

10th July. (1873)_v

Mr. Griffis.

You will have increased sum
of 30 yen per month, from this day, because
you have become a professor in the polytechnic
school.

Directors of
Kaisi-gakko.

Kaiseigakko August 20th 1873.

Our dear Professor:

We know that it was your contract with the school, when you came here, that you would be a teacher on a special branch of sciences, that is on Chemistry. But the school-officers requested you, afterward, to do something out of the contract. From the nature of the requests it was evident that you would have rejected them entirely and rightfully, if you had wished to; nevertheless, according to the requests, you have taught us - you have taught us kindly - on various other subjects of our study beside Chemistry. You have done your best and you have done much good to our progress of study; and not only ourselves, but also ^{the} school-officers are much obliged to you. But you say you shall hereafter teach us ~~on~~ Chemistry only. We know the reason why you will do so and we think that you are perfectly right in doing so. Let us, however, ask your mercy to continue in teaching us as you have done during a year and a half, that is to teach us on the other branches besides Chemistry. Indeed, it would be your gratuitous action to do so; it would be your extra-tasks;

it would be beyond your proper duty to the school.
But we shall be very happy if you grant this
request.

Your Sincere Pupils.

Hasegawa

Kumbe.

Miyasaki.

Sugiura.

Nagai.

Kanada.

Nishimura

Matsui.

Takasu.

Mayeda.

Hirai.

Sakurai.

Sawaki.

Oishi.

August 21st 1873.

Our Worthy Teacher:

By your excellent and careful teaching, we observe that our knowledge has been greatly improved since we have been under your instruction than it had been formerly, and we think that it is a great happiness to us that history is still taught by you even after a change was made in our studies. It is also a common saying among our schoolmates that how greatly learned teachers we may have in future, it is quite certain that we shall not get the teacher like you who has a great skill in teaching according to the character and ability of each scholar, — which we think the most successful manner of instructing students.

To our surprise, we heard a few days ago that there arose some trouble between you and the officers of the college, and on that result you have determined that you would teach only those branches which are stated in the contract, namely chemistry and physics, and no others, which we think and is perfectly right on your part. But we, the scholars of first legal class sincerely hope that you would continue to teach us as ever, and wish to re-

ceive your kind instruction for the sake of improving
our knowledge as fast and successfully as we can.

Your Sincere Pupils,
Of the First Legal Class.

2 Kai Ichi Yakko, August, 22nd, 1873.

Our dear Teacher.

It is very long since you came to Japan with the only purpose of teaching chemistry and physics; but on account that the polytechnic school was not yet established, you have been obliged till this day to teach not only chemistry, physics or history but also grammar composition &c; and you have almost passed the hardest part in teaching without sufficient apparatus or even without many books.

Now the polytechnic school is almost established, though the apparatus and books are not sufficiently delicate; and we like to advance in our study quickly without any more change of lessons and teachers; but you have told us that you would never see us again after a few months, because the officer does not want you any more, and if it be so, your friendly purpose of helping the Japanese students will all have gone away. We do not doubt that you have right to complain the unjust treating of the officer.

In this school, many teachers are of different classes of men, some are soldiers, some are sailors, and others may be mere drinkers or bad men, though there are a few educated

teachers who are very kind, such as you and two other gentlemen. There is a great difference between the lower classes of men whose only objects are to make money and the educated teachers whose purposes are to help the Japanese in advancing in civilization. But if the officer think all to be the same objects, he is quite mistaken. Of course we honor you as our dear teacher and distinguish you from lower class men.

Now we, the 2nd Legal Class are under your obligation in studying the history and we are quite satisfied with your explanation and impartial treating. But if you will teach us hereafter nothing but chemistry with your right of contract, by whom shall we study the history which is one of the important parts of our lessons. Although we may study only the dates and events by any English or Americans who speak the English language, but we do not like to do mere this, since our only object is to become the great lawyer by examining the principles of it. Therefore we earnestly request that you will teach us the history as long as you can and promote our study as you have done till this day. Though it is not your proposed purpose and it is not pleasant for you, if you help us by taking our eager request

We shall be much obliged to you. We earnestly
hope our dear teacher.

Believe us Sir.

Your affectionate scholars
of the 2nd Legal Class.

Mr. W. E. Griffis

By politeness of
the 2nd scientific class

Aug 22, 1873

Tokio, Aug 22nd, 1873.

Our dear Teacher

Not many things in the world can give us greater benefit than the kindness of your teaching. It reduces us to a necessity of writing all our letter, to send many thanks for you. Thanks and always thanks from beginning to the end. Those thanks are indeed the term came from our heart and we can truly add that there is no person on the earth whom we thank with so much affection as yourself. Now we put it apropos. We are sorry to find that you are not comfortable at the school under certain circumstances. Your ordinal duty to our instruction is to teach us only chemistry in our polytechnic school; notwithstanding if you teach us nothing but chemistry hereafter as you told us the day before yesterday we shall be very much discouraged. It is only one desire of our life time that you will continually teach us the same lessons which we have been taught by

you up to this time. If you grant this honor, nothing more than our happiness will be the greatest in the world.

Moreover, we have something to say, we have occasioned to have thousand anxious about your returning to your mother country during the year. If it be the case, we will be like a boy left out in the middle of African desert. At least we hope you will stay three years more in the school as the eyes of the world appoint you to our teacher.

We remain,

Your affectionate Scholars.

The 2nd scientific class.

M^r W. C. Griffin