

Dear Colleague:

Despite the difficult times this year **Moran Micropublications** continued its work of making unique historical materials available for research in cooperation with archives, libraries and other institutions in the Netherlands and elsewhere. With this newsletter we take the liberty of informing you a bit about these important new or forthcoming publications, for which complete details can be found on our website: www.moranmicropublications.nl

New on microfiche in cooperation with the National Archives of the Netherlands, The Hague

Dutch Trade in Asia: Part 2: Papers of Jan Cock Blomhoff on Japan, c. 1817-1829

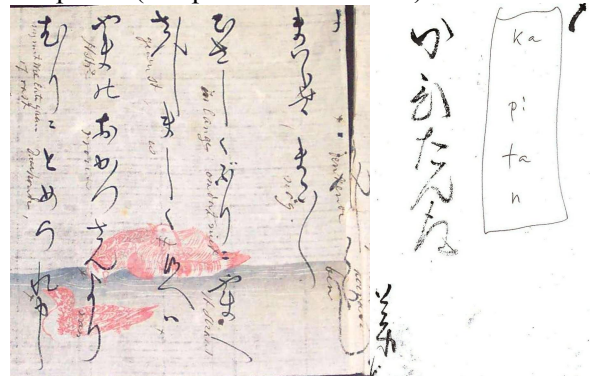
Jan Cock Blomhoff (1779-1853) succeeded Hendrik Doeff as director (*opperhoofd*) of the Dutch trading post (*factorij*) at Deshima in the harbor of Nagasaki, Japan in December 1817 and served there until 1823.



Reconstruction of kitchen at Deshima open air museum, Nagasaki photo Moran Micropublications

This small, but interesting collection of papers includes Dutch translations of dispositions and other official documents issued to him by the Japanese authorities in Nagasaki, more than 100 letters to him in Dutch from Japanese people, bills and other documents concerning goods handled by the factory and repairs to its buildings and notes concerning customs and mores in Japan and other places. Worth noting also are a catalogue of objects sent to Blomhoff by the shogun's chief botanist in Edo and the extensive list of gifts required by the shogun for 1824. An intriguing part of the collection is formed by the letters written to Blomhoff in Japanese (almost completely in

hiragana script) by (or for) a woman, presumably his mistress, a woman called Hana, who addressed him as "Captain" ("Kapitan" or "Mr. Ka"). See below.



Detail from letter and greeting, photos Moran Micropublications

The Colonial Economy in the Netherlands Indies Part 1: The Commission to Investigate the Sugar Manufactories on Java, 1854-1857

In the early 1830s the Dutch introduced the "cultuurstelsel" (cultivation system) into their East Indies colony of Java. This system amounted to forcing the native Indonesians to cultivate various cash crops, in particular sugar and coffee, to be paid to the colonial government, which would then sell them on the world market through the Dutch Trading Company (*Nederlandsch handelmaatschappij*) set up in 1824 under royal patronage. By 1840 the first famines provoked by increased exploitation were reported. By mid-century the system had brought great wealth to the colonial power, but was coming under more and more criticism both in Indonesia and the Netherlands. By the 1850s circumstances led the minister of the Colonies to order an extensive investigation into the system of (text continued on reverse)



Sugar Manufactory Pangka, Tegal, Java by A. Salm, c. 1872, collection of the KITLV, Leiden, The Netherlands, 47D-4 (the illustration is not part of the microfiche collection)

government sugar cultivation. Its records contain a wealth of information on sugar cultivation itself and on the social situation of the native population in the sugar-producing areas.

***The Colonial Economy in the Netherlands Indies
Part 2: The Commission for Industrial Development
in the Netherlands Indies, 1915-1926***

In spite of the opening up of the Netherlands Indies to investment by Dutch and foreign capital from about 1870 onwards, the colonial economy remained largely agrarian into the opening decades of the twentieth century. The stagnation of world trade and shipping that followed the outbreak of World War I soon made it painfully apparent just how dependent the Netherlands Indies still was on imported manufactured products and turned the colonial government's mind to developing industry in the Indies. In 1915 a special commission was established to investigate setting up industries to process raw materials, which would at the same time provide employment for the growing indigenous population. The commission's records on microfiche provide valuable sources for the economic history of the colony and the history of development policy in a colonial context.

Forthcoming 2009

***Archive of the State Commission for Slave
Emancipation in the Netherlands colonies,
1853-1856***

Although slavery had been abolished in the British colonies as early as 1833, it persisted in the Dutch possessions in the East Indies and particularly their West Indies colonies of Surinam and the Antilles, which were plantation economies. No serious voices were raised for emancipation in either government circles or public opinion until the publication of Harriet Beecher Stowe's classic *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in the United States in 1852. Questions in the Dutch Parliament concerning the colonial budget for 1854 led the government to appoint a State Commission in November 1853 to investigate the situation of the slave population in the colonies and propose appropriate measures. Former minister of the Colonies and governor-general of the Netherlands East Indies, J.C. Baud, was named chairman and the members were drawn from the colonial civil service, parliament itself and representatives of commercial interests involved in slavery, including plantation owners. The commission gathered material, heard witnesses and eventually produced two reports in September 1855 (on Surinam) and July 1856 (on the West Indies). Slavery was finally abolished on 1 July 1863.

**Projects in cooperation with the Royal Netherlands
Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean studies
(KITLV), Leiden**

***The Vernacular Press in the Netherlands Indies
c. 1855-1925, a New Series***

Moran and KITLV have launched a series to make rare periodicals in Malay and other Indonesian languages available on microfiche. Unit 1 with six titles is now available. Unit 2 is forthcoming in 2009.

Forthcoming 2009

***Papers of Colonial Advisers on Politics, Culture and
Religion in the Netherlands Indies,
c. 1895-1949***

Moran Micropublications is making available the papers of three prominent colonial civil servants who advised the government of the Netherlands Indies on matters relating to Islam, indigenous culture and languages, education, politics and nationalism in pre-independence Indonesia. These collections include papers in Dutch, Indonesian, Arabic, some Jawi (Indonesian in Arabic script), and Javanese, among others.

**Part 1. Papers of Godard Arend Johannes Hazeu
(1870-1929), period 1895-1929**

**Part 2. Papers of Emile Gobée (1881-1954),
period 1908-1951**

**Part 3. Papers of Rudolf Aernoud Kern
(1875-1958), period 1896-1955**

Travels

In spring 2008 Moran attended the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) meeting in Atlanta and in October the Frankfurt Book Fair for discussions with trade colleagues. In 2009 we will be attending the AAS in Chicago (March 26-29).

With kind regards and season's greetings,

Dr. Gerard T. Moran
Director & Publisher

**Moran Micropublications
Singel 357
1012 WK Amsterdam
The Netherlands**

Tel + 31 20 528 6139

Fax + 31 20 623 9358

E-mail: info@moranmicropublications.nl

Internet: www.moranmicropublications.nl
