテ過言ト認メサルヲ得ス

吳大澂　韓兵ハ總テ五大隊アリ其內三大隊ハ淸式ノ教練ヲ受ケ二大隊ハ日式ノ教練ヲ受ク當時王宮ニ在リタル韓兵ハ即チ日式ノ兵ナリ故ニ貴我兩兵ノ間ニ鬪爭ノ起ル時現ニ韓兵ノ間二派ニ分レテ共ニ相戰フタルコヲ聞ケリ

大使　今足下ノ云ハレタル韓兵中二大隊ノ日式兵ハ我士

官ノ教練シタルノミニシテ未タ曾テ我士官ハ之ヲ指揮シタルコトナシ若シ果シテ我士官韓兵ヲ指揮シタルコトアリタラン二ハ足下ノ駁説モ亦其故アリト雖モ我士官ハ曾テ韓兵ノ指揮ニ關係スルコトナシ足下ハ教練ト指揮トノ相異ナル所以ヲ辨別セラルヽナラント雖モ若シ此二者ヲ同一視スルカ如キアラハ謬見ノ甚キモノト認メサルヲ得サルナリ

吳大激　然ラハ貴國士官ノ教練シタル二大隊ノ韓兵ハ恐クハ當日金玉均等ノ豫メ召喚シタルモノナラン

大使　其韓兵ハ何人ノ召喚シタル歟ハ本大臣之ヲ答辯ス

ルノ義務アルナシ畢竟是等ノ事ハ韓廷内部ノコトノミ本大臣ハ素ヨリ朝鮮國ノ全權大使ニ非ス足下ハ已ニ韓兵日兵ノ指揮ニ依リ先ツ發槍シタリト云フヲ以テ本大臣ハ切ニ望ム我兵果シテ韓兵ヲ指揮シタリト云フ確證ヲ示サレンコト

續昌　第一次會議ノ時閣下ハ貴國ノ我國ニ對シ和好ヲ重ンシ善後ノ事宜ヲ計畫スルノ意ヲ述ヘラレ閣下深ク將來ヲ慮ラルヽノ一段ニ至リテハ本大臣席末ニ在テ閣下ノ高論ヲ聽キ景仰ノ念愈切ナリ但タ事ノ苟モ既往ニ屬スルモノニ至テハ閣下ノ幸ニ末節ニ拘泥スルコトナク專

ヲ大局ヲ顧念セラルヘキハ本大臣等ノ希フ所ナリ依テ
既往ノ事ハ圓滑ニ付シ去リ屑々間難セサルヲ要ス閣下
若シ細微ニ渉リ論議セラルヽトキハ我方ニ於テモ亦末
節ニ渉テ論議スルノ已ムヲ得サルニ至ラン依テ既往ノ
事ヨリモ寧ロ將來ニ關シテ能ク李中堂ト商議セラレン
コト實ニ双方ノ爲ニ肝要トス何トナレハ既往ノ事ヨリ更
ニ將來ノ事ヲ重ンスレハナリ曩ニ井上伯ノ朝鮮ニ於ケ
ルモ亦將來ヲ重ンセラレタレハ閣下ノ井上伯ノ意見ト
符節ヲ合シ同一轍ヲ踐マレンコトヲ信ス

大使　請フ說クヲ休メヨ夫等ノコトハ閣下等ノ容喙スヘキ

ニ非ス李中堂ニシテ此言アラハ心ヲ靜ニシテ聽ク可シ
閣下ト其事ヲ談スヘキ要ナシ本大臣ハ更ニ吳氏ニ所向
ヒ尙ホ望マン今論述セラレタル一件ニ付證據アラハ請
フ之ヲ示セ

李　吳續兩氏ハ畢竟本大臣ニ代テ一言シタルコトナリ兩
氏ハ曩ニ朝鮮ニ派遣セラレ實地ニ就テ顚末ヲ查明シタ
ルヲ以テ事實ノ點ニ付其材料ヲ本大臣ニ與ヘン爲ニ特
ニ政府ヨリ列席ヲ命セラレタルナレハ閣下幸ニ兩氏ノ
言行ニ付テハ少シク寬容セヲレタシ過日既ニ今回ノ件
ニ付テ瑣末ニ渉テ論談セラレサルヘキヲ閣下ニ詳述シ

タリ到底此事ハ既往ニ屬スルヲ以テ双方ノ爲ニ圖ラハ屑々之ヲ聞難センヨリハ寧ロ之ヲ棄却スルノ不可ナキニ如カス惟フニ閣下ノ權ハ本大臣ノ權ヨリ重シ假令此問件ヲ棄却セラルヽカ爲ニ何等ノ責アルモ閣下ハ自ラ國家ノ重キヲ荷ヒテ廟堂ニ立ツノ人ナレハ容易ニ之ニ堪ヘンコヲ信ス

大使　斯ノ如ク屢〻論議ヲ盡シタル後遂ニ双方滿足スヘキ結局ニ至ラサルハ本大臣ノ殘懷ニ堪ヘサル所ナリ然レトモ此案件ハ我國ニ取テハ重大事件ナルヲ以テ此儘棄却スルコ能ハス如何ニモ雙方協議ヲ遂ケ力ヲ盡シテ兩國ノ間ニ和好ヲ保續スルノ道ヲ講セサルヘカラス貴方ニ於テハ見テ以テ瑣小ノ事件トセラルヽモ我ニ取テハ關要最モ重大ナリトス故ニ閣下ト此事ヲ議シテ妥協局ヲ結フ能ハサレハ本大臣已ムヲ得ス之ヲ他ノ仲裁ニ托シテ双方其裁判ニ服スヘキノ外ナシト信ス其何國ヘ依賴スル歟ハ双方熟議ヲ經テ後チ之ヲ定メンノミ若シ貴國我ニ與フルニ相當ノ滿足ヲ以テスルヲ承諾セラレサルニ於テハ唯タ此事ヲ以テ仲裁ニ任スルノ外決定スルノ道ナシ本案件ハ貴方ニ於テ輕小ナリト云フモ我ニ於テハ重大事件ニシテ決シテ抛擲スル能ハス故ニ平和ノ

手段ニ依テ孰レニカ結局ノ方便ヲ求メサルヘカラス

李　貴國ニハ貴國ノ公然タル證據アラン我國ニハ我ノ證據アリテ相互ニ矛盾スルノ甚シキヲ致ス今之ヲ仲裁ニ任スル時ハ其仲裁者再ヒ事件ヲ査明シテ雙方證據ノ矛盾スル點ニ就テ判決ヲ下サヽルヲ得ス本大臣ハ仲裁ノ決シテ滿足スヘキ方法ニ依テ事實ノ査明ヲ遂クルヿ能ハサルヲ恐ル過日閣下ノ提出セラレタル遭難口供ノ小冊ヲ細閲スルニ其所述ト我官吏ノ報告トハ甚シキ異同アリ夫レ斯ノ如ク矛盾ノ甚シキ雙方ノ證據ヲ執テ事ヲ判決スルハ頗ル難事ニ屬スルカ如シ

大使　仲裁ハ容易ノ業ニ非ス然レトモ今日ノ問題ヲ決スルニハ他ニ其道アルヿナシ閣下別ニ其道アルヲ知ラハ乞フ教ヲ吝ムヿ莫レ

李　仲裁ハ歐羅巴ノ一國ニ依頼スヘキ歟

大使　本案件ハ貴我兩國間ニ起リタル事ナレハ其仲裁者モ亦一國ノ首領爲ラサルヘカラス而テ不幸ニシテ東洋諸國々君ノ内ニ此事件ヲ托シテ能ク双方ノ体面ヲ傷ケサルモノナシ朝鮮國王ノ如キハ素ト此間件ニ關繋スルヲ以テ仲裁ノ位置ニ居ルヘカラズ歐羅巴諸國ハ或ハ東洋ニ對シテ公平ヲ旨トセサルノ患ナキ能ハス依テ此事

ヲ依頼スヘキハ唯タ北米合衆國ノ大頭領其人アルノミ

李　北米合衆國ノ大頭領ハ自ラ朝鮮ニ航シテ事實ヲ査明スルヿ能ハサルヘシ

大使　苟クモ一國ノ首領ニシテ躬ラ外國ニ往キテ事實ヲ査明スルヿヲ得サルハ論ヲ竢タス仲裁人其實地ニ臨マスシテ事件ノ落着シタル例乏シカヲス凡ソ一國ノ首領タルモノ其仲裁ノヿヲ承諾シタル上ハ双方ヨリ提供スル證據ニ就テ審理ヲ經裁決ヲ下スヘキノミ

李　歐洲外交上ノ歷史ヲ讀ムニ仲裁シテ滿足ナル判決ヲ下シタル例甚タ多カラス加フルニ此間件ノ如キハ之ヲ歐羅巴諸國又ハ米國ノ仲裁ニ任スヘキノ重要事件ニ非ス況ンヤ貴我兩國ハ輔車脣齒ノ關係アル友邦ナレハ此ノ如キ甚タ重大ナラサル案件ヲ歐米ニ提出シテ其仲裁ヲ仰クハ共ニ面目ヲ施スノ業ニ非ス然レトモ事甚タ重要ナレハ直ニ貴意ニ同スヘシト雖モ事体ノ關スル所ヲ審ニセハ未タ大事ト云フヘカラス然ラハ貴說ニ隨ヒ仲裁ヲ仰クハ聊カ自ラ慚愧スル所ナキ能ハサルナリ畢竟スルニ今回ノ事ハ兩國間一時ノ行違タルニ過キス

大使　閣下若シ此事件ヲ結局スル爲ニ尙ホ他ニ方法アラハ素ヨリ兩國ノ間ニ於テ自ラ妥定スルヲ得ンヿハ本大

臣ノ切ニ希フ所ナリ事ノ輕重ハ姑ク論セス苟モ兩國ノ
間件タル以上ハ何レニ歟歸着スル所アラサルヲ得ス
李　茲ニ二條ノ意見アリ第一朝鮮ニ在リテ兩國兵ノ間
ニ紛爭ヲ生シタルハ全ク雙方ノ行違ニ起リタルナレハ
成ヘク其曲折ニ渉ラスシテ事ヲ決スルヲ善トス第二閣
下我兵ニ向テ提出セラレタル兇暴一件ハ即チ其犯罪者
ヲ發見シタル上本大臣之ヲ罰スヘシ此事ニ付テハ約束
ヲ設ケ本大臣ノ肯諾スル所トスヘシ今兩國全權大臣ハ
既ニ數度ノ會議ヲ開テ互ニ意衷ヲ盡シタレハ雙方意見
ノ異ナル點ヲ成ヘク縮小ニシテ妥協ヲ得ルニ力ヲ盡サ

ンヘカラス
大使　貴說ハ全ク本大臣ノ同意ヲ表スル所ナリ第二ノ點
ハ貴國兵ノ我臣民ニ加ヘタル兇害一件ニ付更ニ事實ヲ
查明シ鞫審ノ上果シテ有罪ト決セラレタル者アレハ之
ヲ罰スト云ヘル閣下ノ說明ハ本大臣ノ既ニ肯諾スル所
ナリ第一ノ點則チ貴將官ヲ罰スルコニ付テハ確乎タル
返答ヲ望ム本大臣ハ此點ノ協議スルニ難キヲ察シ則チ
仲裁ヲ企テタル所以ナリ而テ今閣下兩國ノ事ヲ以テ他
國ノ仲裁ヲ乞フヲ屑シトセサルニ於テハ何レニ歟妥協
ヲ經ルノ方法ヲ本大臣ニ示サルヘキハ蓋シ閣下ノ義務

ナリト信ス

李　閣下均シク竹添公使ヲ罰スルヲ約セハ本大臣モ亦我將官ヲ罰スルコヲ約スヘシ何トナレハ獨リ罪ヲ我將官ノミニ歸スヘカラサルモノアルヲ以テナリ

大使　本大臣ハ決シテ嚴刑ヲ將官ニ加フヘシト請求スルニ非ス則チ貴國ノ法律ニ照シテ相當トスル處罰ヲ行ハヽ可ナリ然ルニ是ヲモ斥ケラルヽニ於テハ本案件ハ全ク未定ニ屬スルヲ以テ何レニ歟處分スル所ナカルヘカラス

李　然ラハ則チ閣下ハ竹添公使ヲ如何ニ處スヘキ歟閣

下我將官ノ處罰ヲ主張セラルヽナラハ本大臣モ亦均シク竹添公使ノ處罰ヲ要求セサルヲ得ス是レ本大臣ハ寧ロ本案ヲ棄却シテ互ニ風波ナキニ如カスト云フ所以ナリ

大使　閣下此案ヲ棄却スルコヲ云ハルヽモ我ニ於テハ其關要スル所重大ナルカ故ニ棄却スルコヲ得ス是ヲ以テ豫メ協議ノ望ナキヲ察シ已ムヲ得ス仲裁說ヲ提出セリ素ヨリ仲裁者ノ決スル所其直タルト曲タルトヲ問ハス我ハ其審判スル所ヲ以テ滿足スヘシ

李　此般ノ案件ハ我政府我委員及ヒ本大臣ハ勿論朝鮮

國人皆我ヲ見テ以テ直者トセリ故ニ曲直ノ點ニ至テハ
敢テ他人ノ仲裁ヲ待タス
大使　我方ハ我方ヲ直ト思ヒ貴方ハ貴方ヲ直ト思フ是レ
則チ雙方意見ノ相反スル所以ニシテ互ニ相爭フトキハ
竟ニ協議ヲ遂クルノ期ナシ而シテ仲裁ニ非サレハ曲直
ヲ別ツノ術ナシトス我皇帝陛下ハ此案件ヲ本大臣ニ托
セラレ本大臣ヲシテ仲裁者ノ坐前ニ進ミ自ラ道理ト認
ムル所ヲ供述セシメラルヽニ於テ滿足在セラルヽヤ必
セリ
李　本大臣ハ此件ヲ以テ他國ノ仲裁ヲ請フノ權ヲ有セ

サルナリ
大使　然ラハ閣下ハ如何シテ此件ヲ商定セントスル歟
李　閣下ハ我證據ヲ以テ悉ク取ルニ足ラストス例ヘハ
朝鮮國王ノ親翰ノ如キ共ニ閣下ハ之ヲ拒否セリ又何ヲ
以テ此件ヲ商定スルコヲ得ンヤ
大使　本大臣ハ貴我兩全權大臣ノ間ニ於テ此件ヲ協議ス
ルノ望ナキヲ認ム但タ仲裁ノ一途アルノミ
李　今此件ノ仲裁ヲ請ハントスル他國ノ首領ハ其身千
里ノ外ニ在レハ如何シテ其事實ヲ査明シ之カ裁斷ヲ下
スコヲ得ンヤ

大使　本件ヨリ數層ノ錯雜ヲ加ヘタル困難ノ問件ト雖モ容易ニ適當ノ裁判ヲ下シタル例尠シトセス

榎本　先年横濱港ニ於テ秘露國商船一隻來泊シタルニ船中清國ノ奴隷在リテ甚シキ虐使ニ逢ヒ狀ヲ我地方官ニ訴ヘテ救助ヲ乞ヒタルヲ以テ直ニ羈縛ヲ免レタルコアリ後此事ニ關シ秘露國ト我國トノ間ニ一場ノ紛爭ヲ起シ遂ニ歸着スルナキヲ察シ之ヲ露國皇帝ニ請フテ仲裁ヲ仰キタルニ露帝ハ双方ノ供述ヲ細ニ査考シテ公平ナル裁判ヲ下サレタルコアリ

吳大激　此事件ヲ決定スルノ良法ハ更ニ此上互ニ議論ヲ盡サヽルニ如クハナシ假令他國ノ仲裁ヲ仰クモ雙方滿足スルコナカヘシ

大使　一旦仲裁ヲ請フニ決シタル以上ハ假令曲者ト認定セラルヽモ我ハ甘受センノミ普通詞訟ヲ見ルモ豈ニ原被均シク滿足ヲ得ルノ道理アランヤ

吳大激　然ルニ雙方トモ自ラ直者ト信シ仲裁ノ判決アルモ滿足ヲ雙方ニ與ヘサルコヲ知ラハ之カ仲裁ヲ依賴スルヲ要セス寧ロ雙方議論ヲ避ケテ止ムノ上策タルニ如カサルナリ

大使　既ニ妥定スルノ望ナケレハ此上議論スルモ亦詮ナ

シ否勢ヒ議論スルヿヲ得サルナリ然レトモ唯タ一言ス
ル所アラン閣下ハ常ニ一已ノ所見ニ拘泥シテ變通スル
所ナシ希クハ此案件ヲ決定スルヿニ於テ互ニ全力ヲ盡
シテ妥協ヲ經ンヿヲ然ルニ今ヤ雙方其盡スヘキヲ盡シ
タレハ餘蘊アルヿナシ唯タ僅ニ仲裁ノ一法アルノミ凡
ソ仲裁ナルモノハ終局ノ裁判ナレハ雙方必ス之ニ遵ハ
サルヘカラサルモノナリ

吳大澂　各國政府ノ日本國ト和好ヲ結フハ尙ホ清國ト和
好アルニ異ナラサレハ雙方情誼ニ羈絆セラレ自ラ公平
ノ裁判ヲ得サルナラン

大使　裁判ノ公不公ハ裁判ヲ經タル後ニ非サレハ論スル
ヲ得ス若シ雙方直者ト定メラレテ曲者ナクンハ雙方ノ
至幸ナラスヤ

李　閣下朝鮮國王ノ親翰ヲ證據ト認メラレサル以上ハ
到底結局ノ望ナシ

大使　故ニ閣下ニモ其親翰ヲ提出シテ仲裁者ノ坐前ニ於
テ其効力ノ有無ヲ論センノミ該親翰ノ如キ果シテ的證
ト爲レハ則チ其裁判ニ於テ我ハ曲者タルヘシ若シ反對
ニ於テ的證トスルニ足ラストト定メラレタルトキハ即チ
其裁判ニ於テ我レ直者ニ歸スヘシ

李　該親翰ニハ國王ノ玉璽ヲ鈐ス

大使　今更此ノ如キ細微ノ點ヲ論スルヲ要セス今回ノ案件ニ付テハ我ハ原告ノ地位ヲ占メ貴方ハ即チ被告ノ地位ニ在リ故ニ被告原告ノ要求ニ應セサルトキハ原告ハ止ムヲ得ス進ンテ一層高等ナル法衙ニ訴ヘ以テ終局ノ裁判ヲ請ハンノミ

李　仲裁ヲ請フノ權ハ本大臣未タ我皇帝陛下ニ之ヲ受ケス故ニ閣下ノ協議ニ應スル能ハサルナリ過般此地ニ於テパーテノトル氏ト會合シテ佛國ト交涉スル事件ヲ議スルニ當リ我ヨリ仲裁ヲ發議シタルニ氏之ニ應セサリキ蓋シ仲裁ノ事ハ必ス雙方ノ承諾ヲ要スレハナリ

大使　素ヨリ然リ必ス雙方ノ承諾ヲ經サルヘカラス故ニ豫メ閣下ノ承諾ヲ求メタル所以ナリ

李　本大臣ハ未タ我皇帝陛下ヨリ仲裁ノ委任ヲ奉セスヲ貴閣ニ供シタルヲ以テ今日ニ至テハ閣下ノ擇フヘキ途ニアルノミ即チ貴方ハ我ノ要求ヲ容ルヽ歟或ハ仲裁ヲ請フニ同意スル歟是ナリ

大使　即チ本大臣ノ貴閣ニ供シタル證據書類竝ニ本大臣

李　證據トハ果シテ何ヲ指ス歟

ノ口述シタル事柄ヲ指スナリ

李　我兵ノ貴國臣民ニ兇暴ヲ行フタル件ニ付テハ即チ口供ヲ證據トシテ其事實ヲ査明シ果シテ有罪者ヲ發見セハ之ヲ處罰スルヲ約セリ其他何等ノ證據アルヤ

大使　朝鮮國王ノ竹添公使へ送リタル親翰其一ナリ

李　然ルニ閣下ハ本大臣ノ手裡ニ在ル朝鮮國王ノ親翰ハ證據トシテ取ルニ足ラストセラルヽハ果シテ何等ノ理由アルヤ

大使　蓋シ雙方ノ論點ハ此ニ存スヘシ是レ本大臣ノ仲裁者ノ裁判ニ任センコヲ欲スル所以ナリ

李　本大臣ハ仲裁ヲ請フノ權ヲ有セス故ニ此事ニ就テハ何等應答スルコヲ得ス

大使　閣下仲裁ニ係ルノ全權ヲ有セスンハ宜シク貴國皇帝ノ旨ヲ候ヒ而シテ本大臣ニ答フルコ可ナリ刻下互ニ論辨ヲ盡スモ殆ト底止スル所ナカルヘシ本大臣ハ本月二十日迄此ニ駐マルヘシ願クハ閣下此事ニ關シ貴政府ニ稟請セラレンコヲ其事タル閣下ノ自ラ採擇スヘキコナレトモ玆ニ一言ヲ附ス

李　我皇帝陛下ハ特ニ本大臣ニ諭ヲ下シ必ス罪ヲ我將官ニ歸スルコナカラシムル是ヲ以テ本大臣諭旨ニ違フコ

能ハス

大使　然ラハ閣下ハ本大臣ノ要求スル所ヲ舉ケテ悉ク承諾セサルノ意歟

李　實ニ本大臣ノ地位ハ因難ナリ

大使　地位ノ因難ナルハ本大臣モ異ナルコトナシ

李　今回ノ事ハ素ヨリ兩國政府ノ意料ノ外ニ出ッ實ニ其不幸ヲ惋惜セスンハ非ス

大使　本大臣ニ於テモ洵ニ同感ナリ然レトモ一旦事ノ起リタル以上ハ其局ヲ妥結スルコトニ力ヲ致サヽルヘカラス

李　双方堅ク把テ相讓ル所ナクンハ如何シテ能ク其局ヲ結フヘキコトヲ得ヘキ歟

大使　仲裁ノ外別ニ考按アラハ直ニ閣下ノ取捨ヲ仰クヘシト雖モ不幸ニシテ僅ニ此一途ヲ遺スノミ

李　本大臣ハ他國ノ仲裁ヲ願ハス何トナレハ我皇帝陛下ハ將官ヲ見テ直者トセラルレハナリ

大使　我皇帝陛下ハ貴國將官ノ竹添公使ヲ銃擊シタルヲ以テ不正不法ノ所爲ナリト信セラル即チ兩國皇帝陛下ハ各自ラ直トセラルヽナリ

李　實ニ協議ヲ遂クルニ困難ナリ而シテ既ニ協議ノ整

フタル件ハ蓋印セハ可ナラン

大使　勿論ノ事ナリ

李　我將官處罰ノ件ノ外他ニ要求ノ點ナキ歟

大使　他ノ件ハ既ニ妥協ヲ經タリ刻下未定ノモノハ將官處罰ノ點ノミ

李　將官ハ皆本大臣ノ隷屬タレハ我皇帝陛下ノ勅命ヲ以テセス本大臣ヨリ其所爲ニ就テ譴責セハ如何閣下未タ以テ意ニ適セストスル歟

大使　將官ハ皆閣下ノ隷屬ナル故ヲ以テ閣下ヨリ直ニ譴責スヘシト云フ歟若シ然ラハ閣下公然タル公文ヲ以テ

本大臣ニ照會スルヿヲ得ル歟

李　然リ閣下ニ公然タル照會ヲ送リ約スルニ我將官譴責ノ事ヲ以テスヘシ抑モ今回ノ事件ヲ閣下ト商定スルカ爲メニ我政府ハ本大臣ニ訓示スル所アリト雖モ今本大臣ノ之ヲ肯諾スルモノハ實ニ閣下ニ對シテ友情ヲ盡シ尊敬ヲ表スルニ依ルナリ

大使　然ラハ公然本大臣ニ照會ノ事ヲ爲ス歟

李　然リ貴命ニ應セン抑モ本大臣ノ仲裁ヲ拒ムノ理由ハ決シテ我ノ曲者タランヲ憂慮スル等ノ事ニ非ス唯タ之ヲ拒否スルモノハ貴國ト丞カニ事件ヲ妥結センヿヲ

願フニ外ナラス

大使　貴將官ヲ譴責スルハ何等ノ方法ニ依ル歟乞フ貴意ノ在ル所ヲ垂示セヨ

李　將官ヲ譴責スルニハ公文ヲ行ヒ小心事ヲ行ハサルノ故ヲ以テスヘシ

大使　閣下ハ朝鮮駐在兵ヲ悉ク撤回スル前ニ於テ其將官ヲ召還スルコヲ得ル歟

李　將官ハ現ニ我駐在兵ヲ指揮スル者ナルヲ以テ必ス兵ト共ニ召還セサルヲ得ス頃日歸朝シタル袁世凱モ其將官ノ一人ナリ而テ本大臣ハ既ニ袁ヲ譴責スルニ革職

ヲ以テセリ閣下應ニ此事ヲ以テ貴政府ニ具申スヘシ惟フニ袁ハ竹添公使ノ政敵ナリシナルヘシ袁平素公使ト相怨ミ互ニ敵視セシモノナラン歟

大使　本大臣未タ曾テ竹添公使ヨリ其事ヲ聞キタルコナシト雖モ恐ラクハ然ラン

李　袁ノ稟性敏捷ニシテ才幹アリ故ニ本大臣ハ平生遠ク韓地ニ駐マリテ事ヲ過タンコヲ顧念シテ頃日召還セリ

大使　閣下ノ本大臣ニ公然照會スルヿヲ約シタルモノ二件トス第一公文ヲ以テ貴國將官ヲ譴責スルニ小心事ヲ

行ハサルノ故ヲ以テスルヿ第二貴國兵兇暴ノ件ニ付速ニ事實ヲ査明シテ其犯罪者ヲ發見セハ之ヲ處刑スルヿ以上次回ノ會議ニ於テ照會文ノ草案ヲ一覽スルヿヲ得ル歟

李　來ル十八日ヲ以テ次回ノ會日ト定メ其會日ノ前ニ於テ本大臣ノ書記官伍廷芳又ハ羅豐祿ヲ以テ照會文ノ草案ヲ貴閣ニ供スヘシ而シテ次回會日ニ於テ畫押蓋印ノ事ヲ了セン依テ貴方ニ於テ日本文約書正副二通ヲ調製セラレタシ我方ニ於テモ亦漢文約書正副二通ヲ調製スヘシ

大使　他日ノ事端ヲ防カン爲ニ照會文中過般ノ變亂ハ閣下ノ深ク惋惜スル所ニシテ貴將官小心事ヲ行ハサリシ故ヲ以テ之ヲ譴責スルノ文意ヲ加フヘシ

李　諾了ス該照會文中過般ノ行違ヒハ全ク我將官ノ小心事ヲ行ハサルニ由ルノ文意ヲ記入スヘシ

大使　該公文中若シ貴國兵ノ内我臣民ニ冤害ヲ加ヘタル犯罪者ヲ發見シタルトキハ陸軍々法ニ從ヒ之ヲ處罰スルヿヲ加フヘシ

李　諾了ス必ス軍法ニ從テ處罰スルヿヲ加フヘシ

大使　此二件ノ照會文ハ二通ニスル歟將タ一通ニ併記ス

ル歟

李　一通ニシテ二件ヲ併記スヘシ何レ草案ヲ起シ閣下ノ貴閲ニ供スヘシ是ニ於テ今次閣下ノ奉セラルヽ所ノ使事悉ク商辨妥定セリ倩ラ思フニ貴國皇帝使命ヲ閣下ニ下サレス我皇帝陛下モ亦本大臣ヲシテ閣下ニ對セシメラルヽニ非スンハ今回ノ事件ノ如キハ尋常爲政家ノ能ク速ニ妥定ノ局ヲ結フ所ニ非サルナリ蓋シ本大臣敢テ諛辭ヲ閣下ニ呈スルニ非ラス又自ラ誇言スルニアラス唯タ眞實信スル所ヲ吐露スルノミ吳續兩大臣ノ如キ博識多聞多ク得難キノ材ナリト雖モ其器量ニ至テハ閣

下ト本大臣ニ及ハサルヿ遠シ

大使　或ハ然ラン重テ問フ貴將官處罰ノ事及ヒ貴國兵兇暴ノ件ニ關スル事實ノ査明ハ直ニ施行セラルヽ歟

李　然リ、公文ハ簡約ニシテ其意ヲ盡サントス

大使　公文ハ純然タル照會ナラサルヘカラス

李　素ヨリ然リ而シテ官印ヲ鈐スヘシ

是ニ於テ今回兩國交涉事件ノ談判全ク畢ル

伊藤大人台啓

逕啓者本日

貴大使同

榎本大臣來署晤談深爲欣慰本爵大臣等擬於明日三點鐘

赴

貴館答拜屆時希

貴大使少候爲荷此佈順頌

時祉

慶郡王　闓敬銘

錫珍　福錕

許庚身　徐用儀

二月十一日

鄧承脩

中堂王爺大人台啓

逕復者本大使昨赴貴署得與貴王大臣晤叙殊爲欣悅旋接來信以本爵大臣等擬於明日三點鐘赴貴館答拜等因已悉當偕榎本大臣在署拱候此復順頌時祉

伊藤博文

陽曆三月二十八日

照會

大清欽命總理各國事務內閣學士兼禮部侍郎衡慶
軍機大臣刑部右侍郎許
刑部尚書錫
多羅慶郡王
軍機大臣協辦大學士戶部尚書閻
工部尚書福
工部右侍郎徐
鴻臚寺卿鄧

爲照會事此次
貴大使以全權大臣前來中國欲在京城商辦事件惟本國
先經欽奉
諭旨派李中堂爲全權大臣因海防任重不克到京即請
貴大使在天津商辦爲便至承詢李中堂所奉全權之據查

李中堂既奉全權之
命實有畫押蓋印之權必能和衷定議相應照會
貴大使查照可也須至照會者

右　照　會

大日本特派全權大使
參議兼宮內卿勳一等　伯爵伊藤

光緒拾壹年貳月　拾貳　日

照會

大日本特派全權大使參議兼宮內卿勳一等伯爵伊藤　爲照
覆事明治十八年三月二十八日准
貴王大臣照會稱此次貴大使以全權前來中國欲在京城
商辦事件惟本國先經欽奉
諭旨派李中堂爲全權大臣因海防任重不克到京即請貴大使
在天津商辦爲便至承詢李中堂所奉全權之據查李中堂
既奉全權之
命實有畫押蓋印之權必能和衷定議等因准此閱悉爲此照覆
須至照會者

右　照　會

大清欽命總理各國事務王大臣

明治拾捌年參月貳拾捌日

李中堂台啓

逕啓者本大臣晉京之後准

貴政府照會得悉

貴大臣奉全權之

命與本大臣商辦事件等因本大臣以前日出都今晨到津應速

與

貴大臣會同議定茲擬於明日一點鐘赴

貴署晤叙希即屆時少候可也此佈順頌

日祉

陽曆四月二日

名另具

伊藤博文

伊藤大人台啓

逕復者頃奉

惠椷敬悉

台從已於今晨到津擬將商辦事件會同議定即於明日一點鐘

惠顧等因本大臣頃與原敬領事晤商請於明日三點鐘枉過會商即留便酌以便暢談是所切盼此復順頌

日祉

李鴻章

名另具二月十七日

李中堂台啓

逕啓者午前遣原領事請以本日叩商公事云云歸言承
貴大臣准於後日三點鐘接談等語本大臣擬于是日兩點
鐘前往
行轅即希屆時少候可也此佈順頌
日祉

名另具 四月十三日

伊藤博文

you will please mention in the official despatch that you deeply regret the late occurrences in Corea and that you will reprimand the Commanders for their careless conduct.

The Vice-Roy: Yes, I will word the despatch to mean that misunderstanding was created owing to the careless conduct of our Commanders.

The Ambassador: And also about the punishment of you soldiers according to military law, if they are found guilty.

The Vice-Roy: Yes, according to our military law.

The Ambassador: Will you embody those matters in one or in two despatches?

The Vice-Roy: In one and the same despatch I will mention all those matters. I will send Your Excellency a draft of it So we have disposed of all difficulties. If His Majesty the Emperor of Japan had not sent Your Excellency to negotiate about the present affair, and had His Majesty our Emperor not appointed me to meet you, no settlement could have been made of the present affair. No ordinary statesman could have made a settlement like this. This is neither a mere compliment to you nor a boasting on my part. It is a fact that any one can see. Our two Ministers, Go and Zoku, are able men to settle difficult questions, but they are not bold enough, as we are.

The Ambassador: Perhaps so. Are the reprimand of the Commanders and the investigation into the outrages, to take place immediately?

The Vice-Roy: Yes. The despatch will be very short and concisely written.

The Ambassador: And it must be an official despatch.

The Vice-Roy: Of course, with the official seal, so that you can lay it before His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

(*Ended at 7.10 o'clock P. M.*)

to follow, we have.

The Vic-Roy: I cannot submit to the arbitration of a third Power, because our Emperor thinks our Commanders were in the right.

The Ambassador: Our Emperor also, believes Takezoye was unlawfully attacked by your soldiers. So each Emperor thinks himself right.

The Vice-Roy: So we are in difficulty to come to an understanding. At any rate, we can sign and seal what we have already agreed to.

The Ambassador: Certainly.

The Vice-Roy: Have you anything more to claim than the punishment of our Commanders?

The Ambassador: When we have agreed on all other points, the only remaining question is that of punishment.

The Vice-Roy: Those Commanders are subordinates of mine. If I undertake myself to reprimand them for what they have done—I mean not by decree of the Emperor—will you be satisfied?

The Ambassador: Do you mean to say that, as they are under your immediate command, you will undertake yourself to punish them. If you do, will you communicate it to me officially?

The Vice-Roy: Yes: I shall send Your Excellency an official despatch to communicate to you that I will undertake to reprimand our commanders. I have instructions from my Government to negotiate with Your Excellency on the matter but I agree to undertake this reprimand out of friendship and great esteem for you.

The Ambassador: Will you then officially communicate that to me?

The Vice-Roy: Certainly. The grounds of my refusal to refer to arbitration are not because we are afraid a decision will be

given against us, but because we desire to make a speedy settlement with your country.

The Ambassador: Allow me to ask you once more, in what way you will reprimand those Commanders?

The Vice-Roy: I will issue an official despatch reprimanding them for their careless conduct.

The Ambassador: Can you not also recall them before the time of the withdrawal of the whole troops?

The Vice-Roy: As they are their commanding officers, they will have necessarily to be recalled with their troops. Yen-sei-gai (袁世凱), who came back lately, I have already reprimanded. He seems to have been a political enemy of Mr. Takezoye. I have turned him out of his office. You may inform your Government of the punishment I have already inflicted upon him. Had Mr. Takezoye strong hatred of him?

The Ambassador: Perhaps he had. I have not heard any thing about it direct from Takezoye, but he may have had.

The Vice-Roy: He is a very clever and able man, so I have been very anxious about him and finally recalled him.

The Ambassador: Your Excellency has promised to communicate with me officially about two matters, 1st, reprimand of your officers, 2ndly, punishment of your soldiers who may be found guilty upon enquiry, which is to be made very soon. Can Your Excellency show me the draft of the official despatch at our next meeting?

The Vice-Roy: We shall meet on the 18th and I shall show you the draft, through my secretary Mr. Go or Mr. Ra, before that meeting, so that we shall need only sign and seal the document on that day. In the meanwhile you will kindly prepare the Japanese text, in duplicate, of our convention; we will prepare the Chinese text.

The Ambassador: To avoid any further misunderstanding,

The Ambassador: So I say you must lay the autogragh letter before the arbitrator. If it is found good evidence, the decision may be against us, but, on the contrary, if, is found bad in law, the decision then may be in our favor.

The Vice-Roy: On that autograph letter, there is the King's true seal.

The Ambassador: I need not discuss now that particular point. In the present affair, I am in the position of plaintiff and if the defendant does not accede to my claims I have to bring the matter to a higher court.

The Vice-Roy: I have no commission from our Emperor to refer the present question to arbitration. So I can not consent to your proposal. When Mr Patenotre was here, we proposed to him to refer the matter of our dispute with France to arbitration; but he did not agree to our proposal. Arbitration necessarily requires the mutual consent of both parties.

The Ambassador: So I ask your consent to it: there can of course be no arbitration without the mutual consent of both parties to a dispute.

The Vice-Roy: I have no commission for it from our Emperor.

The Ambassador: I have already laid before you all the evidence to support our claims. So there are now only two ways for you to pursue, to accede to our claims or to refer to arbitration.

The Vice-Roy: What is that evidence you speak of?

The Ambassador: All that I have already shown aud verbally stated to you.

The Vice-Roy: As regards the evidence of Japanese subjects about the outrages committed by our soldiers, I have promised to punish all those who may be found guilty, on our enquiry into the matter. What is your other evidence?

The Ambassador: The autograph letter of the King of Corea to Takezoye, is part of it.

The Vice-Roy: But you deny the autograph letter of the King we are in possession of.

The Ambassador: That is a point of the dispute, which I propose to you to leave to the decision of the arbitrator.

The Vice-Roy: I have no power to refer to arbitration, so I cannot consent to that arrangement.

The Ambassador: If you have no power to do so, you can refer to His Majesty your Emperor to obtain his sanction, so to do. If we have to go on like this, there will be no end to our discussion. I will stay here until the 20th instant. By that time you can have asked your Government, though it is purely a matter of your own affairs.

The Vice-Roy: His Majesty our Emperor has issued special instructions to me not to blame our commanders. I cannot go contrary to his decree.

The Ambassador: Do you mean to say you are going to be unyielding to all I have said to you?

The Vice-Roy: I am indeed in a very difficult position.

The Ambassader: It is just the same with me.

The Vice-Roy: I regret very much this unfortunate collision, which never had entered the conception of our respective Governments.

The Ambassador: I sincerely share your regret, but we have only to try to obtain a solution of the question, since it has actually taken place.

The Vice-Roy: Each party believes himself in the right, how can we come to an agreement?

The Ambassador: So I propose arbitration, that is the last resort we have. If I could think of any other means, I would propose them to you, but unfortunately that is now the only way

us. But if the wrong is found on your side, it will be against you.

The Vice-Roy: In the present affair, our Government, our Commissioners, myself and even the Coreans, too, believe we are perfectly right. We are under no necessity of referring to some body else to investigate as to who is wrong or right.

The Ambassdor: We believe we are in the right; you believe you are; that is the point of difference of views between your and our side. Should each of us insist that he is right, we will never come to an understanding. Under these circumstances, there is no other way than to refer to arbitration and His Majesty our Emperor will be quite satisfied, having entrusted the present case to me, if I am to go into an arbitration.

The Vice-Roy: I have no power to refer the matter to the arbitration of a third Power.

The Ambassador: In that case, by what means do you propose to settle the question?

The Vice-Roy: You deny the worth of our evidence, that is to say, the autograph letter of the King of Corea and also the one addressed to our Commissioners. What can we do?

The Ambassador: There is no prospect of our coming to an understanding, between ourselves, so we have only to refer to arbitration.

The Vice-Roy: The head of every third Power to whom we may submit our case, is in a place distant from where the affair took place. How can he investigate the matter and decide?

The Ambassador: Even more complicated matters could be decided by arbitration, of course.

Admiral Yonomoto: When we had a dispute with the Government of Peru, about the relief we had granted to some Chinese slaves on board of a Peruvian vessel which was lying in the port of Yokohama, because they had entreated our local

authorities there for rescue, we had to refer to the descision of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia—both sides of the case were carefully examined and it was satisfactorily decided.

Mr. Go: The best way of settling this question is not to discuss it any further. The arbitration of a third Power, will never give satisfaction to both sides.

The Ambassador: We will be satisfied with the judgment of the arbitrator, after we have once agreed to submit to his decision, even though it should be given against us. Even in ordinary legal proceedings, the decision of a court of law will never give satisfaction to each of the parties in litigation.

Mr. Go: But both parties believe they are in the right and if they know very well that the decision of the arbitrator will not give satisfaction to both of them, the best way for them to settle the question is not to discuss it any further.

The Ambassador: If there is no way of coming to a settlement, we are obliged not to discuss any further. You have always clung to your own views. You must try your best to find a solution of the present question. After we have tried everything, arbitration is only the last resort, under the circumstances. The decision of the arbitrator must of course be final and bind the respective parties. Even if the decision is against us, we will be satisfied.

Mr. Go: All foreign Powers have friendly relations with Japan as well as with China: they cannot give justice in a strict way.

The Ambassador: You cannot say so before the decision is given: if it could be given in favor of both parties, so much the better for both sides.

The Vice-Roy: If Your Excellency refuses to take the King's autograph letter as our evidence, there is no possibility of our coming to an understanding.

the proper one to whose decision we could submit.

The Vice-Roy: But the President of the United States cannot go to Corea himself the investigate the matter.

The Ambassador: Of course, the head of a State would not go to a foreign country to investigate the matter himself. I know of many precedents of arbitration cases, in which the arbitrator did not have to go to the spot himself to make enquiries. But, the head of a State may accept the office of arbitrator to decide a case according to evidence brought forward by each party.

The Vice-Roy: In European diplomatic history, I know also of many cases in which the arbitrators could not give satisfactory decisions. With regard to the present question, I am at a loss to see in it so much importance, as to submit it to the arbitration of either a European or of an American State. As Japan and China are in a position of mutual support and are brother States in the East, I would consider it as discreditable to us to submit such an unimportant matter to the arbitration of a foreign Power. If the matter were a very important one, I might agree to your proposal, but after weighing the gravity of it, I am rather ashamed to take such a course as you suggest. The matter is a mere misunderstanding between us.

The Ambassador: If you have any other means for a solution of the question, it would be so much the better to settle it between ourselves. However, small or large the nature of the matter may be, the question that has arisen between the two Nations, must be adjusted in some way.

The Vice-Roy: I can agree only to these two points: 1st as regards the collision between the troops, it was owing to a misunderstanding on both sides, so that we will not go into further discussion about it. 2ndly as regards the outrages which Your Excellency accuses our soldiers of, we shall undertake to punish any one whom we may find guilty of the crime. We will make

a special provision in the convention to that effect. So far we can agree. The two Plenipotentiaries after holding so many Conferences, should do their best to bring the points of variance to the smallest degree and finally come to an understanding.

The Ambassador: I entirely concur in your opinion. To the second point by which you engage to undertake an investigation into the matter of the outrages committed by your soldiers and to punish those who are found, upon enquiry, guilty of the crime, I may agree to. But as to the first point relating to the punishment of your Commanders, I must ask you to make a settlement in definite form. As I find difficulty in arriving at an understanding on that point, I proposed arbitration. If you, however, are of opinion that the matter is not worth asking a third Power to take the trouble of arbitrating, you are under obligation towards me to devise some means to come to an understanding.

The Vice-Roy: If you will promise to inflict punishment upon Mr. Takezoye, I will do the same upon our Commanders, because the latter alone should not be blamed.

The Ambassador: I do not insist on your inflicting severe punishment upon them, but such punishment as may be deemed fit according to your laws. But if you will not agree to this, our question is to remain still unsettled.

The Vice-Roy: What are you then going to do with Mr. Takezoye? If you insist on the punishment of our Commanders, I must ask you to do the same upon Mr. Takezoye. This is the reason why I ask you to drop the matter altogether.

The Ambassador: You may suggest to me to drop the matter, but its nature forbids my doing so. In consequence of this difficulty to come to an understanding, I cannot but propose arbitration. If we are found wrong, the decision will be against

goes into the details of the facts, we shall be obliged to do the same. I would suggest to your Excellency to discuss with the Vice-Roy more fully the matter of future security rather than that of past occurrences, as the former deserves more importance than the latter. When Count Inouye was in Corea, he attatched more importance to the future, and I am sure Your Excellency will coincide in his views.

The Ambassador: Excuse me; that is not a question for you to say a word to me about. I shall listen carefully to what His Excellency the Vice-Roy has to say on the subject, but I cannot to you. What I would have of Mr. Go is clear proof of what he has asserted.

The Vice-Roy: Mr. Go and Mr. Shiu were speaking to Your Excellency on my behalf. As these two gentlemen were sent to Corea to investigate the matter and have been ordered by my Government to attend the conference to furnish me with all necessary information upon points of fact Your Excellency will please excuse the liberty they have taken. With regard to the present question, I reminded Your Excellency the other day, not to go too much into details. As it is a matter of past occurrence, it would be highly advantageous to both parties, to drop the matter altogether. You have greater power than I have and any responsibility that may be entailed by dropping the present question, Your Excellency has sufficient strength to bear on your shoulders.

The Ambassador: After so much discussion, I would deeply regret it, if we could not arrive at an understanding satisfactory to both parties. But I can in no way let the matter drop altogether, as we attach the most serious importance to it. So we must try our best to come to an understanding in some way, so as to preserve and promote friendly relations between our respective countries. What you consider a very trifling matter, is a very serious one to us. If you cannot agree to this matter, which

looks so insignificant to Your Excellency, I have no alternative but to propose to submit the question to the arbitration of some third Power, we may hereafter mutually agree upon, and to whose decision we shall both entirely submit. Since China will not agree to give us due satisfaction, there is no other way to settle this question than to appeal to arbitration. The question may be a very small matter to you, but to our country it has assumed most serious gravity and we cannot therefore drop it altogether. Let us find same means to come to a solution in a peaceable way.

The Vice-Roy: You have your official evidence and we have ours, quite contradictory to each other—If we have resort to arbitration, the arbitrator will have to make another investigation into the matter, the evidence about which is so widely different on the two sides. I am very much afraid, that the arbitrator could make no such investigation in a satisfactory way. I have carefully examined the pamplet containing the evidence given by your subjects: there are wide differences between that evidence and our official reports; the difference in them is too wide for any one to decide by them.

The Ambassador: I know that arbitration is not an easy task; but for the solution of the present question, there is no other way than that. If Your Excellency could suggest some other means, I would be delighted to know them.

The Vice-Roy: Do you mean to submit the matter to the arbitration of some European Power?

The Ambassador: As the present question is one that has arisen between our two Empires, the arbitrator to decide it must be the head of a State. There is no King among our Asiatic nations to whom we can honorably submit our question. The King of Corea would not certainly do for this purpose. Europeans might be very partial about anything connected with our Asiatic matters; then the President of the United States alone is

declining to go to the banquet on pretext of indisposition, went to the Palace with his guard. He pretended to be sick in bed.

The Ambassador: I did not ask about the banquet at the Post Office or anything about the ammunition. What you have just stated does not form an answer in any sense to my question. I desire you to prove that the firing was first made by the Coreans, *under the direction of our soldiers.*

Mr. Go: If the Coreans were not firing upon our soldiers under direction of your soldiers, Mr. Takezoye could have stopped them.

The Ambassador: The firing began from the outside, as I have repeatedly explained. How could Mr. Takezoye stop the firing which was taking place on the outside? Even if the Coreans did open the firing, Mr. Takezoye had no power to stop them, because they were not under our command. But the true fact of the case is, that the Chinese soldiers conjointly with the Coreans, made an unlawful attack upon our Minister and his guard. We have clear evidence of the fact. You say the Coreans fired upon the Chinese troops by direction of our soldiers. But you cannot prove what you say, that our soldiers directed the Coreans to fire upon your soldiers.

Mr. Go: I am not willing to discuss the point, as I fear Mr. Takezoye would then be blamed. I have mentioned the matter as a mere matter of conversation and hope Your Excellency will not go into further details.

The Ambassador: After you have once uttered those words, "*The Coreans fired upon our troops by direction of your troops,*" you must prove what you said. Otherwise I have to regard what you have just spoken, as a great insult to our country and more especially to our officers who were then commanding our troops in Corea.

Mr. Go; There were five battations of soldiers, three of

which were under Chinese instruction and two of them under Japanese instruction. The Corean soldiers who were inside the Palace, on that occassion, were those that had been instructed by Japanese soldiers. When the conflict took place between the Japanese troops and ours, the Coreans too fought against each other, among themselves.

The Ambassador: The two battalions of Corean troops, to which you have alluded, were only instructed and drilled by our officers, but were never commanded by them. If they had been under the command of our officers, the case would be quite different, but they were only under the instruction and drill of our officers. I have no doubt that you know distinctly the difference between *command* and *instruction.* It would be a great mistake to regard instruction in the same light as command.

Mr. Go: Then those two battalions of Corean troops under the instruction of Japanese officers, were probably summoned to the Palace by Kin-gioku-kin.

The Ambassador: I am not bound in any way to answer you, who summoned the Corean troops to the Palace. It is purely a business of the Coreans. I am not the Corean Ambassador. You said, the Corean soldiers fired upon the Chinese troops by direction of the Japanese troops. What I desire of you, is a clear proof of your statement as regards "*direction of the Japanese soldiers.*"

Mr. Zoku: At the first meeting Your Excellency remarked, that it is highly essential for the friendly relations now happily subsisting between Japan and China, to adopt some precautionary measure for future security. I appreciate very much Your Excellency's views, as to the importance of future security. But as to the matter of past occurrence, I hope you will not be too particular, and it seems to me better for both sides to pass over the matter smoothly without discussing it further. If Your Excellency

two points in it: that is to say.—1st that the firing commenced from the inside of the Palace under the direction of the Japanese soldiers: 2ndly that Mr. Takezoye stubbornly staid in the Palace, contrary to the wishes of both the King and of his courtiers. As regards the first point, you can easily see, that the Corean soldiers were not under the command of our troops. Our soldiers, a mere handful of men, were not in a position to attack your large force, but on the contrary, your soldiers made a *military attack* upon us from three different directions. I have on many occasions proved it to you, but you cannot prove that the firing was first directed by our troops; you may state so, as a mere supposition; but there is no evidence to prove the fact. As to the second point, you are utterly misinformed on the subject: When Mr. Takezoye went to the Palace in compliance with the repeated request of the King, the latter welcomed him very warmly and said, "We are greatly pleased to see that Your Excellency has come so quickly, even in the night time to guard us" and so forth. On the following day, when the American Minister and other Foreign Representatives were retiring, Mr. Takezoye also desired to be relieved and to retire, but he was requested by the King to remain yet a while and guard him. On the morning of the 6th, he again asked for leave to retire from the Palace and to return to the legation, but he was earnestly requested to remain there a little longer. We have the evidence of what the King said to Mr. Takezoye on those occasions. Those are the true facts of the case. In the face of them, I ask you to prove in contradiction, that Mr. Takezoye stayed there forcibly. Of what kind of evidence are you in possession?

Mr. Go: At the beginning of the late affair, the King was entirely ignorant of what was going on outside. Until he was at last asked by his attendants to change his dress to disguise himself as a private individual, and to betake himself to Japan, he

knew nothing of the events.

The Ambassador: Who told him to go to Japan? What a ridiculous story, is it not?

Mr. Go: On that occasion, he was surrounded by many persons, such as, Mr. Takezoye, and his secretary, Kin-gioku-kin &c. The King does not know which one of them told him to go to Japan.

The Ambassador: It would be a very grave matter if the King had been obliged to leave his country and be exiled to a foreign land. When Mr. Go was in Corea, for the investigation of the present affair, he no doubt made the fullest enquiries into the matter and was able to lay before you all necessary evidence. I would like to see it.

Mr. Go: The Japanese Government will not be pleased to hear that the King of Corea was requested to betake himself to Japan.

The Ambassador: Do you mean to say that Mr. Takezoye asked the King to come to Japan?

Mr. Go: I have been told by the King, that he had been requested to go to Japan.

The Ambassador: By whom?

Mr. Go: By the rebels.

The Ambassador: What? By the rebels? We have nothing to do with the rebels; that belongs quite to the internal affairs of the Coreans. You said the Coreans fired upon your troops, under the direction of our soldiers. It becomes incumbent upon me, since you have made that utterance, to require you to produce evidence to prove participation, by our soldiers have been, with the Coreans, whom you take to have been the first to fire upon your soldiers.

Mr. Go: A banquet was given in the Post Office on the 17th. On that day ammunition was removed by your soldiers to a certain place and on that evening Mr. Takezoye, while

them, such a conflict as happened, could undoubtedly have been avoided. To make a mutual arrangement, Mr. Takezoye might have sent some one to our Commanders. But he neglected to take any of these precautions. He had his secretary with him whom he might have sent for the purpose, or he could have gone to our Commanders, himself. He had every opportunity to make an arrangement with our Commanders, with a view to avoid trouble.

The Ambassador: Mr. Takezoye was not then in a position to do what you now suggest, after the affair had actually taken place, because he was not aware of the Chinese soldiers coming to the Palace. The letter which your Commanders allege they sent in the morning, reached his hands late in the afternoon, accompanied by a volley of musketry.

The Vice-Roy: Mr. Takezoye did not send his answer until the following morning; so our Commanders sent another letter and asked him why he had not answered directly the previous morning.

The Ambassador: But how can you prove that the letter sent by your Commanders, reached him exactly on that morning?

The Vice-Roy: That was the second letter our Commander had sent to Mr. Takezoye.

The Ambassador: I know all about the second letter, but I ask Your Excellency, how you can prove about the first letter, that it reached Mr. Takezoye's hands at an exact time.

The Vice-Roy: The second letter proves that the first one was sent the previous morning.

The Ambassador: That was something written afterwards. If the first letter, to which you attach so much importance, did not really reach Mr. Takezoye at the exact time your Commanders intended it should, it has no effect whatsoever. As I have explained to you many times, it came to his hands too late in the afternoon for him to send an answer, just after the firing had begun. In that letter no date or time is mentioned, as to when it was sent to Mr. Takezoye, and, moreover, you cannot prove by whom the letter was brought to him at the time you mention.

The Vice-Roy: I shall undertake to investigate the matter, when the two Commissioners come back to China.

The Ambassador: The matter must have already been investigated by the two Commissioners sent by your Government to Corea for the purpose.

Mr. Go: The firing commenced from the inside of the Palace. As the Japanese and Corean soldiers were together in the Palace, our soldiers seem to have been fired upon by the Coreans, under the direction of the Japanese soldiers.

The Ambassador: How can you prove that your soldiers were first fired upon by the Coreans, under the direction of the Japanese soldiers?

Mr. Go: Mr. Takezoye was in the Palace with his guard when a report came to our camps that there was a revolt against the King of Corea, and during the two days, the 18th and 19th, following that report, our soldiers were kept in the camps under strict discipline. If Mr. Takezoye had left the Palace in the morning of the 19th, the unfortunate conflict could no doubt have been avoided.

The Ambassador: Mr. Takezoye wished very much to retire from the Palace, but the King earnestly requested him to remain.

The Vice-Roy: The Coreans wished very much for the retirement of Mr. Takezoye, but he did not leave, contrary to the wishes of all in the Palace.

The Ambassador: Oh no. You are entirely misinformed on the matter. Now, to make the whole case as clear as possible to Your Excellency, let me explain to you again the facts of the the case. What Your Excellency and Mr. Go have stated, has

such terrible scenes, how could they give their testimony in fuller details than that? Any one with common sense will admit that they could not prove clearer than they did.

The Vice-Roy: That may be possible. At any rate, I have no evidence on our side. So I have no basis on which I can settle the question. The only way for me is to cause our officials to investigate the matter and obtain all necessary evidence.

The Ambassador: Suppose Your Excellency undertakes to have an investigation inte the matters and finds among your soldiers, the real offenders, what will you do to them? Will you certainly punish them according to Chinese military law?

The Vice-Roy: If I find among our soldiers, any guilty persons, I will have them puinished according to our military law. Should any civilian be found guilty of the crime, he shall be beheaded. Before all, I must obtain the evidence of eye-witnesses, who personally witnessed the outrageous acts committed upon the Japanese. Soldiers, when they have been tried in our Courts upon evidence brought forward against them and have been found guilty of the crime, can not of course escape punishment. I would regret for you, to find that the evidence brought forward against them, fails to prove the fact of our soldiers having really committed crimes. All other matters are of quite an insignificant nature.

The Ambassador: However small you may consider the present matters, I cannot look at them, but as of the most serious importanee.

The Vice-Roy: I consent to only what I have already consented to. If our soldiers are found guilty of crime they shall of course be punished. I will not be partial in that respect.

The Ambassador: Well then, can you reduce to writing what you have just stated, that is to say, that you will have

somebody to make investigation and see if any one in your camps has actually committed crime upon our people.

The Vice-Roy: Certainly; I can send an official despatch to inform Your Excellency, that we are going to make investigation into the matter, and if we can find guilty persons among our soldiers, I shall punish them according to our military law.

The Ambassador: About the punishment of the Commanders, we have fully discussed together, and if you will not agree to what I ask, I fear we cannot arrive at any mutual understanding.

The Vice-Roy: It may be possible that no understanding can, at the last, be come to, as each side has its own reasoning. For instance, our Commanders says, he wrote the letter at 8 o'clock in the morning of that day. This letter, Mr. Takezoye says, did not reach him until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Thus there is a great difference between the two sides. The letter in question is a most important one, in this matter, to decide the case. In that letter, our Commanders declared to Mr. Takezoye that they were coming to the Palace to protect the personal safety of the King and also to render assistance to him and his guard. The letter itself proves sufficiently they had not the slightest hostile intention against the Japanese Minister and his guard.

The Ambassador: If your Commanders had no hostile intention, the case would be just as you have stated it, but the course of action they actually took, was quite contrary to what they had expressed in the letter. If they intended to render assistance to our Minister and his guard, as they said in their letter, they would surely not have made an unlawful attack upon him. What they wrote and what they actually did, are quite inconsistent with each other.

The Vice-Roy: Suppose Mr. Takezoye had written an answer to them, either to inform them there was no necessity for them to come to the Palace or to make some mutual arrangement with

tragic scene. Your Excellency must, I trust, have read them very carefully. I hope you will give further consideration to the question, fully weighing its importance as it deserves.

The Vice-Roy: I cannot admit that our Commanders attacked your Minister. They went to the Palace for the purpose of protecting the King; that was their sole object in going there and nothing more. Both the Corean officials and the people earnestly requested them to proceed to the Palace for the protection of the King. Our Commanders, seeing the danger to the personal safety of the King, could not refuse to comply with the request. When they arrived at the gate of the Palace, they were suddenly fired upon from the inside; they had not the slightest intention of attacking the Japanese Minister and his guard. As Your Excellency has stated, there were many Corean soldiers in the Palace, just between our Chinese soldiers and yours. You must observe that we could not fire directly upon your soldiers. If our soldiers had commenced the firing, they must have fired upon the Coreans.

The Ambassador: It is just the same case with us.

The Vice-Roy: So both sides are free from blame.

The Ambassador: But the facts of the case prove the attack by your soldiers as so certain that I must insist upon obtaining due satisfaction from your Government.

The Vice-Roy: We have clear proof that our Commanders had not the slightest intention of attacking your soldiers. If they had such an intention, we shall of course punish them. But, if they had had such an intention, they would not have sent that letter to Mr. Takezoye. It was written by our Commanders and sent to him in the morning. This is a proof they had no hostile intention towards your soldiers.

The Ambassador: At the last three conferences, I have fully set forth to you the substantial grounds on which our claims

are based. Any further discussion of the matter will be only a repetition of what I have already stated and a waste of time. I would therefore ask Your Excellency to give me a definite answer to our claims for the punishment of the Chinese Commanders as well as for due satisfaction to our people who suffered from the cruelty of your soldiers.

The Vice-Roy: I have already explained to Your Excellency, that the weight of evidence brought forward by your subjects, is not clear enough to establish the truth. I do not find in it any testimony given by those persons who personally witnessed the outrages, which are said to have been committed by our soldiers: they simply say, they heard of such things or they suppose that might be the case, and so forth.

The Ambassador: I beg Your Excellency's pardon. If you will carefully look through those depositions, you will find that they consist chiefly of the testimony given by eye-witnesses.

The Vice-Roy: Besides, your people could hardly distinguish between Corean and Chinese soldiers, among the great crowd of excited people, especially at such a moment as that of the late disturbance in the Corean Capital.

The Ambassador: They could distinguish between Chinese and Coreans. I have not the slightest doubt on that point. You can easily see, that there is no advantage to our people to pretend to have been maltreated by your soldiers, if the cruelty was that in reality inflicted upon them by Coreans.

The Vice-Roy: Your people could not perhaps tell whether the offenders were Chinese tradesmen or soldiers of our camps stationed in the capital. They simply say that Chinese soldiers had maltreated them, but their evidence does not prove the fact that the offenders were really Chinese soldiers. They do not describe the Chinese soldiers at all.

The Ambassador: Amidst that great confusion and during

The Ambassador: No, I think it is frozen up in winter.

The Vice-Roy: No, I have not heard so.

The Ambassador: Well, that is not the question of our negotiation. Now we have agreed upon the draft of a convention for the withdrawal. So, one of my three subjects of negotiation has already been disposed of. Now, what will Your Excellency do about the other two points?

The Vice-Roy: It is better for us not to mention them any more, so that we may not have any further dispute.

The Ambassador: The withdrawal question is only one of my subjects of negotiation and is of quite a seperate nature from the other two points, which I have already fully discussed with you. Some definite answer must come from Your Excellency as regards those two other points, and I must obtain satisfaction about them. I remember Your Excellency said, that both the Chinese commanders and Takezoye are blamable. We must now try to come to some mutual understanding upon the question, in a way satisfactory to both parties.

The Vice-Roy: Then we must settle the question on a reciprocal basis, as Your Excellency insisted on about the other matter, that is to say, that both sides are to be blamed, our Commander and Mr. Takezoye. From my personal point of view, it seems to me this is the only way to settle that question.

The Ambassador: According to your personal view, you may hope for the solution of the question in that way. But you must remember that what I have already stated is not my personal view but our national view of the matter.

The Vice-Roy: Then, what is your personal view upon the question?

The Ambassador: The Chinese Commanders are alone to be punished.

The Vice-Roy: If that is your view, we cannot come to a

mutual understanding, because we entertain views quite contrary to each other.

The Ambassador: But, for the sake of friendly relations between our respective countries, we must come to an understanding satisfactory to both parties.

The Vice-Roy: So I ask Your Excellency to give some satisfaction to us in return. Mr. Takezoye was your Consul in in this place for a long time and I had very intimate intercourse with him. Though you can demand the punishment of our Commanders, I cannot insist upon the punishment of Mr. Takezoye, on account of the intimate intercourse I had once with him.

The Ambassador: Well, this is not a matter of personal friendship.

The Vice-Roy: So, if you insist on the one, I must do the same for the other.

The Ambassador: I can, on no account, give up this question, and as I have already stated to Your Excellency in a very clear manner, your Government must take some proper measures in regard to those Commanders.

The Vice-Roy: Then Mr. Takezoye must also be punished.

The Ambassador: As regards that question, I have already explained it to you clearly enough. On what grounds I insist on our claims, you must certainly well comprehend. In as much as Mr. Takezoye's action was solely in compliance with the earnest request of the Sovereign, to whom he was accredited, I cannot but recognize the course of action he took, as strictly legal. On the other hand, the Chinese Commanders had no right to make an attack upon him at all. Certainly it was an unlawful attack. As to the other point, that is the outrages committed by your soldiers upon Japanese subjects, I have already laid before Your Excellency, the depositions of those who personally witnessed the

specific term, within which the notice so stipulated shall be given to each other.

The Vice Roy: I should say within a period of two months. You have more power than I have. In the full powers Your Excellency has shown us, it is expressed that anything that you may agree to, shall not be subjected to subsequent ratification.

The Ambassador: But, as ratification is required on your part, I am obliged to follow the same course that you do, so as to go on an equal footing.

The Vice-Roy: You have already assured us that your Government has not the slightest intention of absorbing Corea. But in case of any third Power's encroaching upon her territory, we should in common do our best to defend her.

The Ambassador: It is my sincere desire that Corea keep in her present attitude for ever.

The Vice-Roy: If Japan and China have a secret understanding between them, the Russian Government will never try to encroach upon Corean territory. When I had a conversation with the Russian Representative, I asked him his views on the subject. He replied, his Government had no desire to lay hands upon Corea, because they have so much to do in Siberia. But, the British, French and German Representatives told me that the Russian Government has an aggressive policy towards Corea. So there are two different opinions on the subject. Which of the two does Your Excellency believe?

The Ambassador: I think the British, French and German Representatives were not officially representing their views.

The Vice-Roy: Of course not officially.

The Ambassador: Then you must believe what the Russian Representative replied to you. Great complications very often actually take place between two nations by a mere suspicion, the one of the other. We cannot tell definitely anything like that,

until it actually takes place.

The Vice-Roy: We must always be careful not to forget abont the precautionary measures we ought to take in Corea, as she is our neighbor state.

The Ambassador: To defend our own territories, we must of course take all necessary precautionary measures.

The Vice-Roy: Russia possesses a naval station at Vladivostock; but the place is frozen up during almost the whole year. So she has to seek for another harbor in the East. Russia, being under such a necessity, must do something extraordinary in a few years. If she succeeds in getting a good harbor and establishes a naval station in the Corean Gulf, she will do much harm to China as well as to Japan. Your Excellency can foresee the future movements of Russia, I believe.

The Ambassador: I know of much talk about it, but as far as I know personally, I cannot find any proof.

The Vice-Roy: The harbor of Vladivostock is frozen up for five months in the year. Is Genzanshiu a good port?

The Ambassador: I have heard it is not.

The Vice-Roy: Many Englishmen and Americans have told me that Genzanshin is a very good port.

The Ambassador: It may be Port Lazarieff, I think.

The Vice-Roy: Both English and American Admirals who have been to Port Lazarieff, have reported to me, that the harbor is a very good one. They say they came here after they had surveyed the harbor, in two days. Your Excellency must not forget this place; otherwise it will fall into some one else's hands.

The Ambassador: How good a harbor Genzanshin is, I can not tell. Whether it is a good one or not depends upon its size to accommodate large steamers.

The Vice-Roy: It is large enough for many big steamers to enter it at once. Besides, it is never frozen up.

The Ambassador: Very well. I will not forgot what you have just said.

The Vice-Roy: As regards Russia, Your Excellency will please bear in mind what I have said, as a secret understanding between us, the High Phenipotentiaries.

Mr. Go: As I am a General, I will have to arrange with your General, in case of any great danger like that threatening Corea. But after all, we hope there will be no necessity ever to do so.

The Ambassador: I hope not, certainly.

The Vice-Roy: All other modifications in your draft are very insignificant. Now I can agree to this draft.

The Ambassador: Very well. I have no objection to any of them, they are nothing but modifications of composition that do not effect the meaning at all. So, we mutually agree to to the draft.

The Vice-Roy: Now I have to consult with Your Excellency about the details of this Convention. When we enter into a treaty or convention with a foreign Power, it is customary with my Government that the Chinese text is prepard by our hands, leaving the preparation of the other text to the Plenipotentiary of the foreign Powers, with whom we are treating. So, in this case you have to prepare the Japanese text. As regards ratification, I think it is not necessary to go through the formal routine of exchange, but, to save trouble and time, we shall give notice to each other, after the convention has been ratified by Their Majesties the Emperors of the two respective countries.

The Ambassador: That will do very well, but we should fix the time when notice of ratification must be given.

The Vice-Roy: Of course without any unnecessary delay. After long discussions, I have had to make great concessions so as to make the Convention acceptable to you. I have now to wait for the ratification and am very anxious about it, because I

do not know whether it will be approved by my Government.

The Ambassador: What you call ratification, I understand only in a sense of the right of ratification that every Sovereign reserves and exercises in good faith. Your Excellency has had to discuss the present affair, with the power of concluding and signing a treaty, and I must say that what we have agreed to, is final.

The Vice-Roy: At any rate, the ratification of our Emperor is required. According to Mr. Go's proposal, that he first brought to me, it was to say that our country alone reserves the right of sending troops to Corea, that was his opinion as regards the 4th article. His reasoning was simple and clear. He said we have a right to send our troops to Corea at any time we may choose, but, on the other hand, Japan, who has only treaty relations with Corea, will find no necessity for sending troops there. Perhaps Your Excellency cannot imagine what pains I have taken to bring him to the points of our concession.

The Ambassador: We have to fix a specific term for ratification. By what time can Your Excellency give us notice of it?

The Vice-Roy: Within four months after signing this Convention, both troops are to be withdrawn.

The Ambassador: That is quite settled, but I ask by what time can you give us notice of ratification? It must of course be given to each other, prior to the time when the withdrawal of the troops actually takes place.

The Vice-Roy: When the result of our discussion is reported to His Majesty our Emperor through the Tsung-li-Yamen, it is customary for us to hold in Peking, a council of high important dignitaries to discuss the question. So it will take some time before we can give you our notice.

The Ambassador: I have nothing to do with the discussion in your Government, that is your own affair. I must fix a

I am really at a loss to comprehend why that draft does not meet your approval.

The Ambassador: As I have just stated, I most carefully and minutely considered the matter, after we had discussed it so much, the other day. The point of difference in our views is that of want of reciprocity, which point you insist on. Without putting into the draft that two articles, I think we can make it more simple. Your Excellency said, you would have only the last two articles and wished to strike out the other four. But, the last two articles are not sufficient to cover the whole ground, and I think we had better make some addition. After a careful perusal of the minutes of our successive meetings, it seems to me evident that your Government has no objection to making some addition of a mutual and reciprocal basis. So, in case of any emergency that requires us to send our troops, it should be settled, in the present agreement, that we have to send previous notice to each other. The cases that require us to send our troops, should be those of insurrection of a grave nature: Conflicts between tradesmen or other private individuals should give no pretext to either one of the respective countries. Certainly, after the matter has been settled, the troops which may have been sent by either one of us should be withdrawn immediately.

The Vice-Roy: Has Your Excellency made another draft?

The Ambasador: Yes. I hope you will not raise any more objection to this one.

DRAFT.

Art. 1. The two respective countries hereby mutually agree that the specific time for the withdrawal of the troops, they each have now stationed in Corea, shall be four months after the date of the signing of this Convention and within the above mentioned specific term, to withdraw the total number of each of

their troops, in order to avoid effectively any complications between the two countries. The Japanese troops shall embark from Ninsen and the Chinese troops from Masanpo.

Art. 2. The two respective countries agree hereby to in common invite the King of Corea for the security of public tranquility, to instruct and drill properly a Corean armed force and to engage into his service for the purpose of the said instruction, an officer or officers from among the officers of a third Power.

Art. 3. In case of Corea's falling, in future, into difficulties which necessitate the two respective countries or either one of them to send there their troops, it is hereby understood that they shall give previous notice to each other of their intention to send their troops there, and that after the trouble is over, they shall withdraw their troops immediately and not further station them there.

The Vice-Roy (after careful perusal of the draft): I have no objection to the general principles of the draft, but I wish to make only a slight modification in the wording. In case of insurrection of a grave nature, we are bound to send our troops. So I would like to express these words:—"*in case of disturbance of a grave nature occurring in Corea.*

The Ambassador: I have no objection to your modification of the wording, You must distinctly understand that by this draft, the two respective countries agree and bind themselves not to send their troops in case of a small matter, but to send them only in cases of the very gravest nature.

The Vice-Roy: Quite so. Suppose Russia should put her hands upon Corea, we must send our troops there. In other cases of similar gravity, we shall do the same. But, when we intend to send our troops, we shall notify you Government at once,

Minutes of a Conference held at His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Marine Board at Tientsin, on the 15th April 1885 at 3. P. M.

Present,

On the part of Japan:—

His Excellency the Ambassador,
His Excellency Admiral Yenomoto,
Mr. Inouye Ki,
Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary.
Mr. Tei Nagayasu.

On the part of China:—

H. E. the Vice-Roy,
H. E. Gotaicho,
H. E. Zokusho,
Mr. Goteiho,
Mr. Rahoroku, Interpreter.

The Ambassador: We ended our last conference unfortunately without arriving at any conclusion about the withdrawal question. It seems to me advisable that we should continue the further discussion of the subject, with a view to solving the question. Since our last meeting, I have carefully reflected upon the subject and wish to know whether you have reconsidered it.

The Vice-Roy: I have carefully and minutely thought over the matter. The result of this further consideration of it convinces me more strongly than ever, that the draft I submitted to Your Excellency is good and acceptable to both parties at once

am unable to secure tranquility for the future, as the result of my mission to China.

The Vice-Roy: So I propose to have the last two articles of your draft for our present conclusion.

The Ambassador: That will not answer the purpose at all.

The Vice-Roy: If we are forever to have peace, there is no necessity of stipulating so strongly as you propose.

The Ambassador: If you must make some modification in my draft, I can agree as for as to say this:—

"In case of any disturbance in Corea and of the king of Corea applying to either of the two respective countries to send troops for its suppression, it is hereby understood that each of the respective Governments reserves to itself the right of sending troops there, with the consent of the other.

The Vice-Roy: Better to have only the last two articles in your draft so as to make the provisions general. You may rest assured that we will never send troops to Corea, except when forced by urgent necessity.

The Ambassador: If you wish to provide for anything that concerns foreign encroachment, I will agree with you, as the matter deserves great importance. Any other matter for which you propose to provide, I am unable to agree to.

The Vice-Roy: Of course we have the right of sending troops in case a third power encroaches upon Corean territory. So I say, it is better to conclude our discussion without all the preceding articles and to have the last two only.

The Ambassador: If you have to send troops there, after we have carried out withdrawal on our respective sides, what is the use of our present discussion?

The Vice-Roy: After the withdrawal of our respective troops, there will be no more trouble between them, and as long as Corea enjoys peace, there will be no necessity for us to send

troops again. We can then save the expense that we have to incur by having troops there.

The Ambassador: As long as you insist that you will send troops to Corea, I think it is better for you not to discuss the matter any more and not to withdraw your troops at all.

The Vice-Roy: But we can put the last two articles together and make one article out of the two. That seems to me good enough for our purpose.

The Ambassador: The difference of our views is very great, so let us put off the discussion and please give me the pleasure of dining with me.

The Conference ended at 7 o'clock.

and has no concern with what I propose to put into the agreement, that is to say, simply:—"*the rights which have hitherto exercised by the respective powers in Corea shall not be affected in any way by the present agreemnt.*

The Ambassador: If the present agreement has nothing to do with the rights hitherto exercised by the respective countries, as you say, I see no necessity for putting that clause into the agreement. In order to avoid the creation of more difficulties, I think we can do much better without it.

The Vice-Roy: You can choose either one of the two, that is to say, my amendment of the 2nd article or the 4th article of Mr. Go's draft. In case of internal disturbance, we are bound to send troops to Corea to support the King of Corea.—At the time of the accession of a King to the throne of Corea, His Majesty our Emperor has to nominate him.

The Ambassador: If Your Excellency chooses to go so far into the matter and to allude to the political attitude of Corea, I cannot take your words to mean anything else than, to ask my recognition of your claim of suzerainty.

The Vice-Roy: But that is a fact known by everybody.

The Ambassador: It is not our business to discuss that now at all.

The Vice-Roy: I do not mean to ask the recognition by Your Government of a matter that entirely concerns our suzerainty.

The Ambassador: I would like to ask Your Excellency then, why you allowed the United States Government to strike out from the draft of the treaty made between Corea and the United States, those very words which you intended to insert in the preamble clause, to express that Corea is a dependent state of China?

The Vice-Roy: Although it is not mentioned in the treaty

that Corea is a dependent state of China, yet it is specified in the official despatches which passed between the United States Minister and myself.

The Ambassador: What is the use of mentioning it in the official despatches. That has no binding effect at all; the treaty is the sole thing that binds the respective countries.

The Vice-Roy: They are not an ordinary kind of despatches, but they form a part of the treaty.

The Ambassador: Well, you must know, that when a treaty of that sort has been made between two countries, it has necessarily to be proclained to the respective people interested, that its effect may be binding upon them. I have never heard that the letter, you referred to, have been made publics either in Corea or in the United States.

The Vice-Roy: Let us return to our business, without talking any more on another subject—If Your Excellency objects to all of my proposals, there is no other way for me than to leave out all the articles in your draft except the last two.

The Ambassador: It is impossible for me to sign such a convention as you propose.

The Vice-Roy: Then we can sign a protocol. One or two articles will be quite sufficient for the present purpose; there is no necessity for providing more articles than that.

The Ambassador: Even if we do sign such a protocol as you propose, what is the use of doing so, in as much as the respective powers reserve the right of sending troops again, at any time they choose to do so. Then any arrangement which we may conclude after so long and tedious a discussion, would be nothing but one of a temporary nature, by which we can hardly secure future tranquility in Corea and preserve the friendly relations now happily existing between Japan and Chiua—I must say, I shall have wasted some two months time to no purpose, if I

The Vice-Roy: Certainly, I shall advise the King to undertake the establishment of a sufficient armed force for his future safety and also for the permanent tranquility of his country; but finding himself unable to carry out the plan, in the course of a few years, he may apply to us, that we must again send our troops to him. Perhaps it may seen to Japan, an interference of China in the internal affairs of Corea, to send troops there, but that is not the case at all.

The Ambassador: That is your own opinion. As regards your sending of troops to Corea, there must naturally be a difference of opinion, one in contradiction to yours.

The Vice-Roy: Suppose we make another amendment to the 2nd article of your draft thus:

"The present shall not affect in any way the rights which have hitherto been exercised by the respective countries, in Corea and which shall be reserved by them forever."

Will this do? You recognize Corea as an independent state and we recognize her as our tributary state. We need not discuss that question at this moment. But we may leave the 2nd article in a general sense like that.

The Ambassador: Since we made our treaty with Corea, her attitude is quite certain to us. I need not take the trouble of asking you about the existing relations between China and Corea. I am in full possession of all information as to what your Government has stated, in reply to the enquiries made by foreign Powers about the attitude of Corea—As long as you insist on sending your troops, either in case of foreign encroachment or of internal disturbance, I cannot agree to your proposal. You say, "internal disturbance". We can hardly define the words as to what sort of disturbance it may be, especially in such a country as Corea. It might be a trifling matter, not calling for the sending of troops at all. But in case any third power encroaches

upon Corea territory, it is certainly a matter of serious importance—So far as foreign aggression is concerned, I can agree with you, but on no other matter.

The Vice-Roy: We can hardly imagine what may occur in Corea in future. We can withdraw our troops during a time of tranquility. But in case of need in future, we have to send troops again; then it would be exactly the same as at present, in Corea.

The Ambssador: No Nation in the World would wish for any disturbance there, it is needless to say. So, should any emergency happen in Corea in future, we shall communicate with each other for some mutual arrangement together. If anything extraordinary happens in Corea, there is no doubt it will be a matter that concerns the common interests of both Japan and China—It is not for the sake of Corea alone that I speak, but also for that of China and Japan. Therefore my strong opinion is, that it is quite useless to make any special stipulation for future emergencies, when we find it hardly possible to imagine in what form they may be, when they may actually take place. I have no desire to create trouble at this moment, by raising now a question as to the suzerainty you claim over Corea, But at the same time, I hope you will not create trouble by claiming to interfere with the internal affairs of Corea. Your Excellency must distinctly understand that I have not come to your country for the purpose of questioning or recognizing China's suzerainty over Corea. If you opened that question of suzerainty, I would ask whether you think I have here to discuss that matter. This is the reason why I cannot agree to your proposal,

The Vice- Roy: I understand you very well. But I did not mean to ask for your recognition of our suzerainty, Whether Corea is a vassal state of China or not, is quite another question

our respective countries.

The Vice-Roy: We have always the right of sending troops to Corea: you can only keep a certain number of soldiers there for the protection of your legation, by the right you have acquired by treaty stipulation. According to it, you have to withdraw your troops after tranquility has been restored in Corea.

The Ambassador: Whether we withdraw our troops or not is left to our own discretion, according to the provisions of that treaty.

The Vice-Roy: But the number of soldiers and also the term of years during which they can be stationed there, are specified in that treaty. I remember the term is limited to two years.

The Ambassador: That specified term signifies a space of time during which we shall necessarily station troops there. After the two years are over, we have to decide, at our own discretion whether we shall continue them there or not.

The Vice-Roy: If you will have your troops in Corea altogether withdrawn, there will be no more disturbance there, such as the one that happened last year.

The Ambassador: Then there would be no need of your sending troops there either.

The Vice-Roy: I am afraid only of internal disturbance.

The Ambassador: But you have just told me, that after the withdrawal of your troops, there will be no more disturbance. If that be true, there will also be no need of your sending troops.

The Vice-Roy: There may be an internal disturbance or a rebellion. I can disclose everything that I have in my heart. Some time ago I had information from a certain source, that the Japanese, evidently not the Government, are trying their best to encourage the Corean Government to become independent of China. In such a case as, that we shall of course send our troops.

The Ambassador: Very possibly some one may be encouraging the Corean Government to assume firmly the position of an independent state, towards China. Even the Coreans themselves declare, that Coreans should do their best to maintain their independence of China. At any rate such an insignificant matter is quite unworthy of notice in our present discussion.

The Vice-Roy: Japan is always giving such wrong advice to Corea.

The Ambassador: May be some Japanese private individuals do advise the King of Corea, that he must maintain the independence of his country, but it makes no material difference to us. But you cannot ignore this incontestable fact that Corea as an independent state has already treaty obligations with Foreign Powers.

The Vice-Roy: You need not take any trouble about the relations existing between China and Corea.

The Abmassader: No, none at all. As Your Excellency opened the question, I could not help replying to your argument.

The Vice-Roy: If we have to continue as we are now, I fear our discussion will bear no fruit.

Mr. Go: Now, let us come back to the points of our discussion. We must insist on the amendment we have made of the 2nd article of your draft. Such amendment to that clause will be preventive of future misunderstanding.

The Ambassador: For the purpose of avoiding any future misunderstanding, the amendment you propose will not do any good. The only thing we can do for the purpose, is to invite the King of Corea to establish a sufficient armed force that will secure permanent tranquility. We must let Corea herself do everything that she ought to do without relying upon any one's assistance. Therefore I am of the opinion that the amendment you propose, can have no affect for security in the future.

afterwards she ceded it to Japan.

The Ambassador: Oh no! Tsushima has been an integral part of our Empire from a time unknown, and Foosan was, in those days, only a Japanese settlement. I have repeatedly given Your Excellency the assurance of our views as regards Corea, so as to convince you that we have not the slightest intention of encroaching upon her. I cannot, however, agree to the clause which you propose to insert in the agreement.

The Vice-Roy: Do you think China has any intention of absorbing Corea?

The Ambassador: She may have, though there is no particular reason why I should suspect her of it. What I want to do with Corea, is to make her a bulwark between Japan and China, in order to prevent a collision between the two.

The Vice-Roy: If we really had such aggressive ideas as you think we have, I would certainly not have agreed to your proposal.

The Ambassador: But your suggestion to put in that clause, is a dead-lock to our present understanding.

The Vice-Roy: As you raised an objection to our first draft, I proposed an amendment which simply says, that when the disturbance is over, we have to withdraw our troops. You can ascertain from our Minister whether there is a necessity for us to send troops, and also whether the revolt has already been suppressed or not. If we do not withdraw them after all matters are settled, we shall be responsible for a breach of our promise.

The Ambassador: No. I cannot agree to your amendment. As far as it concerns Corea's internal affairs, let her manage for herself. I do not wish to see the Coreans begging China, England, Russia or any other country, for temporary aid. She must try to do herself everything she ought to do—Unless the basis of the present agreement be made mutual and reciprocal on both

sides, I will never consent to it.

The Vice-Roy: But our Government is bound by duty, to send troops in case of internal disturbance, when the King of Corea applies to us for the same.

The Ambassador: Then it is better for you not to withdraw your troops at all.

The Vice-Roy: After the suppression of a revolt we shall immediately withdraw our troops. You are too cantious for the future.

The Ambassador: I must insist on a mutual and reciprocal basis for the agreement. I think it is you who are too cantious and evidently suspicious of Japan.

The Vice-Roy: I did suspect Japan very much, a few years ago, but do not at present.

The Ambassador: When a third Nation comes in question, I can agree to a special stipulation to admit of the right of your sending troops, but I cannot agree to any other point.

The Vice-Roy: Suppose we retain the last two articles of your draft, with a slight modification of the wording, without altering their meaning, how would that suit Your Excellency?

The Ambassador: As long as you object to all of the articles in my draft, I cannot help insisting on the right which we have acquired by tready stipulation to station our troops in Corea.

The Vice-Roy: For the present, we shall then withdraw all of our respective troops and you may reserve your treaty right to send troops to Corea. In the same way, we may send our troops as often as the case may require.

The Ambassador: Then what is the use of this discussion. That is only a temporary arrangement, which does not at all meet the purpose of avoiding any future conflict between Japanese and Chinese soldiers. It is nothing but a half-measure, as it does not give any security for the removal of the obstacle that lies between

incur great expense, which will not be returned to us by any body, but we must bear it ourselves. Of course we have not the slightest intention of encroaching upon Corea.

The Ambassador: Perhaps so, but I cannot be certain of what Your Excellency says.

The Vice-Roy: Corea will never do harm to the Chinese, but she will to the Japanese.

The Ambassador: That is a mere supposition of yours.

The Vice-Roy: I have already personal experience of two events there, for your case.

The Ambassador: How many times then have you made war against Corea?

The Vice-Roy: You mean in former days?—At one time Corea was an independent nation. After the Ming dynasty, she was conquered by us—If you have objections, I think it is better to provid in the agreement in his way:

"*When we have to send our troops we shall, at the same time send a notice to the Japanese Government, and they shall be withdrawn immediately after the commotion is over and not further station them there.*

The Ambassador: You cannot specify how long you will station your troops there. So far as a third nation is concerned, to cause China to send troops to Corea, I may agree to it; but as to other matters for your sending them, I cannot agree to make any special stipulation.

The Vice-Roy: In case of a revolt in Corea, we are bound to support the Government of Corea. Suppose the King were to be killed by rebels, I am bound to order my soldiers to march to Corea, immediately upon receipt of such an announcement, so as to protect the King's family.

The Ambassador: If you will insist on putting in the agreement such a clause as you propose now, I have a notion not to

enter into any part of it at all. The present state of things will have to go on as it is. Our discussion will be endless.

The Vice-Roy: If rebels rise against the Corea Government, we cannot but send our troops there. How can we do otherwise?

The Ambassador: Let the Coreans keep a sufficient armed force to stand by themselves and so not have to rely upon the aid of another:

The Vice-Roy: I think some modification of the 4th article, will remove your objections. Suppose I make the wording like this, how would it suit Your Excellency? That is to say:

"*It is understood, that in case of internal disturbance on account of which the King of Corea applies to us for troops to suppress the revolt, China shall give previous notice to Japan, of her sending troops there, and that after the suppression of the same the Chinese troops shall be immediately withdrawn and not further maintained in Corea.*"

The Ambassador: If we put that clause in the agreement, Corea would assume the appearance of being a state dependent of both China and of Japan. We do not wish to interfere in her internal affairs at all. She must try to do herself everything that she ought to do.

The Vice-Roy: Corea has never been a dependent state of Japan, but she has been a tributary one to us for a long time.

The Ambassador: Oh yes, she was once a tributary state of ours, after she had been conquered by the Empress Jingo.

The Vice-Roy: You mean at the time of the Ming dynasty, when the Japanese occupied Foosan and Tsushima.

The Ambassador: No, many centuries ago, before that time.

The Vice-Roy: Tsushima formerly belonged to Corea, but

your draft, I should like to make an addition, thus:—"*In case Corea becomes involved in a war with any third power or in case of any disturbance there, the present agreement will not apply to China's sending her troops to Corea.*"

The Ambassador: If you inisist on that addition, we can have no reciprocal and mutual basis for our present agreement. We have to give up our right of stationing troops in Corea. As long as we do not send any again, you said in the last conference, you will also never send your troops again. You are always bringing up new questions which are incompatible with reciprocity.

The Vice-Roy: In case Corea is involved in war with any third power or in case of internal disturbance there, we are bound to send troops to support the King and his Government.

The Ambassador: Then, does Your Excellency mean to say that the withdrawal of your troops, to which you have agreed, would be of only temporary arraugement?

The Vice-Roy: If there is no rebellion or foreign encroachment, we will never send our troops to Corea.

The Ambassador: By the present agreement you may comprehend that we have not the slightest intention of encroaching upon Corea. Evidently you do not like the presence of our soldiers in the Corean capital. Neither do I like to have your troops stationed there. Although you say you have no intention of obsorbing Corea, yet we cannot be always free from suspicion that China herself may not encroach upon Corean territory by seizing the opportunity of internal disturbance there.

The Vice-Roy: Your Excellency must be well acquainted with Corean politics. There exists in Corea many political parties, each striving for power over the others. I think Admiral Yenomoto has aroused among those parties, a strong fear of Japan's encroachment. Those parties have existed in Corea since a long time ago; they are very powerful. The so

called Japanese and Chinese parties, are of very recent origin and are quite nominal, they have no substantiality.

The Ambassador: By the words "*case of any disturbanee,*" do you mean to say that Japan can send her troops to Corea without previous notice being given to China?

The Vice-Roy: When you send your troops, I expect to get from your Government a previous notice to that effect. We will do the same when we send our troops there.

The Ambassador: I do not see any necessity for entering into special stipulation to that effect. We will send previous notice to each other when it is necessary. If we are to make special provision for it in the present agreement, it can be for no purpose than to increase difficulties.

The Vice-Roy: Then we can have a separate stipulation.

The Ambassador: No, I have objections to that also.

The Vice-Roy: Does Your Excellency mean to say that we cannot send our troops to Corea in any case, even of rebellion of other internal disturbance?

The Ambassodor: When you intend to send troops, you should let us know for what purpose your are going to send them. Thus we will be able to ascertain whether there exists any necessity for the despatch of soldiers. I firmly determine not to agree even to its separate stipulation. When we have to send troops there, we will also inform you to that effect.

The Vice-Roy: As Your Excellency has suggested to me, I shall avoid discussing the suzerainty question. But, one thing I must tell you. As the Coreans have much sympathy with China, we have great facilities for suppressing a rebellion when it arises in Corea. We will send our troops only in case of urgent need of them. If you have any objection for those cases, we shall be placed in great difficulty to send even a small number of our forces. In sending troops there, we have to

you will have to do the same.

The Vice-Roy: You have strong objections to the mention of a third power. You are really afraid of offending some third power.

The Ambassador: I know you are not, because China is a big nation. But my country is too small not to care about offending a third nation.

The Vice-Roy: I know Your Excellency does not speak from your heart.

The Ambassador: I proposed to send from our respective Governments, two Commissioners to Corea, for the proper execution of the present agreement, as well as to conclude some mutual understanding about subsequent detailed arrangements. I consider it not advisable to let the respective commander arrange those matter, but the Commissioners so specially despatched. Will you agree to this?

The Vice-Roy: There is no difficully on our part about sending special Commissioners, but I think my official despatches conveying my instructions to our Commanders, will be sufficient; they are always obedient to my commands. Besides, they have been long away from home and must be very impatiently waiting for an order to return, after being absent for three years.

The Ambassador: As Your Excellency is suspicious of me, I am also suspicious of you. To avoid any dispute about an arrangement for the proper execution of the present agreement, I think it advisable to send Commissioners from our respective Governments.

The Vice-Roy: I am responsible for anything that may occur by not sending any, although you suggest sending them. All the foreign Plenipotentiaries place great confidence in me, as I never fail to carry out anything I have once promised.

The Ambassador: In case of any misunderstanding arising

in consequence of your rejecting my suggestion. I shall hold you responsible for it.

The Vice-Roy: Certainly. Should our soldiers insist upon remaining in Corea contrary to my orders, whilst your troops have already withdrawn, I shall be responsible. Your Excellency may rest assured that such a thing will never happen.

The Ambassador: We must be as cautious as possible, so as to avoid any misunderstanding. After trouble has actually happened, there is no help for it: so we must be as cautious as possible.

The Vice-Roy: I beg to tell Your Excellency that those troops in Corea are from the army under my immediate command. Besides, they are from my native province and are always ready to obey my command. When I think of the desire of my Government, I cannot agree to the reciprocal withdrawal. Even Mr. Go has strong objections to my agreeing to your proposal. After the present agreement has been signed, I am sure many high dignitaries of our Government will raise great opposition against me, as I have been obliged by Your Excellency to conclude the present agreement.

Mr. Go: As the Vice-Roy has finally consented to your proposal, I have no more power to raise any objection to it.

Admiral Yenomoto: Any one with common sense, who thinks a little about the future, will readily agree to the present proposal, because it is for the benefit of both countries.

The Vice-Roy: The withdrawal of our troops is neither an advantage nor a disadvantage to us, because we have to send our troops again in case of any future disturbance in Corea. Should such an emergency happen, we are bound by our duty to support the King of Corea and his Government. Really we are obliged to render our assistance to them. Therefore I should like to provide in the agreement expressly for it. In the 2nd article of

The Ambassador: I am afraid of every foreign nation and and before all, I am most afraid of China.

The Vice-Roy: Why can you not put in an agreement our secret understanding?

The Ambatsador: Because I have no power to enter into a treaty with your country for a secret alliance. I think it is just the case with you.

The Vice-Roy: I have full power to enter into such an agreement, if you will only agree to it.

The Ambassador: Then I should say you have more power than I have.

The Vice-Roy: Perhaps you are afraid of offending some third power.

The Ambassador: Until necessity obliges us to take some decided step, we had better not say much of any third power.

The Vice-Roy: You are very cautious. Well, if I can make an addition to the 2nd article to say that "*in case of any third power encroaching upon Corea, the present agreement will not apply,*" I think that will remove my objection.

The Ambassador: I think it is better to have the article in a general way. What I have put in the article covers the whole ground. I simply give the general principle.

The Vice-Roy: But if any third power encroaches upon the territory of Corea, we are bound to send our troops there.

The Ambassador: I do not mean by this article, prohibit China from taking such course of action as you have just explained, as far as the defence of Corea is concerned. In such case you have no doubt the right to send your troops there. It has nothing to do with the first article.—I say the first article is only to stipulate our mutual agreement of withdrawing our respective troops. It is not binding on China in case of your

being obliged to send troops to Corea on account of foreign aggression upon her.

The Vice-Roy: So I wish those articles to be expressed in a more distinct way.

The Ambassador: Well, if you have so much objection to the second article, I will agree to strike it out altogether.

The Vice-Roy: I wish to provide, in the agreement, for our right of sending troops to Corea to defend it against foreign aggression.

The Ambassador: I admit you have the right of sending your troops there, but at the same time, you must distinctly understand that we have to enter into an agreement only on the matter of our respective troops, as far as they concern Corea: that is the sole subject of our discussion.

(To the Interpreter) That Corea may or may not be involved in a war with a third nation, is certainly not the subject of our present agreement with China.

The Vice-Roy: If Japan and China become involved in war with each other, we may send our troops into Corea and we must also have the right of sending our troops there in case of foreign encroachment upon her.

The Ambassador. I think I have repeated to Your Excellency often enough, that you have the right of sending troops there, in case of any attempt being made by a third power upon Corea, that might prove injurious to the interests of China. I say you have the right of doing so, separate from the question of Corean independence or dependency. If a third power comes to take possession of an island that lies between Japan and Corea, we have to defend ourselves against the aggression (plan shown). If any third power attacks or occupies this island and stations an army or navy there, we will have to defend it to our best. So also if a third power occupies this island called Komato (巨磨島)

will not talk now of anything of that kind.

The Vice-Roy (smiling): I hope so too. We have to express more fully the subject contained in the 2nd article, which says:— "*the right of warfare of either country of either party shall not be affected by the agreement*". This wording is not quite intelligible to our Chinese readers.

The Ambassador: Any one who has any knowledge of International Law will understand it perfectly well. Mr. Goteiho is a lawyer. I consider it his duty to explain it if the Vice-Roy does not understand it.

The Vice-Roy: There should forever be no war between Japan and China or Corea. Peace between each of them should be permanent and everlasting. If you have any objection to erasing the article, we can distinctly express, that "*that present agreement shall not affect in any way the right of war of either Japan or China between themselves,*" so as to exclude Corea in that respect.

The Ambassador: Every nation has a right of war and certain right, after a war.

The Vice-Roy: I can guaranty you that Corea will never declare war against Japan.

The Ambassador: This is not a discussion of a personal matter between you and me. As all human beings are mortal, we may perhaps die to-morrow, but our nation will never die. We are now discussing a matter which will bind our two nations forever, Your Excellency must understand that.

The Vice-Roy: If you look into history, you will easily see that Corea has always been in a defensive position and Japan in an aggressive one.

The Ambassador: If Your Excellency represents the Chinese Government of the present dynasty as well as that of the different Chinese and Corean dynasties up to a very remote time,

I must expect you to give me a satisfactory auswer touching the celebrated historical events that happened at the time of the Gen dynasty. As you know from history, two expeditions at the time of Gen, were sent to invade Japan. The first one was sent from Shanghai and the second though Corea. What have you to say to this?

The Vice-Roy: They were only the Chinese and not the Coreans. So the Coreans were never offensive against Japan.

The Ambassador: Oh no! The Coreans actually assisted the Chinese expedition. If the Coreans had strictly observed neutrality, they would not have allowed the Chinese expedition even to pass through their territory.

The Vice-Roy: After signing this arrangement, we will never send our troops through the Corean territory. So also in your case. If Japan wants to send an expedition to China through Corea, the first step for Japan to take, is to swallow up Corea.

The Ambassador: In case of Japan and China becoming involved in war, the present arrangement has nothing to do with their respective belligerent rights.

The Vice-Roy: Is that the meaning of the second article?

The Ambassador: Exactly so.

The Vice-Roy: Should a third power come to encroach upon Corean territory, we have to send our troops there.

The Ambassador: Certainly you would have a right to send them there.

The Vice-Roy: We may then invite your Government to send you troops there, so as to take joint action to defend Corea. Will you agree to this?

The Ambassador: You do not give a name to a child that is yet not born, do you?

The Vice-Roy: Are you afraid of any third nation or have you any secret understanding with any nation?

further maintained iu Corea.

The Ambassador: To the second article of Mr. Go's draft, I have strong objections, as I stated to him personally yesterday, as well as to Your Excellency at our last conference. If you wish to keep in Corea, Chinese officers for training Corean soldiers, I shall insist on keeping officers there too, for the sake of an equality of footing between us. I have also many objections to the 4th article's being inserted in the present agreement.

The Vice-Roy: But the 3rd article is very intelligible. It is clearer than what you have put in your draft.

The Ambassador: The 3rd article in Mr. Go's draft only refers to a conflict that may arise between Corean and Japanese tradesmen. For any dispute that may arise between private individuals, it is needless to say that we do not require to send troops. Should our legation, however, be attacked by Corean rioters, we must necessarily send troops there.

The Vice-Roy: So I say we can state distinctly what we mean to do.

The Ambassador: If you have any objection to the words, "*under any pretext or on account of any right they may have formerly acquired by treaty*," I can erase them. Would you like to strike them out?

The Vice-Roy: Yes, it is better to do so.

The Ambassador: It makes no difference, but I will do so, only for Your Excellency's satisfaction.

The Vice-Roy: What do you mean by the words, "*military place*"?

The Ambassador: They mean simply, a place to station an army in.

The Vice-Roy: After signing the present agreement, your Government has to give up its intention of encroaching upon Corea.

The Ambassador: In Japan we have not the slightest intention of annexing Corea, as you suspect we have. Among our people you may perhaps find some individuals whom you can suspect. I cannot assure you of the ideas that every individual in my country entertains as regards Corea. Even if you should find some individuals whom you could suspect in this way, the fact is very insignificant, unworthy of your attention. What you can attach importance to, is the ideas our Sovereign and His Government entertain as regards Corea, of which I have repeatedly assured your Government as well as Your Excellency. You can entirely rely upon what I have said.

The Vice-Roy: In the preface of a book Admiral Yenomoto has written, he states that an aggressive policy to be adopted against Corea, is the public sentiment in Japan and not the private one. The book appeared ten years ago. My sincere belief in what Your Excellency has assured me of, leads me to consider that Japan has since then given up the idea of aggression.

The Ambassador: I cannot assure you whether any indvidual in Japan is dreaming of aggression or not, but it does not make any difference to you, as it is not the intention of the Government. I am quite sure that a certain Chinese gentleman intends to fight us, but I will not take his, as the intention of the Government.

The Vice-Roy: Not a single Chinese has ever entertained such a warlike idea against Japan.

The Ambassador: Perhaps there is not a single Chinese among the people that does so, but I know some one among high Chinese dignitaries, who sent a memorial to His Majesty the Emperor of China to provoke war against Japan. I have a copy of the memorial, though I am not sure of its authenticity, yet I am certain there is a high Chinese dignitary who entertains warlike intentions against our country. I hope Your Excellency

Government to that effect, so that we can arrange with your Government.

The Ambassador: If he applied to your Government for Chinese troops your Government should communicate with us in the same way.

The Vice-Roy: But I have to remind Your Excellency that there is a striking difference between the position of Japan and that of China towards Corea. To China, Corea is a tributary State and has the obligation to report to her every matter that takes place in her country. But Corea has nothing more than a treaty obligation towards Japan.?

The Ambassador: Well, if you go into that question, I fear we will be involved in great difficulties and that the subject of our discussion will be much more complicated. Do you not think so?

The Vice-Roy: But you have no right to discuss that question.

The Ambassador: Yes; but I will carefully avoid discussion on that question, so as not to fall into greater complication.

The Vice-Roy: Your Excellency need not take the trouble of discussing that question.

The Ambassador: So I say: if we discuss it, we shall only create trouble on both sides, while there exists no necessity for doing so.

The Vice-Roy: We have no right to discuss it at present, We have nothing else to discuss than the question of the withdrawal of our respective troops.

The Ambassador: At the last conference, you stated, that as long as we shall not send troops, you can promise that neither will you send any. It is only by way of receprocity that we can agree to withdraw our respective troops.

The Vice-Roy: I should like to have the draft made like

the one that was yesterday submitted to you by Mr. Go.

(The draft drawn up by Mr. Go was read in Chinese, the English translation of it, is as follows.

Art. 1. The two respective countries hereby mutually agree that the specific time for the withdrawal of the troops they each have now stationed in Corea, shall be four months after the date of the signing of this convention. After the aforesaid four months, China shall withdraw the whole number of troops in each camp which she has stationed in Corea, and Japan shall also withdraw the whole number of troops she has stationed in Corea for the protection of her legation there. The above mentioned countries respectively agree and bind themselves to carry out the above arrangement at one and the same time.

Art. 2. It is understood that the Chinese military instructors in each of the barracks of the Corean troops, shall be allowed to remain further in Corea, that their number shall not be less than ten and not over twenty in all, according to circumstances, for a fixed term of years and that at the expiration of that term they shall be withdrawn therefrom.

Art. 3. In case of any conflict arising in future, between Corean and Japanese tradesmen, which may necessitate Japan's despatching Commissioners to investigate the matter, those Commissioners shall not take with them any armed force, and in case of China's sending Commissioners (to Corea) to investigate any certain matter, no armed force shall accompany them, so as to avoid any misunderstanding that might be caused, were it otherwise.

Art. 4. It is understood that Japan has no concern whatever in any rising that may cause disturbance in Corea, on account of which the King of Corea may apply to China to send troops to suppress the rising, and that after the suppression of the same, the Chinese troops shall be immediately withdrawn and not

Corean territory, any camp or military place or post.

Art. 2. It is understood that the right of warfare of either party, shall not be effected by the agreement contained in the foregoing article.

Art. 3. In case any difficulty should arise between the two High Contracting Parties, on account of Corea or between either of them and the King of Corea, the same shall be settled by way of peaceable arrangement if possible, between the respective parties, who shall appoint Commissioners on their respective sides, for the purpose.

Art. 4. Both of the High Contracting Parties agree to, in common invite His Majesty the King of Corea, for national defience and for the safety of the Foreign resdents in Corea, to form and keep up a sufficient armed force, to be instructed by a proper officer or officers who shall be engaged by His Majesty the King of Corea into his service, from among the subjects of a third power, that shall be agreed to by each of the High Contracting Parties.

Art. 5. Each of the High Contracting Parties engages hereby to withdraw totally, within the time mentioned in Art. 1. the troops which each may have at present stationed on Corean territory, and it is hereby agreed that the Imperial Japanese troops shall evacuate it at the port of Chemulpo and the Imperial Chinese troops at the port of Ma-san-po.

Art. 6. Immediately after the ratification of the present Convention, each of the High Contracting Parties shall appoint and send to Seoul, Commissioners who shall confer together and arrive at some mutual agreement for the proper execution of the foregoing two articles.

The Vice-Roy (after having carefully perused the draft): I do not understand distinctly the meaning of the second article.

The Ambassador: It means simply the right of war which

every independent nation enjoys and which cannot be affected in any respect, by the present arrangement. For instanee, Corea may become involved in a war with Japan and may invade our country. We would have then the right of declaring war against Corea and of sending our troops there. Thus the present arrangement cannot affect in any way our right of waging war according to the Law of Nations. That clause may be modified thus:

"It is understood that the right of warfare according to the Law of Nations, shall not be affected etc."

The Vice Roy: We must make the clause as clear as possible so as to give it its exact and definite meaning.

The Ambassador: Suppose your country becomes involved in a war with Corea, you would have the right of sending your troops there, as many as you desired.

The Vice-Roy: What do you mean by "*under any pretext or on account of any right they may have formerly acquired by treaty.*"

The Ambassador: That wording is intended for precaution, so as to prevent the bringing forward, in future, of any pretext for violating the present arrangement. If you do not think it necessary to provide precautions for the future, I have no objection to erase those words.

The Vice-Roy: Should any domestic disturbance occur in future in Corea and should the King of Corea apply to us for soldiers for his protection, what could we do according to the present arrangement?

The Ambassador: For such a case, there can be nothing but an arrangement mutual and reciprocal. If the Corean King asks us, on the other hand, to send our troops, what would you do then?

The Vice-Roy: If the Corean King applies to your Government for Japanese soldiers, he must inform the Chinese

Minutes of a Conference held at His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Consulate in Tientsin, on the 12th of April 1885 at 3.50 o'clock P. M.

Present,

On the part of Japan:—

His Excellency the Ambassador,
His Excellency Admiral Yenomoto,
Mr. Inouye Ki,
Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary.
Mr. Tei Nagayasu.

On the part of China:—

His Excellency the Vice-Roy.
H. E. Gotaicho,
H. E. Zokusho,
Mr. Goteiho,
Mr. Rahoroku.

The Ambassador: About the withdrawal of troops, I have made a draft, which I have to submit to Your Excellency in order to ask your opinion on it.

The draft was read in Chinese and is as follows:

Art. 1. In order to prevent effectually any future complications between the two countries, the High contracting Parties mutually agree and bind themselves for the future, not to send into or keep in the Corean territory, under any pretext or on account of any right they may have formerly acquired by treaty or otherwise, any garrison of troops or military force whatever or any commander or other military officer, nor to occupy or hold in

upon her, Japan and China jointly will fiight against the trespasser with all our resources.

The Ambassador: Do not say much about the third power.

The Vice-Roy: I do not speak officially: you must keep this as a secret understanding between us.

Admiral Yenomoto: If I were the Ambassador, I would certainly not agree to such an arrangement as the present one, because I wish to annex Corea.

The Vice Roy: That is the reason of my suspicions of you. You must always follow the policy of His Excellency Count Ito, before your are appointed a first class Ambassador.

Admiral Yenomoto: I am compelled to it.

The Vice-Roy: By the book you have written, the Japanese people have been much converted to the idea that Corea should be taken possession of by the Japanese.

Admiral Yenomoto: You may have an idea of annexing Japan.

The Vice-Roy: None at all.

Admiral Yenomoto: Whether that is true or not, only you and God know.

The Vice-Roy: I swear to God that I have no such idea—Now I feel quite confident that Japan has no intention of annexing Corea. When Mr. Mori Arinori was Minister to this country, he told me that Japan could find no protext for going to war with Corea. Have you ever heard that? One winter he came to see me when I was staying in the country and told me so. That was just the time when Japan was in trouble with Corea.

The Ambassador: You are now fully convinced of what ideas we entertain as regards Corea. If we really wished to have it, we would certainly not have made any treaty with it. It would have been very easy for Japan to annex Corea, if the former had not entered into treaty stipulations with her. When

I had the pleasure of seeing Marquis Tseng, I mentioned to him my personal views as regards Corea. You have no doubt heard of them from the Marquis.

The Vice-Roy: Yes. We must prevent any third power from trespassing upon Corea and do our best to maintain her independance.

The conference ended at 6.30 o'clock P. M. and all of the party went into another room to partake of dinner.

have been completed. As I have the power of concluding and signing a treaty, we must have expecial stipulations. (專條) Will you have your troops withdraw first?

The Ambassador: No, the withdrawal should be effected at exactly the same time. You must issue the necessary orders to your commanders in Corea and we will do the same to our Chargé d'Affaires, so that everything shall be carried out at the same time.

The Vice Roy: Quite so. I will instruct our Commanders to consult with Mr. Kondo and to arrange with him all details. Your troops will embark, I suppose, from Chemulpo (濟物浦) and our troops from Ma-san-po (馬山浦). I think each body of troops had better embark from different places. Although our respective Government and their High Plenipotentiaries share equally in friendly and kind feelings toward each other, yet, I am not sure that the rough characters of the soldiers of each of us will not bring them again into collision.

The Ambassador: Just so: they may be something like fire and gunpowder to each other. With the friendly feelings we entertain towards each other, we can so amicably manage as to dispose of the present difficulties. But if your and our soldiers had to negotiate on the subject, what would then be the result of their discussion?

The Vice-Roy: Most evidently, fighting. While the troops remain there, please instruct your Commanders to tell yours not to give cause for the slightest trouble. I will do the same to our commanders.

The Ambassador: Certainly I will do my best to avoid any misunderstanding between the two bodies of soldiers. But I must say to you, that we should withdraw our troops at the earliest time possible, the sooner the better.

The Vice-Roy: Our officers are very suspicious of Japanese

soldiers. From the report of our Commanders, it seems that parties of Japanese soldiers, twenty or so in number, are often found wandering about the streets just to get a chance of coming into conflict with our soldiers. So I have issued strict orders to our commanders to keep our soldiers under perfect discipline and to warn them not to fight with Japanese soldiers, even if the latter treat them rudely in the streets; but, I also instructed them that if Japanese soldiers attack our camps, they should repulse them with force.

The Ambassador: When Count Inouye was in Corea, our soldiers brought to his knowledge very often trifling matters, and he gave instructions to our soldiers such as you issued to your Commanders.

The Vice-Roy: So we must issue very strict orders to our respective officials in order to avoid any further misunderstanding. I have to repeat to Your Excelleney that in case of any trouble in Corea in future, you will only send your Commissioner to investigate the matter and not send any number whatever of soldiers with him.

The Ambassador: That must be reciprocal. We will not send our troops until Corea herself declares war against Japan. We shall do just as you do in similar case.

The Vice-Roy: I am now sincerely assured that your Government has no idea of occupying Corea. But if any third power interferes with her, we will then send there our troops. Japan may do the same, if she chooses so to do.

The Ambassador: It is the sincere desire of Japan to see Corea always an independent state and her purpose not to allow any third power to trespass upon her territory.

The Vice-Roy: If Japan wants to annex Corea, she will have to fight us to the last, and if we annex her, we will have to fight Japan to the last. But if any third power trespasses

not the slightest intention to annex such a poor country as Corea. Japan is a poor nation; if the poverty of Corea were added to our own, we would become so much the poorer. We do not want to become poorer. I suppose it is the same with every one. As soon as we take a country, you must remember that we must take all responsibilities regarding it.

The Vice-Roy: In case of any disturbance occurring in Seoul in future, we will send a special Envoy and will not send with the Envoy any soldiers.

The Ambassador: Of course, neither will we send any. But after the late disturbances, we were obliged to send troops, only as we had received news that Mr. Go was going to Corea with a large armed force. At that time, our Ambassador went without guards as far as Shimonoseki, where he received the news about Mr. Go and his soldiers. So he asked our Government to let him take soldiers with him. If Mr. Go had not taken soldiers with him, our Ambassador could have gone to Corea without an armed force.

Admiral Yenomoto: That was the reason why we sent troops to Corea.

The Vice-Roy: Then the news alone should bear the blame. After the occurrence of the disturbance, there were too many rumors and it was hardly possible to discriminate what was true and what false.

The Ambassador: We have accredited our Minister to the Imperial Court of China, so that your Government may not be misled into too easily believing prevailing rumors on such occasions as the late disturbance. If he should say to your Government any thing that is not true, he would be recalled.

The Vice-Roy (to Admiral Yenomoto): There was a rumor that you had written to your Government that it was just a good opportunity for Japan to seize and annex Corea.

Admiral Yenomoto: I wrote a book on the subject of Japan's advantage in annexing Corea.

The Vice-Roy: That is not what I speak of now. But you wrote to Count Inouye about annexation.

Admiral Yenomoto: But you must remember that Count Inouye left Tokio on the 22d.

The Vice-Roy: Your confidential letter perhaps reached him on his way.

The Ambassador: After the river had frozen up, how long would it have taken to send a letter from Peking?

The Vice-Roy: I tell you only what was the rumor. But in this World there are but two persons who know its truth, that is, Admiral Yenomoto and Count Inouye.

Admiral Yenomoto (to the Vice-Roy): I have just a similar story about you, but I will not tell it you now.

The Vice-Roy: I could tell it. Count Ito has nothing in his heart like a warlike spirit.

Admiral Yenomoto: You are too suspicious a gentleman.

The Vice-Roy: No, I tell you the truth: that information came from Japan.

The Ambassador: Now gentlemen, we must cease unnecessary talk and come back to the subject of our discussion. I propose to you, that anything we may agree upon shall be reduced to writing. You say subsequent ratification is required. In two months, then, ratifications shall be exchanged and within three or four months after signing the convention, the withdrawl of our respective troops shall take place, so as to allow an interval of one or two months after the ratification.

The Vice-Roy: Do you mean to withdraw your troops within four months after signing the treaty? The withdrawal should of course be agreed upon by both parties, by express stipulation in the treaty, which we will sign after all negotiations

The Vice-Roy: I shall be delighted to advise the King of Corea to engage his military instructors from among officers of a third power, but what I am afraid of is, that the Corean Government cannot afford the expense. The distress of the Corean Government from poverty, is so great, that their means are scanty even for sending a few young men to learn the English language. So they have not among their country-men any one who can speak any European language. Such being the state of things in Corea, they engage Chinese to act as interpreters and transact business through the medium of the Chinese language.

The Ambassador: For the two battalions of Corean soldiers, proper instruction for three months is required. With three months instruction they can do very well. When I met Mr. Von Mollendorf lately in Japan, I asked him unofficially his opinion about the engagement of officers of a third power. His private opinion is, that the Corean Government can very well afford the expense of engaging officers of a third power. Of course he meant to say that, if they did not engage officers of a high rank, they could very well pay their salaries. This is what he told me at the time of his late mission to Japan. At that time I also asked him whether the Corean Government was desirous for the withdrawal of both of our troops. He replied, that it is very desirous for it and it thinks it is far better for them to be without either of our troops in Corea.

The Vice-Roy: Mr. Von Mollendorf does not deserve the confidence of the King of Corea.

The Ambassador: It may be so. But he was sent to Japan by the King himself as his confidential official.

Admiral Yenomoto: I heard that the Chinese Commander ordered Chinese soldiers to attend Bin-Yei-Yoku (閔泳翊) as his body guard, forcibly and against his will, and that at last one of his servants shot one of the guard to death. Have you heard

anything about it?

The Vice-Roy: I have heard nothing of the sort. I have read something like it in the Japanese and Shanghai newspapers. Chinese soldiers have never been attached to Bin-Yei-Yoku. The Japanese newspapers exaggerate too much.

Admiral Yenomoto: Not so much as the Chinese papers do.

The Vice-Roy: Not at all.

Admiral Yenomoto: You have only two newspapers in your vast empire. When compared with the numbers of our newspapers, the amount of exaggeration on your part should naturally be less than that on ours.

The Vice-Roy: Of course as newspapers, they cannot be always free from containing unfounded stories.

Admiral Yenomoto: If the King of Corea is a man with common sense, I am sure he can have no desire to see the presence of foreign troops in his capital. I know he has impartial views in wishing for the withdrawal of both the Japanese and the Chinese troops.

The Vice-Roy: We will not interfere any more in Corean affairs, I mean, unless Japan interferes, we will not interfere either.

The Ambassador: No more, no more.

The Vice-Roy: If Japan sends her troops to Corea under pretext that Japanese residents there had been killed or under any other similar pretext, we will also send our troops immediately. So our arrangement becomes equal and reciprocal.

The Ambassador: Certainly. We will do the same in case of your sending troops there.

The Vice-Roy: We will not send our troops there any more until you send your own. If we withdraw our troops from Corea, I fear you may then swallow up Corea.

The Ambassador: You need not be afraid of it. We have

fight against the other party, it would make no difference to us.

The Vice-Roy: I told Your Excellency the story, only to trace the origin of the late disturbance. It concerns your country too, as Mr. Takezoye was somewhat involved in the matter.

The Ambassador: That is your suspicion.

The Vice-Roy: This is not my suspision, but the Corean King wrote to me about it.

The Ambassador: Had the Japanese party succeeded in the late affair, I am sure the King would have written to you in quite a different way.

The Vice-Roy: The Japanese party will never succeed, because the people wlll not support them.

The Ambassador: Generally speaking, the Corean people have no education; they have no political ideas, how can they form an opinion about their political prejudices?

The Vice-Roy: In Corea, there are no such reformers as have made Japan distinguish herself. Really I do not expect to find a good political reformer among the Coreans.

The Ambassador: They have been secluded, entirely, from the outer World, until within very late years. It is almost impossible to find a good reformer among them, but that is not the matter of our present discussion.

Mr. Woo: It is a great pity for the Corean Government that young promising men do such things like those of the late disturbance.

The Ambassador: It cannot be avoided in any country.

Mr. Go: Kin-Gioku-Kin (金玉均) was very well acquainted with M. Foote. When Kin-Gioku-Kin saw the latter he told him that the Corean Government was something like a candle surrounded by a screen and not to be seen from the outside. To this general Foote replied: "You must be careful not "to put out the light to take the screen away."

The Ambassador: We must go on with the important subject of our discussion. I may agree to one or two Chinese officers being engaged by the Corean Government, but if they are twenty in number, I must raise an objection to their entering the Corean service. They could command, very easily, the Corean soldiers for any attempt.

The Vice-Roy: The Corean troops are under the command of Corean officers. Our petty officers, whom I want to have in Corea, have nothing to do with the command of Corean soldiers, they have only to instruct and drill the soldiers. They have to occupy just the same position as the German instructors do here.

The Ambassador: We have also in our Military College, German and French officers. They are of course quite different from the officers who command the troops. As regards the proposed arrangement for the withdrawal of our respective troops, we must have a basis quite equal and reciprocal. If you think you are obliged to leave your officers for the purpose of instructing the Corean soldiers, I think it is better for us to unite in suggesting to the King of Corea, to engage officers from among those of a third power. The expenses necessary for this engagement, I believe would not be more than two hundred dollars per month, for each person thus engaged. The advantage of such engagements is very great, because those officers, with their thorough knowledge, can instruct the Corean soldiers properly. They will not, of course, require for their instructors, highly scientific men: they require only drill and discipline, for which purpose, no greater expense than that I have just mentioned, will be necessary. The best plan for the Corean Government is to engage officers from among those of a third power. The expense will not be great, as they require only a few petty officers for the purpose. As it is the Grvernment of a nation, I am sure such trifling expenses will not be minded.

alone they owe forty or fifty thousand yen.

The Vice-Roy: They owe us about two hundred thousand taels, which they cannot pay.

The Ambassador: If they cannot pay, it is better for you to make a present of the sum to the Coreans. Without dwelling upon unnecessary talk, I beg Your Excellency to notice distinctly my objection to your keeping your officers in Corea.

The Vice-Roy: Then Your Excellency has no desire for Corea's progress in future?

The Ambassador: If they have no means even for the instruction and drill of their soldiers by officers belonging to a third power, how can they progress? I say I have no objection to Corean soldiers being sent to China for the purpose. The only motive I have in view in making my objection, is none other than to cause the evils of party feeling to disappear. My desire for Corean progress is perhaps greater than your own.

The Vice-Roy: Those officers, I want to remain in Corea, are only twenty in number, and they are only petty officers.

The Ambassador: What rank have they?

The Vice-Roy: They are not more than Chinese corporals. Amongst them simple soldiers are also included.

The Ambassador: But you must understand that twenty officers are quite sufficient to command the Corean soldiers in attempting any kind of enterprise. I want some security from you for anything that may possibly happen hereafter.

The Vice-Roy: Your Excellency is too cautious.

The Ambassador: Of course I am cautious, on account of the great importance of amicable relations between our respective countries.

The Vice-Roy: If the King of Corea will let his soldiers come to China for instruction, so much the better. But even if we allowed our officers to remain there, they are nothing but

petty officers whose duty is only to drill the Corean Soldiers. If the King of Corea will not agree to send his soldiers to China, we will make an agreement for our officers to remain for a term of two or three years after the withdrawal of your troops.

The Ambassador: At any rate, if you allow your officers to remain and not ours, we cannot have an equal and reciprocal arangement.

The Vice-Roy: I will certainly suggest to the King of Corea to dispense with the services of our officers, in order to enable them to return with our troops, but I fear he cannot dispense with them. In that case if we make a special agreement for our officers to serve further the Corean Government for the term of two or three years, it will not be of much concern to you. As my personal friend, I will tell Your Excellency frankly. Before the late disturbance, two Corean camps were under Chinese instruction and two others under Japanese drill. At the time of the late disturbance, the soldiers who had been under Japanese instruction took sides with the rebels. So the King himself is much displeased to have his soldiers under Japanese instruction, and now he resorts entirely to Chinese instructors. Your Excellency said that there were two parties in Corea, one in favor of the Japanese and the other in favor of the Chinese, but at present there is none against the Chinese, because both the King and the people know that the Japanese party originated the late disturbance and were the rebels. Every observer who personablly witnessed the scene of the disturbance, believes that Mr. Takezoye was concerned in the matter. They have good reason to say so. It was the Japanese party that gave rise to to the disturbance and not the Chinese.

The Ambassador: Well, the Japanese party in Corea may have been rebels, that regards her internal affairs, with which I have nothing to do. Even should every man of the Japanese party

the army under my immediate control is properly drilled by German officers whom I engage for the purpose. I am going to engage more German officers. The Corean Government wants their soldiers to be properly drilled and instructed. This is the only motive of the Coreans in inviting our officers to their service.

The Ambassador: When and for how long have the Chinese instructors been engaged?

The Vice-Roy: No term of years was stipulated, because our troops are stationed there for an unlimited time. If our troops are to be withdrawn, then the term of years should be expressly stipulated. I will tell you the reason why the Chinese instructors are preferable, for the Coreans, to Europeans. First; the Coreans are not familiar with Europeans: Secondly, they cannot afford to pay handsome salaries, in case of engaging European officers. When they engage our officers, they have to pay only about twelve dollars.

The Ambassador: As your Excellency knows very well, there exists in Corea two rival parties, one in favor of the Japanese, the other of the Chinese. They are always striving to get the upper hand of one another and are in a state of bitter antagonism with each other. If we allow the present state of things to continue, this feeling of enmity towards each other will be gradually fomented. I consider it most advisable, not only for the sake of Corea herself, but also in view of the importance of friendly and pleasant relations between our respective countries, to do our best to cause that feeling to disappear from among the Coreans. If you intend to have your officers in Corea to encourage such evils among the Coreans, it is beyond the present question. We will follow the same course as you may choose to pursue, and will allow our officers to remain there, if you allow yours to do so. Even if the Corean Goverment cannot afford to

pay for instructors, there are in Japan many military officers to go to Corea at their own expense, to instruct the Corean soldiers, for the purpose of encouraging a feeling in favor of the Japanese.

The Vice-Roy: Do you think there are in Japan, officers who would offer their sevices without the request of the King?

The Ambassador: In Japan, there are among our military officers, young and adventurous men, who have nothing to do at home. They might go to Corea at their own expense, to offer their services without invitation from the King. Should we allow them to drill the Corean soldiers, party feeling in Corea would be fostered to a much higher degree. I have no objection to Coreans coming to China for the purpose of being instructed, but if you allow Chinese officers to remain in Corea, it is plain that something like what I have just mentioned, will take place.

The Vice-Roy: I have to remind Your Excellency that the Corean Government is too poor to send their soldiers to our country for proper instruction and drill, therefore they wish their soldiers to be instructed at home.

The Ambassador: Lately we presented to the King of Corea a very handsome sum of money, four hundred thousand yen, which amount he must spend in sending his soldiers to China for instruction.

The Vice-Roy: Even if you had insisted upon the payment of that sum, the Corean Government could not have afforded to pay it.

The Embassador: Whenever the King has sent a mission to Japan, the Corean Envoys could not always pay their expenses. Both the Corean Government and people owe a great deal of money to us. When the last Corean mission came to Japan, they could not pay even for their return passages. So I fully admit that the Coreans are very poor. To our Japanese merchant

cation to the King of Corea. But I do not believe you mean that you will withdraw yours after you get an answer from the King. Or do you mean that I should wait until you get a reply?

The Vice-Roy: We must wait for the reply of the King.

The Ambassador: Are you going to write to the King simply about the time and manner of the withdrawal of the troops?

The Vice-Roy: I have only to inform the King of our project. As he has already applied to us to send more troops for his protection, I deem it fit to acquaint him with our project.

The Ambassador: What are you going to tell him? You may write to him, but in the mean time we may make some agreement about the matter.

The Vice-Roy: Of course I am the only person on our side to decide the question, so I have only to inform the King of our project; that is all I have to tell him.

The Ambassador: We have nothing to do with your notifying communuication to the King of Corea, of our present arrangement with you. If you have to communicate with the King, you will please do so before we carry out our present arrangement.

The Vice-Roy: Will you withdraw all of your troops?

The Ambassador: I think it is better to withdraw all of them. If you intend to leave any of your troops in Corea, I will do the same. In every respect, any arrangement we make connected with the present question, should be on a mutual and reciprocal basis.

The Vice-Roy: Are you ready to withdraw your troops at any moment?

The Ambassador: Yes, at any moment.

The Vice-Roy: Do you think you can wait for the withdrawal until next year?

The Ambassador: No, I do not think I can wait for so long a time. There is no necessity at all to keep the soldiers in

Corea, after the arrangement has been made.

The Vice-Roy: Probably Your Excellency is aware of our petty officers who are in the service of the King of Corea, to drill and instruct the Corean soldiers. They cannot be, at any rate, included in our troops to be withdrawn by the arrangement.

The Ambassador: How many of them are there?

The Vice-Roy: They are engaged by the Corean King and are about twenty in all. Their duties are nothing but to drill and train Corean soldiers. About fifteen hundred of these are now under the instruction of the Chinese officers.

The Ambassador: I have to propose to you, that any arrangement that shall be made between us, connected with the withdrawal question, shall be founded on a mutual and reciprocal basis with a full sense of equality, so as not to raise any feeling of jealousy, the one of us of the other.

The Vice-Roy: Do you think you will be jealous if our officers are engaged by the Coreans?

The Ambassador: Quite naturally for our soldiers; but of course not myself personally. I think you have long personal experience in engaging different Europeans in the Chinese service. Suppose you have too many Englishmen in your service, men of other nationalities will be jealous of them: if too many French, then other peoples will be jealous of the French and so on. I have personal experience of that sort of thing in Japan. Will it not be so there? But if the arrangement be reciprocal and equal, so much the better.

The Vice-Roy: We desire very much that the Corean Government establish such a sufficient army properly drilled, as to enable Corea to stand by herself as an independent state. It is purely a matter of their internal affairs. But the Corean Government has applied to us to engage our officers to drill and instruct their own soldiers. As Your Excellency is well aware,

may again happen between our respective troops. If Your Excellency will allow me to speak very frankly, I have to tell you that I have received a report from our commanders in Corea, informing me that the Coreans entertain great fear of another collision between the Japanese and our soldiers when they happen to meet in the streets, because they know the Japanese are suspicious of our soldiers. Consequently I have issued strict orders to our commanders to keep our soldiers in the camps under perfect discipline. The anxiety Your Excellency feels about future crisises, I equally share. From what I hear, even the Corean King himself seems to be greatly afraid that a collision may again happen between the Japanese and Chinese soldiers in the Corean capital.

The Ambassador: If a collision occurs again, we cannot help it, neither you nor I.

The Vice-Roy: The Corean King and people expect me to send more troops to protect them. If they are kept in the capital, a collision may possibly take place.

The Ambassador: How soon, then, are you going to withdraw your troops?

The Vice-Roy: I have one thing to tell you. If we withdraw our troops, the Corean King will probably ask us not to withdraw them. So I propose to write beforehand and inform him of what we are going to do. Your Excellency must be already informed of the removal of the Corean King to his new Palace. The reason of his removal is, that he did not dare to stay in his old Palace, for fear of a possible collision that may take place between our respective troops.

The Ambassador: Yes I have read something about it in the Shanghai newspapers.

The Vice-Roy: The King of Corea requested our commanders to send our troops to attend the ceremony.

The Ambassador: I have read in the Shanghai newspapers something about it. They contained a long account of the procession of the Corean King on his removal to the new Palace. They say, the whole ceremony was attended by Chinese soldiers and the King's party was escorted by them, while not a single Japanese was invited to the ceremony. The most ridiculous story of all, is, that the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires was peeping out of a window of the Japanese Legation at the grand procession passing in the street, with a sorrowful countenance, he himself not having been invited on such a grand occasion. No doubt this account was directed against the Japanese.

The Vice-Roy: The story is entire nonsense. I received a report of it from our commanders. It is a true report of the scene on that occasion. The report says, that Mr. Kondo, the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, was also invited to join the procession. He had about 300 men to line either side of the street to guard the procession. He was then standing on an elevated place called "Koro" (鼓樓) to watch over the guards. Surely he was not peeping from a window.

Mr. Go: To guard the streets by the Japanese soldiers, while the procession was passing, was simply to show respect to the King. That Mr. Kondo was peeping out of a window is entirely without foundation and is a false representation of facts. When I was there, I invited Mr. Kondo and the Japanese Commanders to dine with me. We had a very pleasant time and were very friendly together. The newspapers are very often incredible.

The Vice-Roy: Well, I think as regards the withdrawal of the troops, there should be special items.

The Ambassador: What we agree upon must be reduced to writing.

As I told you, we can withdraw our soldiers at any time. You have just said that you are going first to make a communi-

The Ambassador: How long ago is it that the matter of your story took place? Was it after Count Inouye's return from his mission to Corea?

The Vice-Roy: Just so.

The Ambassador: Count Inouye returned to Tokio on the 19th Jauuary. He did not tell me anything of the kind. I have never heard from him, either that your Minister had proposed to him the respective withdrawal of the troops or that he had received a reply declining to accept the proposal. Had any reply been sent to Count Inouye, the matter would surely have come to my knowledge, but I have never heard anything to the sort you relate now.

The Vice-Roy: Our Minister was instructed not to discuss the matter.

The Ambassador: So most likely he may not have sent a reply to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Count Inouye. Perhaps such a thing may have happened in a private conversation between our Minister for Foreign Affairs and your Minister. If the former had mentioned it at the Cabinet meeting presided over presonally by His Majesty our Emperor, I would of course have known about it. Evidently your Minister did not write to our Minister formally about the refusal of your Government to withdraw your troops stationed in Corea.

The Vice-Roy: It had been only a matter of private conversation between Count Inouye and our Minister in Tokio. I have mentioned their conversation only in order to show Your Excellency the policy of my Government at the time and also to manifest to Your Excellency how greatly your special mission has influenced my Government to enable me to discuss with you the subject. If we reach an amicable settlement of the question, your mission will be quite a successful and satisfactory one to report to His Majesty your Emperor. So Your Excellency

need not expect satisfaction on every point of the present affair. I regard this withdrawal question as the most important of the three. As I attach the greatest importance to the question of withdrawing our troops, I have agreed to discuss the matter. Holding in the greatest importance this withdrawal question, I hope Your Excellency will not be too particular regarding the other two points. I lately requested your Minister in Peking, Admiral Yenomoto, to use his exertions for mediation on the matter.

The Ambassador: Do you mean, to mediate between Your Excellency and myself

The Vice-Roy: Yes. It is one of the Admiral's duties to exert his best between the two High Plenipotentiaries. I asked him for it also in your presence.

The Ambassador: Do you intend to open a discussion regarding the withdrawal question with a decided view to carry out the result that our discussion may bring about?

The Vice-Roy: Certainly I intend to discuss for the purpose of carrying out practically. Of course, details of the carrying out of the project should be arranged afterwards.

The Ambassador: Well then, what way to withdraw the troops will be most acceptable to you? Please, let me know your views.

The Vice-Roy: When will you be able to withdraw your troops?

The Ambassador: At any moment. The sooner the better. I say as soon as possible, because I am very anxious lest something may happen, if we continue the further maintenance of troops in Corea, and that our present difficulties may be made greater. Should a crisis happen once again, the subject of our negotiation will be more troublesome.

The Vice-Roy: Just so. I am anxious too, lest something

which of the two points of your demand, the one for the future, the other for the past, you lay more stress. To this Your Excellency replied that the accomplishment of the two points combined together, is highly essential and that you lay much stress upon both of them.

The Ambassador: Exactly. I said so at the last meeting. Of course Your Excellency must remember that the Tsung-li-Yamen communicated to you what I had said to them. When I had the pleasure of conversing with His Highness the Prince and Their Excellencies the Ministers, I stated to them that the friendly and peaceful relations now happily existing between our respective countries, ought forever to be maintained and that the sincerest desire we have is, not only the maintenance of the most desirable relations with your country, but also the promotion and strengthening of them to a further extent. In this spirit and having these motives, I stated to the Prince and Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen, that the stationing of Japanese and Chinese soldiers in Corea, especially after the strong feeling of enmity that has been aroused between them, in consequence of the late unforunate collision, will lead the powers there maintaining those troops into being involved together in grave complications, and will threaten the amity of their mutual relations, which would otherwise be entirely peaceful and undisturbed. So I asked them to remove an obstacle calculated to disturb the amicable relations between our respective countries and to interrupt our designs of further promoting and strengthening the most desirable relations, and to agree to the withdrawal of the troops we each have had stationed in Corea. I have so far spoken of what refers only to an arrangement most desirable for the future. As regards the past, I have only to ask the Government to give us satisfaction, by adjusting our claims connected with the matter of the past actual occurrences.

The Vice-Roy: The withdrawal of our respective troops, is an arrangement for future security to our amicable relations, As regards the past, the Tsung-li-Yamen has written to me that our Commanders not alone are to be blamed. So I wish Your Excellency would begin to discuss with me on the matter of the withdrawal of our respective troops.

The Ambassador: I am quite ready to discuss with Your Excellency the matter of the withdrawal, but I would like to know what you are going to do about the other subjects.

The Vice-Roy: Well, we may open the discussion on the withdrawal question.

The Ambassador: Yes, we may do so in the meanwhile.

The Vice-Roy: In my interview with Admiral Yenomoto, I mentioned to him that when Count Inouye came back from his mission to Corea, he proposed to our Minister in Tokio, in a private conversation with the latter, the withdrawal of our respective troops from Corea, with a view to the future security of our amicable relations. Thereupon our Minister telegraphed to the Tsung-li-Yamen on the subject at once and the proposal was soon laid before His Majesty our Emperor. By the resolution of our Government, his Minister was instructed not to discuss the matter, as we are unable to withdraw our troops which are stationed for the protection of Corea. But when I heard of Your Excellency's coming here, I communicated to the Tsung-li-Yamen at once of your special mission and suggested to them, that as you would likely propose to discuss the question of the withdrawal, we should, as a matter of friendship to Japan, negotiate with the special Envoy on the subject. To this the Tsung-li-Yamen consented. Your Excellency may easily imagine that I am enabled, by the adoption of my suggestion alone, to negotiate with you on the Subject. Did Count Inouye mention the above story to Your Excellency?

Minutes of the Conference held at the official Residence of His Excellency the Vice-Roy of Chili, on the 10th April 1885, at 3. P. M.

Present,

On the part of Japan:—

His Excellency the Ambassador.
His Excellency Admiral Yenomoto,
Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary.
Mr. Go Keita.

On the part of China:—

His Excellency the Vice-Roy.
H. E. Gotaicho,
H. E. Zokusho,
Mr. Goteiho,
Mr. Rahoroku. Interprater.

The Vice-Roy: May I ask Your Excellency whether you have formed any views acceptable to us?

The Ambassador: I have only to wait for a proposition from your side.

The Vice-Roy: Up to this time, we have already had three conferences, on which occasions both parties said what they had to say. So we come now to a point of conclusion to decide the whole question.

The Ambassador: Now the whole question is clear to both parties and so far as what I have said to Your Excellency goes, it is so clear you have only to come to a definite conclusion.

The Vice-Roy: Therefore I asked Your Excellency upon

responsibility of coming to the absolute determination of concluding an agreement upon that one question: this I do, on the one hand to somewhat relieve Count Ito's responsibility and on the other with the sincere desire of doing something towards maintaining peaceful relation between the two countries.

The Admiral: If those are your true views, you will please make definite mention of it at the next conference. As far as my own opinion on the subject goes, I have to say that if your Government will agree only upon the one matter of withdrawal of the troops, our present Embassy will result in a failure, in which case, there is nothing for the Ambassador but to return and report to his Government. (After a short pause). If that should happen, it would be extremely difficult to maintain our present peaceful relations. I feel great anxiety about it.

The Vice-Roy: The reason of my agreeing to the withdrawal springs from my earnest desire for the continuance of our present peaceful attitude towrads each other. If His Excellency the Ambassador does not feel satisfied with only this, and leave this country, there is no help for it. Then will be nothing left to us but to make our preparations for war.

[Here the Vice-Roy whispered to Mr. Goteiho, "we can fight the Frenchmen too, cant we?" This was reported by Mr, Tei, afterwards.]

The Admiral: Do as you please about that. My only regret is that our Majesty's high-minded sentiments should be productive of no good effect.

The Vice-Roy: I feel precisely in the same way about it. Has Your Excellency any other confidential communication to make to me?

Admiral Yenomoto: Nothing more, your Excellency.

The above minutes were drawn up by Admiral Yenomoto himself in Japanese and afterwards translated into English by Mr. Ito Miyoji.

all the evidence that I brought forward, on the score of its imperfection and now you strenuously insist upon the reception of yours; this flavors of partiality.

Admiral Yenomato: The four points of your argument, yesterday, were fully commentend upon by the Ambassador, and concerning your remarks about His Excellency Go's inability to obtain information touching outrages committed by the Chinese soldiers, Your Excellency doubtless remembers that Count Ito replied that he was not to blame for it. In other words, he meant to imply that Mr. Go was.

The Vice-Roy: I cannot to undertake any one upon one sided and unsupported evindence. Our two Commissioners Go and Zoku reported to our Government that not one of our soldiers had been guilty of committing any outrage whatever, such as you bring accusation of against them. It is known to all, that the course of action taken by Mr. Takezoye, at the time of the late disturbance, was calculated to assist the evil designs of the rebels to overthrow the existing Government of Corea. I would not dare to say this to Count Ito's face, so presume to say it to you in all frankness. Suppose you should discover some foreign Representative taking in Peking the steps that Mr. Takezoye took, what would you think of him, Sir?

The Admiral: No, No. Takezoye's action was nothing but a compliance with the request of the King of Corea; its lawfulness cannot be brought into question by any one. If Your Excellency had any exception to make to it, why did you not do so, when you were face to face with the Ambassador at the conference. I would like to say a word about the powers of the two Plenipotentiaries. In any individual case of an offence, he is liable to have to answer for it in a court of law, but in matters of difference between Nations, there can be no subjection to the ordinary procedure of justice as in the case of an individual.

Your Excellency must know that there can be no court that could have jurisdiction over Nation.

The Vice-Roy: Mr. Goteiho is a lawyer, admitted to the English bar. If there is any English version of the depositions, I would very much like you to lend him a copy of them, as I wish him to look through them.

The Admiral: Certainly, I will. Your Excellency informed me that you were going to accede to one of the demands brought forward by His Excellency the Ambassador, which one do you allude to, Sir?

[Here the Vice-Roy, his eyes fixed upon Admiral Yonomoto, maintained silence.]

The Admiral: Perhaps Your Excellency meant the withdrawl of the troops.

The Vice-Roy: Yes.

The Admiral: That does not constitute our demands; that was merely a proposal. What they constitute of are punishment of your Commaders and satisfaction for the outrages. The withdrawal of the troops is a proposal aiming at the promotion and strengthing to a further extent, of our mutual friendly relations. The withdrawal, if you consent to it, will in no wise be a concession on your Government's part. If our negotiations were limited to this point alone, our Government would never have sent here such a personage as His Excellency Count Ito.

The Vice-Roy: Whether His Excellency Count Ito has come to treat about this matter or whether it had been entrusted to you is quite indifferent to us as to our agreeing to or rejecting anything. Our Empire, as well as yours, is an independent state. You may think yourselves in the right, we, on our side, may have similar sentiments, neither of us can force conviction upon the other. Although the question of withdrawal was at first rejected by the Tsung-li-Yamen, I take, nevertheless, the

question. He most likely alluded to it in an unofficial conversation with Mr. Hsii.

Here Mr. Tei Nagayasu said to the Vice-Roy:—The conversation between His Excellency our Minister of Foreign affairs and Mr. Hsii on that occasion was unofficial and was conducted through my interpretation. His Excellency remarked to Mr. Hsii that with a view to the preservation of the friendly relations between the respective countries, he intended to bring the matter to the attention of the Chinese government.

The Vice-Roy: His Excellency Count Inouye did not bring forward any other matters than that of the withdrawal of troops and was the only subject mentioned by him to Mr. Hsii at the time. Even this proposal the Tsung-li-Yamen declined to agree. They came first to our knowledge through His Excellency the Ambassador.

Admiral Yenomoto: Probably our Minister for Foreign affairs, in his conversation with Mr. Hsii, had no opportunity of speaking any thing else than the withdrawal, whilst His Excellency Count Ito having coming here as Ambassador to negotiate officially about the present affairs, has of course, had to state in full everything in connection with the demands of our Government upon yours. As I stated to Your Excellency in yesterday's conference, I have handed to His Highness the Prince and Their Excellencies the Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen, the telegram relating to the outrages committed by Chinese soldiers upon quite a number of our people: that was on the 16th December last, just before Their Excellencies Go and Zoku had been sent to Corea as Chinese Commissioners. Moreover, both our own and foreign newspapers published in Japan, are full of accounts of the course of action pursued by both the Chinese Commanders and their troops, at the time of the late disturbances in Corea, It is incomprehensible how Mr. Tsii living in Tokio as your Envoy could have

remained ignorant of these facts and should have failed to report them to his Government. How can the Vice-Roy say, that the knowledge of these matters came to him first through the remarks of His Excellency the Ambassador?

The Vice-Roy: I did not mean to imply that I had not heard of the other matters. But look at this, the depositions His Excellency Count Ito handed to me do not contain one particle of evidence going to prove that the outrages were committed by our soldiers. They are the mere statements based upon supposition. For instance, one of the deponents said: "Fukui being an old man his strength gave way and he fell by the side of the stone bridge." If he only fell, he may have arisen again, so there is no evidence that he, at all events, was killed by our soldiers. In the depositions of the wive of Okugawa Kataro I find: "I was listening eagerly to know the safety of my husband when I heard several shots fired and voices of men. In a little while all was still and I came to the conclusion that my husband, my brother and Shiunosuke were murdered". Here again is another statement under supposition. How can I regard it as good evidence of crimes alleged to have been committed by our soldiers?

Admiral Yenomoto: No dead man can give evidence. As the evidence supplied by those deponents was made by persons that had just escaped by a hair from destruction, Your Excellency cannot expect it to be as full as what would be given in the quiet of a Court room. And please, Sir, do not forget that in Ninsen, the bodies of forty of our slanghtered people (four of them being those of our soldiers), were received from the Coreans. Even did we admit that no murders were committed by your soldiers, the assault upon Honda's wife constitutes a most heinous offence.

The Vice-Roy: His Excellency the Ambassador rejected

Minutes are not as full and complete as yours are.

Admiral Yenomoto: I am glad to learn that the subject is mentioned in the minutes, sent by the Tsung-li-yamen. But if Your Excellency wishes to send a copy of our minutes to the Tsuug-li-yamen, I can place this copy at your disposal.

[The Vice-Roy: It is not necessary to ask you to do that. Here Admiral Yenomoto confidentially informed the Viceroy of the argument he made at the Tsung-li-yamen during the three days and of the great annoyance he has given to the Prince and the Ministers of the Tsung-li-yamen for the purpose of making as light as possible the responsibility of the Vice-Roy. The Vice-Roy nodded his head at those remarks with a smile. After this, Admiral Yenomoto waited in silence for a little while to allow him an opportunity to say anything he might possibly have in his mind relating to the subject of the conference, that had taken place on the previous day. But the Vice-Roy, well knowing that the object of the Admiral's visit was not confined to the subject introduced in the foregoing conversation, did not take the advantage of the silence and said nothing, when a considerable pause had occurred.]

Admiral Yenomoto: I presume the views held by both parties on the subject were made as clear as possible at the yesterday's conference. No further conplicated discussion of it is required. At the next conference, Your Excellency has only to give a definite answer as to whether you will accept or reject the claims and proposal of our ambassador. I am in a position to do my duty in affording all possible assistance to arrive at an amicable understanding between the respective High Plenipotentiaries; and as I have been especially honoured in having been personally acquainted with Your Excellency for long time, you may place upon me entire confidence and disclose the innermost views you entertain on the subject.

The Vice-Roy: Certainly, Just so.

Admiral Yenomoto: As the Ambassador's official duties at home does not allow him to stay here for an unlimited time, he hopes to ascertain as quickly as possible, whether Your Excellency will accept or reject what he has laid before you. If you will kindly acquaint me with your views, I will be enabled to form some opinion about the result of the present negotiation.

The Vice-Roy: I will neither entirely reject nor entirely accede to the demands of His Excellency Count Ito, the Ambassador.

Admiral Yenomoto: May I ask you for more details?

The Vice-Roy: I can only accede to one point of your demands. As your Excellency is well aware, His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of your Government, sometime ago, in a conversation with Mr. Hsii our Minister in Tokio proposed the mutual withdrawal of the troops, whereupon the latter immediately telegraphed to both the Tsung-li-Yamen and to myself to inform us of the proposal. Instructions by wire were at once sent to our Minister from the Tsung-li-Yamen to reject what had been proposed to him and to transmit this message to His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs of your Government.

Admiral Yenomoto: I had never heard of the matter.

[Admiral Yenomoto had sometime ago been privately informed by the late Sir Harry S. Parkes of something of the sort; but he had never received either official or private communication from the Department for Foreign Affairs to that effect.]

The Vice-Roy: If Your Excellency had no knowledge of the matter, I believe, His Excellency Count Ito has.

Admiral Yenomoto: I am not certain whether he knows of the matter or not. He is only the negotiator on one side to discuss the present question, that has arisen between our respective countries. I have never heard that our minister of Foreign affairs had officially opened negotiation with Your Minister on the

Minutes of a Conversation held at Tientsin, at the Official Residence of the Vice-Roy of Chili, on the 8th April 1885, at 8. P. M.

Admiral Yenomoto: At the yesterday's conference, Your Excellency remarked that you had been informed by the Tsung-li-yamen of the subjects His Excellency Count Ito, our Ambassador, has to negotiate with you about, relating to the demand for punishment of the Chinese Commanders; but Your Excellency said that the Tsung-li-yamen had communicated to you nothing about the outrages committed upon our people by the Chinese soldiers. As our Ambassador personally explained to you on that occasion, he had distinctly stated to His Highness the Prince and to Their Excellencies the Ministers of the Tsung-li-yamen the withdrawal of the respective troops, the punishment of the Chinese Commanders and due satisfaction for the outrages committed by the Chinese soldiers, though he did not state them under separate categories. He also added that he had in view some other matters, which he however wishes to treat about with the proper negotiator. Here is a copy of the minutes of the conversation written in English. (Then Mr. Rahoroku read it to the Vice-Roy.)

The Vice-Roy: To-day, I have made careful examination into the matter and have found out something relating to it in a copy of the minutes of the conversation accompanying the official correspondence received from the Tsung-li-yamen—something which I could not find in the text of the correspondence. The

to them, Mr. Takezoye must also be blamed. And then about the outrages of which you have bronght forward a claim, had never been mentioned in either the official despatch or in the copy of the minutes they sent to me.

The Ambassador: Upon my honor and good faith, I protest that I did speak of them. I have the minutes of our conversation, I can produce them at any moment.

The Vice-Roy: So I could not understand—(then the Ambassador interrupting him said.)

The Ambassador: Mistakes of this kind very often occur in the Tsung-li-Yamen, I believe: There is no necessity for me to say less to them and to say more to you. I spoke in a very general way. Perhaps they could not well understand me.

The Vice-Roy: That may be the case. It appears that Your Excellency had passsed over the matter very slighty. So the case become a very difficult one on our side.

The Ambassador: At our first meeting in the Tsung-li-Yamen, I spoke in a general way, but after our conversation, I handed to the Prince and Ministers a memorandum containing all that I had said. At our last meeting, I fully stated to them all those particular points for which I ask satisfaction from your Government. In the face of the facts, I cannot believe that they could not understand me.

Admiral Yenomoto: Besides the three points our Ambassador has just mentioned to you, he also mentioned to the Prince and Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen, some other matters.

The Vice-Roy: But the matter of the outrages is not mentioned either in the official despatch or in the copy of the minutes of that day.

The Ambassador: How could they take the minutes. No one in the suite of the Prince or of the Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen; was taking notes of our conference only our Secretary

Mr. Ito Miyoji did. The Tsung-li-Yamen has nothing to do in the present affair, in as much as we two are the only negotiators. I was preparing to start from Peking, when the British Chargé d'Affairs called on me and recommended me to open negotiations there. To do that, I simply refused as I had no inclination to express to them my views on the subject, as they said they had no authority to discuss the matter. But after I had sent them notice of my intended departure and on the occasion of their farewell visit to me, they asked to have an interview on the subject privately. At that private interview I fully informed them of the points of my claim.

The Vice-Roy: In the two communications sent to me by the Tsung-li-Yamen, they informed me that His Excellency Count Ito had two points of demand, one for the withdrawal and the other for the punishment. Besides these two they said nothing more.

The Ambassador: Besides the three points, I stated to them something more, which it is not necessary to mention here. If you will communicate with the Tsung-li-Yamen, you will soon find out the truth.

(The Conference ended at 6.10 P. M.)

appreciate your difficult position, yet you cannot reject our claims altogether, upon careful consideration of the situation on both sides, connected with the present affair. Until I leave here, I must do my best to adopt every means to come to an understanding.

The Vice-Roy: I fully appreciate your opinion. We must try our best to remove the difficulties by all means, and if all can not be removed, they should be at least reduced to a smaller scope. I am confident that Your Excellency has very broad views on the subject, and having travelled through all parts of the World, you know how to remove them.

The Ambassador: I have brought forward the present claims to get satisfaction. Any proposal, to remove the difficulties, must come first from your side.

The Vice-Roy: I am sure you have a broad view to bring forth some proposition to remove the present difficulties. If you will do so, I will tell you frankly what is practicable or impracticable on our side. As we have had already three meetings, we had plenty to discuss and the matter has been made as clear as possible on both sides. So you can judge from what you have already comprehended. Before Your Excellency's return to Tientsin from Peking, the Prince and the Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen had communicated to me, that as Your Excellency has such enlightened ideas and broad views on the subject, I would not be likely to find any difficulty in coming to an understanding. What has been thus announced by the Tsung-li Yamen, will, I sincerely hope, be realized.

The Ambassador: After I had explained to His Highness the Prince and to Their Excellencies the Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen, in a general way, the subjects of my negotiation with your Government, they told me that Your Excellency is very familiar with diplomatic business and has perfect ability to settle any difficult question. Further, they told me of the friendly

and kind sentiments Your Excellency entertains towards our country.

As regards wishes for peace and friendship, our project is the same and reciprocal. I fully explained to them the subject and told them the wishes of His Majesty our Emperor for the welfare and tranquility of all the eastern Nations. In consideration of the great importance of friendly relations between our two countries and of the welfare of the East, the present affair should be settled amicably.

The Vice-Roy: Did Your Excellency mention to our Prince and Ministers of the Tsun-li-Yamen, when you spoke in a general way, the views you entertain towards our country and also the subjects of your negotiation connected with the present affair?

The Embassadar: Yes, I did.

The Vice-Roy: The Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen sent me a copy of the conversation that took place between Your Excellency and themselves. I find some difference between what Your Excellency has stated to me and what you said to the Prince and to the Ministers of the Tsun-li-Yamen. Something may have possibly been left out in the copy they sent to me.

The Ambassador: If you will kindly let me know what the difference is, if find any, I will explain it to you, as I did not say anything less in Peking than I have done in Tientsin.

The Vice-Roy: From what I am told by the Prince and Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamen, it seems to me that Your Excellency stated to them two points, namely, 1st the withdrawal of troops: 2nd punishment upon the Chinese Commanders. With regard to the withdrawal, the Tsung-li-Yemen says to me that they replied that, if the Japanese troops are to be withdrawn, it is not a very difficult matter that our troops shall be withdrawn. As to the second point, I cannot admit that our Chinese Commanders alone are to be blamed. If any blame is to be attached

facts, I will not hesitate to accede to your claim. But I have no grounds on which I can settle this matter.

The Ambassador: That you have no evidence on your part, cannot alter the merits of our substantial claims.

The Vice-Roy: As you have brought forward a case against our soldiers, we must investigate the matter and get evidence for them, to compare it with those copies of the declarations of the Japanese.

The Ambassador: You could take that course of proceeding in an ordinary lawsuit in a judicial court. This is a matter to be settled between the two Nations. What I have hitherto advanced cannot be subjected to an examination such as you would subject it to in your Chinese Court.

The Vice-Roy: We must try to find out the facts for our side. Without ascertaining the facts, it is impossible for me to settle the question.

The Ambassador: Well, I think we have discussed the matter very closely to-day, and it has been made quite clear on both sides. I wish Your Excellency would more carefully reflect upon the matter in as much as we hold it in most serious consideration. What I have hitherto stated to you and what Your Excellency has stated to me, are recorded in the minutes of our conferences. You will find in them the exact words you have spoken. I will look into the minutes and think over what you have stated to me. But at our next meeting, I must ask you to give me a definite answer on the subject. I cannot stay here for an unlimited time. All the facts of the case to support our claim, are laid before you. I have not the slightest intention to press you to-day, but I must get your definite answer by our next meeting.

The Vice-Roy: What is Your Excellency's wish on the subject? Allow me to ask that.

The Ambassador: I wish for a mutual understanding, but if you have to leave the question without settlement for an unlimited time, I cannot wait for your answer. I must report to my Government the state of affairs.

The Vice-Roy: As we have discussed the matter for several days, we must come to an understanding in some form. Your Excellency remarked the other day, that you have two objects in view, the one concerning the future and the other the past; on which one of them do you lay the greater stress?

The Ambassanor: The accomplishment of the two objects I have mentioned to you is highly essential to the maintenance of peace and friendship between the two countries. I lay the utmost stress upon both of them. Failure in either one of them will not do for us. What I want is the accomplishment of them both combined together.

The Vice-Roy: That the two points be accomplished at once is rather difficult for me. Your Excellency will think over the matter also.

The Ambassador: I have thought a good deal of it, before coming to this country and also since my arrival here. Until we finish this business, I will be always thinking over it, and you must to the same.

The Vice-Roy: Since the late disturbances occurred in Corea, it has always occupied my mind. Every one knows how the matter originated. In the present affair, the Chinese alone are not to be blamed.

The Anbassador: Well, we have already talked a good deal about these difficulties. Until I take leave of Your Excellency, those difficulties will never be removed. Whatever difficulties I find in my path, I will boldly face and will cheerfully bear the weight of the great responsibility that lies on my shoulders. It will be exactly the same on your part, I fully

Japanese subjects who actually suffered. But as we have no evidence of the facts, on what ground can we take such measures? If I ventured to do anything like that, I would be attacked by the Censors at once. In order to get the evidence for our side, I will undertake myself to enquire into the case.

The Ambassador: As to the Censors' attack, it is needless to say it is quite a personal matter. We are two High Plenipotentiaries to settle the present question. No one but us can settle it. I believe the Censors in your Government are men full of sense, ready to do justice to every one, though it is not my business at all to say anything about them.

The Vice-Roy: Of course two high Plenipotentiaries have to settle the question between the two nations. Certainly I do not care for our Censors' attack, but I must be careful about what has been reported to us by our commissioners who were sent specially to make investigation of the whole matter. In their report, there is no allusion to the facts you have mentioned to us. As I have not yet heard of anything from our defendant's side, I have no grounds on which I can adjust the claim. This is the reason why the two commissioners have been ordered to attend our conference. They were on the spot where the whole affair took place, more than one month, to furnish me with all necessary information. Even after the result of their investigation had been reported to me, I had no knowledge of anything you say that had happened. Under such circumstances, I have only to say, I cannot settle the points of the facts on which we may come to an understanding.

The Ambassador: I have only to negotiate with you. What I have to negotiate with you about, is not entirely the matter of an examination of two sides, Mr. Go upon one side and I on the other. This is a matter that concerns very deeply China and Japan. I have nothing to do with what Mr. Go

may have reported to you.

The Vice-Roy: I certainly admit we are the only negotiators. As I always reside in Tientsin, I do not know personally anything that happened in Corea. I therefore sent the two Commissioners to report to me the real facts of the case. But they did not find on the spot, anything like what you have stated to me. I cannot admit the evidence you brought forward, as representing the true facts of the case, until we have investigated for our own selves.

The Ambassador: As this is a question to be settled between the two Nations, it must be settled between the respective High Plenipotentiaries who represent them. A question like this never calls for the presence of a witness. The report of the Commissioners alone would not alter the merits of our case. You may refer to the "Alabama" question. Since the matter has formed a subject of negotiation between the two countries, it must necessarily be settled between themselves alone.

The Vice-Roy: Now I have only to try to collect our evidence and to do our best to come to an understanding. When Your Excellency opened the present question, I called these two gentlemen, Messrs. Go and Zoku, to inform me of the facts of the case. But even these two gentlmen do not know anything of the sort. You say the Ministers of the Tsung-Li-Yamen knew the actual occurrence of the facts as you mentioned them. Still I have not heard of them at all. If that be the real fact of the case, I must have our evidence to confirm what you have alleged. I do not mind at all the responsibility of Mr. Go, but I must hear from the "Mouth of the facts."

The Ambassador: That you are not yet in possession of the facts is not my fault.

The Vice-Roy: So I do not intend to deny the facts of the case at all. If I can find out in our Commissioners' report the

I am a small man, I am the Representative of a small Nation.

The Vice-Roy: I know Your Excellency holds a highest rank to which I have to pay great deference.

Mr. Go: As the Vice-Roy is in favor of me, I entreat Your Excellency will also equally favor me.

The Vice-Roy: I should like this matter to pass smoothly.

The Ambassador: You can readily conceive that we would not have brought forward the present claim, if it had not arisen from matters that had actually occurred. As in an individual, so there is morality in a Nation. The morality of a Nation deserves, in international affairs, higher importance. No Nation would bring forward unfounded claims and shake confidence in its morality. Though it can be seen very often in individual cases, that one person acts towards another utterly in bad faith, yet it is impossible for a nation to bring forward anything contrary to a sense of morality.

The Vice-Roy: I do not mean at all that you have brought forward any false case. On the contrary, I also should say that it is impossible for any Nation to do so. After the late disturbance, we sent two commissioners to Corea, at once, so that they could investigate the whole affair on the spot. They came back and reported everything they had searched into there, but as to the outrages Your Excellency insists on, they are utterly ignorant of the facts. So we have no grounds or evidence necessary to settle the matter.

The Ambassador: So far as the matter lies between your Government and your Commissioners, I may admit what you have just stated. But as far as it concerns our Government and our nation, I must ask Your Excellency to do justice to us and satisfy our claim.

The Vice-Roy: So Your Excellency disregards utterly Mr. Go, and you do not show him the slightest sympathy.

The Ambassador: I will show him more sympathy when he comes to Japan as your Minister.

The Vice-Roy: Suppose China were defendant in the present case, she is not prepared to answer the claim and she cannot submit to the plaintiff's claim, before she obtains the evidence on her side.

The Ambassador: If it is the intention of Your Excellency to reject entirely all of my claim, notwithstanding my manifestation of the friendly and cordial feelings Japan entertains toward China, Your Excellency will be the one who will make my mission unsuccessful.

The Vice-Roy: No. The success of your mission depends upon your own disposition. Your Excellency has great power either to make your mission successful or to make it unsuccessful. If you say success, it conveys the meaning of gaining something. I am sure your Government and Nation will rest quite content with Your Excellency's resolution not to gain anything from us.

Mr. Go: Your Excellency has more power than Chang Tang (中堂.)

The Ambassador: The present affair can only be settled between Your Excellency and myself. I have no more power than you have in the matter. One of us may perhaps satisfy himself by trying only to dispute against the other. So long as the dispute continues and the one or the other remains unsatisfied and uncompensated, then discussion, I fear, will not bring about any fruit and there will be no settlement between us.

The Vice-Roy: I have only to repeat that our Government sent to Corea special commissioners to investigate the matter. While they were there, they did not find out anything of the sort. If they had made any report on such outrages as you have spoken of, we would not only have punished our commanders but would also have given adequate compensation to the