

アマースト大学 神田乃武考

真 崎 良 幸

The name “Amherst” has some connotations for English teachers in Japan. It has something nostalgic about it. It was the home of Dr. William Smith Clark. It was the place where Joseph Neesima was educated, where Naibu Kanda was nurtured, and where Kanzo Uchimura was enlightened. It contains all the good memories of the past relations between America and Japan, some of which were unfortunately marred by reckless Japanese war leaders during the fifteen years prior to 1945 when World War II ended.

In the summer of 1990 I went to this town as a finish to my study on Naibu Kanda. I wanted to see the city with my own eyes to find out what present-day Amherst was like, and how different it is from what it used to be. Also, I wanted to visit the Amherst College Library and see if there were any interesting materials about those outstanding Japanese pioneers.

I left Japan on July 19 for Seoul and stayed one night at Lotte Hotel. The next afternoon I left Seoul for San Francisco at 3:30 and arrived around 10:00 in the morning on the same day. It was a flight of eleven long hours. Maybe I shouldn't say it was long compared to the trips those pioneers made by ship. Although my destination was Amherst, I wanted to see typical American scenes during my trip and compare them with the town of Amherst. So what I did was to visit six different cities

besides Amherst; Minneapolis, Memphis, Orlando, Boston, Detroit and Las Vegas. In my previous visit to the U. S. A., I had seen much of San Francisco and Los Angeles, so I left these places out of my itinerary.

On July 22nd I flew from Memphis to Orlando. Orlando is famous for such tourist attractions as Disney World, Universal Studio and Sea World. It is a city of tourism and resorts. During my stay I wrote a letter to the President of Amherst College to let him know of my visit.

Dear President Pouncey,

I am Yoshiyuki Masaki teaching English at a college in Fukuoka, Japan. I'm now writing from Orlando, Florida. I'm on my way to Amherst where Naibu Kanda whose biography I'm writing was educated and fostered. I had written a book about Kanzo Uchimura whose copy I'm enclosing. Those two Japanese along with Joseph Neesima are, as you know, some of the most outstanding personalities Japan has ever produced. I'm sure they owe their success greatly to your education.

My purpose on this trip is to see Amherst College and its surroundings and feel and breathe the atmosphere they did more than 100 years ago, and if possible I'd like to hear something you know about those people and about President Julius Seeley who had a tremendous influence upon them.

I suppose you are busy, but it would be my greatest honor and pleasure if I could meet with you.

I'm staying here in Florida until July 28th and then leaves for Boston and directly comes to your place. When I arrive in Boston, I'll try to contact you.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Best wishes,

Yoshiyuki Masaki

Two days later I got a reply, not from the President but from his secretary Ms. Patricia Mullins. (see p.134)

I was sorry to have missed the opportunity to meet the President, but I did have the privilege of visiting Amherst College and its library. Upon receiving Ms. Mullins' letter, I decided to leave Florida earlier than scheduled. I had been in Florida for three days and had seen plenty.

On July 26th I left sunny, beautiful Orlando for Boston. When I arrived in Boston, I felt people there were different; more intense than those in Florida. People there seemed too busy to smile. The Boston subway was dark and unclean compared to the subways in Fukuoka, or Pusan or Seoul, although I admit it is the oldest. I stayed at the Ramada Hotel near the airport. It was quite disappointing for the price of 100 dollars. I did not care much about it, though, since I was so much looking forward to the next day's journey to Amherst.

The next morning I left the hotel and took the subway to South Station where there was a bus terminal. I took a Peter Pan bus. It brought me directly to Amherst, stopping halfway in Springfield. It was a ride of approximately three hours.

The bus driver was kind enough to let me know where to get off and told me that the ground I was about to step on was the site just outside the campus of Amherst College. I thanked him and got off the bus and found myself surrounded by an atmosphere I had been after for a long



AMHERST COLLEGE

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Office of the President
413-542-2234

July 24, 1990

Mr. Yoshiyuki Masaki
Vistana Resort
P. O. Box 22051
Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830

Dear Mr. Masaki:

Your express mailing arrived this noon to President Pouncey, who is away on vacation with his family until August 13th. Unless you are planning to remain in Amherst beyond that time, I think he will not be available to see you.

I might suggest that you be in touch with Ms. Daria D'Arienzo in the Robert Frost Library who will be able to assist you in your research on Julius Seeley, Joseph Neesima and Kanzo Uchimura. I have forwarded your letter and materials directly to Ms. D'Arienzo.

Although you did not mention that you might want to be housed while you are in Amherst, I think I should tell you that all available housing for the summer months has been spoken for. We have had so many visitors to the campus that we are currently over-subscribed.

Thank you for writing and I will share your letter with President Pouncey upon his return.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia A. Mullins".

Secretary to President Pouncey

cc: Ms. Daria D'Arienzo
Archivist of the College
Post Office Box 2256
A38 Robert Frost Library

time. I stood there breathing deeply and leisurely walked around. A squirrel on the grass looked at me as if to welcome my visit. I felt as if I was back in the past with those pioneers.

The first thing I did was to reserve a room at a hotel. Luckily there was one nearby. I checked in and after taking a shower I went to Amherst College to see Ms. Mullins. It was a few minutes' walk. I met Ms. Mullins and thanked her for the letter and she kindly introduced me to the archivists and told me to feel free to use the library.

I went to the library and the materials of Naibu Kanda were presented in front of me. I felt like a person who has at last found a long-seeking treasure. I thanked the archivist and asked her if I could look them over sitting at the table. With permission I sat at the table and, with my heart throbbing, opened the front cover. Sure enough, familiar faces of Naibu Kanda came in sight. I felt as if I was seeing my great grandfather softly smiling for me. Some of these pictures I had already seen in Japan, but there were some I had not seen before. There were also newspaper clippings that reported his revisit to the U. S. and his obituaries. I read all of them carefully and asked the archivist to make a photocopy of several of them. After I finished examining Naibu Kanda's resources I asked if I could look over the materials of Kanzo Uchimura. They were presented, and while I was looking them over, I found an interesting thing; Naibu and Kanzo, after graduation, both went back to their alma mater to attend a reunion in 1920 (Taisho 9). At that time they were asked to fill in the form of a questionnaire called Biographical Record of Graduates and Former Students. This was written when Naibu was sixty-three years old and Kanzo fifty-nine. We can find an interesting comparison in the response they made to the questions. I'll list some of those here so that we can compare them.

NAME, ADDRESS, AND FAMILY RECORD

3. Name and address of some one who will habitually know your address.

Kanda

blank

Uchimura

Tokyo Post Office

5. Family record

Kanda

Full maiden name of wife	Kumachiyo Takagi
Her residence before marriage	Tokyo
Her school or college	Joshi Gakuin
Date of your marriage	July 30, 1883

Uchimura

No use of mentioning a Japanese family matter. Certainly no American can understand and will take any interest in it.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL RECORD

1. Present occupation

Kanda

Professor-Emeritus, Tokyo University of Commerce Member, House of Peers

Uchimura

Independent Christian teacher, has no connection whatever with any church or missionary society.

2. Occupations 1895 to date (the last Biographical Record was published in 1895)

Kanda

Government Examiner for Middle Schools and Higher Schools (Colleges) teachers

Professor and Director, Tokyo School of Foreign Languages 1897–1916

Professor, Tokyo Higher Commercial School 1893–1916

Professor-Emeritus, Tokyo Higher Commercial School 1916–(Tokyo University of Commerce since 1919) Travelled abroad in 1900

Government delegate to International Education Conference at Paris, 1900

Professor, Peers' School, 1909–1911

Travelled in U. S., 1909

Elected Member of the House of Peers, 1910

Uchimura

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3. Books written or edited; articles or papers contributed to press or periodicals.

Kanda

English textbooks for Japanese students

Uchimura

Wrote about twenty-five books; two of them in English, which were translated into several European languages; very unpopular however in America, and no Englishman will read them.

EDUCATIONAL RECORD

2. Degrees received from Amherst or any other college, university or professional school, with dates.

Kanda

B. A. Amherst College 1879

M. A. Amherst College 1898

Uchimura

Only honoured with B. S. in 1887.

No degree since then, from any institution.

WAR RECORD

1. For the purpose of confirming our present record and bringing it up to date, please state your war record, giving such details as you think important.

Kanda

blank

Uchimura

Have no war record whatever. Indeed, I hate war, and wrote and spoke against it when Japan entered into war with Russia and also with Germany. My conscience will condemn me if I ever receive “war-honour” from any country or government. Shame to fight, man against man. No good ever came out of war. Shame to receive such honors and decorations.

PUBLIC RECORD

1. Offices held since 1895

Kanda

President, Tokyo Jogakkan (Girls' High School)

Principal, Seisoku Chugakko (Boys' Middle School)

Vice-President, Indo-Japanese Association

Vice-President, America-Japan Society

President, Tokyo English Speaking Society

Uchimura

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We can see that Kanda went up the ladder of honor all the way to the top, while Uchimura did not care about worldly honors and stuck to his independence. This gave me an interesting contrast of these outstanding figures.

I found people in Amherst relaxed and the town had the atmosphere of the countryside and academism mixed together. You can find several bookshops and eateries here and there. There was much green around and you can see squirrels looking at you with friendly smiles. The trees, the

grass, the sky and the people were all in harmony and they led me into the world of old-time Amherst. This is Amherst, I thought, the place young Kanda breathed, lived and loved. This is the place that gave Uchimura a firm foundation on which to stand for his ordeals to come. Sitting on the campus looking around, I pondered, "Why not the advent of another Kanda and Uchimura in the Heisei period? I'll do my best to help create the foundation for such people." With those thoughts and others coming across my mind, I lay myself down on the grass and looked back on the past. I thought of the eras of Meiji, Taisho and Showa. I thought of how those eras had developed. We had seen too many wars. We had seen too little freedom. There were surely those who fought for the common people, but there were also war leaders who had no respect for them and regarded the lives of the common people not worth a penny. These war leaders finally plunged Japan into Hell by creating and taking advantage of the authority of the Emperor. We must never again allow a handful of such people to take control of the country and use it and its people as their own toy. We must guard democracy which is gained at the sacrifice of millions of people's lives.

Thinking of things wise and otherwise, I felt myself lucky to be able to make this kind of trip so leisurely and enjoyably. At the same time I felt the need to let the coming generations know and learn from the lives of those outstanding people who studied hard and devoted their lives to things they believed in.

August, 1990