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Southern Real Estate, Loan and Guarantee Co., Limited,

REAL ESTATE AND LOANS.

SOLE AMERICAN AGENTS FOR THE LOUISIANA AND SOUTHERN STATES REAL ESTATE AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD., LEICESTER, ENG.

Lake Charles, La. October 13th 1892

J. C. Hall esq
Cherokee. Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Will you please send me your fathers address. I wrote him at the address he left me. and my letter was returned.

Very truly yours
S. A. Knapp.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

SECTION OF SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

G. M. C.

July 27, 1898.

Mr. S. A. Knapp,

Lake Charles, La.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 22nd has just arrived and has been presented to the Secretary and your appointment has been authorized as Agricultural Explorer of the Section of Seed and Plant Introduction of this Department at a salary of $350 a month for fourmonths. You will be authorized to proceed on or after the first of September to Yokohama and such other points in Japan as you shall deem necessary for the collection of such varieties of rice as in your estimation are desirable for introduction into the southern states. You will be further authorized to secure such other economic plants as are deemed by you worthy of introduction, and upon the presentation of properly signed vouchers in duplicate, signed by you and attached receipts where possible from the seedsmen from whom you secure the seeds or plants, you will be reimbursed for an amount not to exceed $1,000 which shall include all of the express charges from Japan to Washington. I will endeavor to have this authorization send to you today and write this letter to inquire whether you will be prepared to advance the necessary funds to pay your transportation expenses to Japan and such other expense necessary in the purchase of seeds and plants which it is your design to introduce. It will be possible for the Department to send you every month the whole amount of your salary, $350, but the first payment can be only made on the first of September which will not be early enough for you to utilize the money in paying

(Mr. S. A. Knapp, Lake Charles, La.--7-27/98.)

your passage to Japan. There is no provision made by any of the Departments to furnish the funds for the use of special agents in paying traveling expenses and subsistence. Owing to necessary absence from the Office until the first of September I telegraphed you to-day asking if you would be prepared to advance the necessary funds for in case you do not do so some special arrangement will have to be made. I will correspond at once with Thomas Cook and Son and inquire if they will issue a letter of credit upon which you can draw in Japan the whole amount of your salary at any time during the month. I do not anticipate that this can be done as they have no agent but only correspondents in Japan. I trust you will let me know in this matter at once and inform me regarding any point in the making out of receipts for expenditures which you do not understand. I wish to make it clear to you that you will be reimbursed to the amount of $1,000 upon the presentation of properly signed duplicate vouchers covering the cost of purchase as also the cost of transportation.

I would suggest that in making the purchases you gather the same together in Yokohama and bring them as freight with you direct to San Francisco whence you can ship them through to Washington, prepaying the freight and delivery charges. This will avoid difficulties at this end in the payment of freight and delivery charges for which no other requisition that the one furnished you has been issued.

I shall arrange for several letters of introduction and a general letter of recommendation from the Secretary which will all accompany your appointment and authorization papers.

Very truly yours,

D. G. Fairchild.

Special Agent in Charge of
Seed and Plant Introduction.

P.

Department of Agriculture,
Office of the Secretary,
Washington, D.C.

August 1, 1898.

Hon. S. A. Knapp,

Lake Charles, Louisiana.

My Dear Knapp:

You have probably got our formal papers arranging for your trip to Japan.

Just now Dr. Salmon and Maj. Alvord have been in to see me about our exports of butter to Paris and Hamburg. We want to open up the Japanese market next year for our American dairy products, provided there is an opening; and it just occurs to me that you are the very man to learn about the dairy business of Japan and make notes, and if you have to stay an extra month or less to do that it will be all right. See what we could do in there with our butters; get what information you can regarding butters in China, and if necessary run over to China for that purpose. I will arrange the expense business afterward.
I would like to open up the dairy trade of the Pacific with the China seas. You can imagine what is necessary to be done and do that business for us just as well as the others while you are out there.

S.A.K.-2.

I am strongly of the opinion that we will get peace. The Spaniards have asked our terms and have gotten them.

Regards to your family.

Very cordially,

James Wilson
Secretary.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
SECTION OF SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

G. M. C.

July 29, 1898.

Mr. S. A. Knapp,

Lake Charles, La.

Dear Sir:

I will send you by registered mail to-morrow the following official papers which I trust will reach you in due time:

A letter from the Secretary cancelling your appointment as State Statistical Agent of the State of Louisiana. This is necessary since no official is allowed under the rules of the Government to hold two positions under the Government at the same time.

A letter from the Secretary appointing you as Agricultural Explorer of the Section of Seed and Plant Introduction of this Department at a salary of $350. a month for four (4) months.

A letter of authorization from the Secretary authorizing you to proceed on September first, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to Japan via Washington for the purpose of securing a variety of rice better suited to the conditions of rice culture in the southern states.

A blank form for the use of this Office which you will make out before a Notary Public and send on at once, addressing it to the "Appointment Clerk, Department of Agriculture." You will please enclose the statement of your legal and city residence, and personal record for which a blank is enclosed, to the Appointment Clerk of this Department.

A pamphlet giving the regulations of the Department controlling accounts of the agents of the Department.

Mr. S. A. Knapp, Lake Charles, La.--July 29, 1898.

Eight (8) vouchers, form No. 3, covering your salary for four (4) months and send to the Disbursing Officer of this Department which you will be obliged to sign in duplicate, taking pains to write your signature below the certificate that the account is correct as also the receipt.

Fifty (50) vouchers, form A, to be used in the purchase of seeds and plants for which you are authorized to spend $1,000. You will please observe the same rules regarding the signatures as indicated for the vouchers form No. 3.

A circular from the Director of the Mint giving the value of the Japanese yen in American money for guidance in your purchases. I may here remark that in case you can make the accounts out in dollars and cents, satisfying the Japanese from whom you but the seeds or plants of their equivalent in Japanese yens, it will save a great deal of trouble and annoyance in the Disbursing Office as the regular exchange often varies with the rates as determined by the Director of the Mint.

Letter heads and envelopes for correspondence with both this Section and outside parties with whom you may wish to correspond.

Three letters of introduction to people in Japan who may be of use to you in your investigations.

Two letters from the Secretary, one on Parchment paper, commending you to the officials abroad which you will no doubt find of great service.

I send these to you in order that you may have time to look them over carefully and understand them since I expect to be absent from Washington until the first of September. The letter of authorization instructs you to proceed to Japan via Washington. It seems advisable to you that we have a conference with you before you leave. I trust you will let me know what time you will leave for Washington so that I may be here to comfer with you but as I stated before I do not expect to return before the first of September.

I have corresponded with Thomas Cook and Son and should you wish to make an

arrangement with them to use their circular notes, which are payable at any of their agents' or correspondents' offices in Japan, such an arrangement can be easily made, and they will send you such circular notes at the end of each month covering your whole salary. It may be just as well to have the check sent direct from the Disbursing Office as a check on the United States Treasury which is negotiable anywhere in Japan. Thomas Cook and Son sent me a sailing list of steamers to Japan which I herewith enclose, thinking however that you already have such a timetable. I presume you will wish to leave per Steamer "Empress of China" sailing on the 12th of September from Vancouver. If you do take that Steamer it would be very advisable to apply at once for a stateroom as the steamers of the Pacific mail have been chartered by the Government for war transports and they are likely to be crowded.

Should any point arise which is not clear to you regarding this whole matter I trust you will not fail to communicate with me. My address until August 22nd will be"Care Barbour Lathrop, Esq., York Harbor, Maine", and after the 22nd you will be able to reach me if you direct the letter to this Office.

Very truly yours,

D. G. Fairchild.

Special Agent in Charge of
Seed and Plant Introduction.

~~Enclosure~~.

United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

Washington, D. C., July 29th - - - - , *1898*.

Mr. Seaman A. Knapp, of the State of Louisiana, State Statistical Agent for the State of Louisiana at a salary at the rate of $550 per annum paid from the miscellaneous roll of the Division of Statistics, *is hereby given leave of absence* WITHOUT PAY *from the termination of* August 31st - -, *1898*, *until* further order, *and his name is hereby suspended from the rolls of the Department of* as State Statistical Agent for the State of Louisiana *Agriculture accordingly.*

Because of his appointment to be an Agricultural Explorer in the Section of Seed and Plant Introduction of this Department.

James Wilson

Secretary of Agriculture.