

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

IMMIGRATION FILE

No. 715

SUBJECT:

In re
LAM GAY,
of
"QUONG YUEN L.C.CO."
Merchants,
No.321 So. Clark St.,
Chicago, Illinois,
U. S. A.

=====

NAME:- LAM GAY.
AGE:-- Thirty One Yrs.
HEIGHT:- 5'3 1/2".

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.)
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.) Set:
EASTERN DIVISION.)

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, Citizens of the United States of America and residents of the City of Chicago and vicinity, in said division and district, Do Hereby Certify that we have been well acquainted with the abovedescribed LAM GAY for upwards of one year last past, during which time he has not been a huckster, peddler, laundryman or laborer of any kind, but during which time he has been a reputable resident Chinese Merchant of the said City of Chicago.

WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That during the said year of our acquaintance with him the said LAM GAY has been a member of the firm of chinese merchants trading and doing business under the trade-name and style of the said firm located at No.321 South Clark street, Chicago aforesaid, known as "QUONG YUEN L. C. CO.," Dealers in Teas, Groceries and General Chinese and Japanese Merchandise.

WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That during the said year of our acquaintance with him the said LAM GAY has been engaged in buying and selling merchandise at the said fixed place of business under the trade name and style of the said firm of which he is a member; and that during the said year of our acquaintance with him he has not been engaged in the performance of manual labour, skilled or unskilled of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of his business as such merchant.

WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That the foregoing photograph, hereunto affixed, is a true and correct likeness of the said LAM GAY; and that the foregoing description is a true description of the person of the said LAM GAY.

AND WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That we have been credibly informed, and verily believe, that the said LAM GAY has a financial interest of One Thousand Dollars in the business and assets of said firm. From our frequent visits to the said place of business and our general acquaintance with the various members of the said concern, we have been well satisfied that the said LAM GAY is actively engaged in the business of the said firm, exercises a voice in the management and affairs thereof, and that he is a bona fide merchant and member of said "QUONG YUEN L. C. Company".

Dated, at Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., November 18th, 1908.

A. L. Pana
(Address) 159 La Salle St
Chicago, Illinois.

A. L. Henson
(Address) 3-15 State st
Chicago, Illinois.

Chicago, Illinois,
November 18, 1908.

To

LORENZO T. PLUMMER, ESQ.,

Chinese Inspector in Charge,

Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:

My name is Lam Gay. I am a native and subject of China, having been born in the village of Sing Woy in the Province of Kwongtun, in the third K. S.

When fifteen years of age I accompanied my father, Lam Hou, to the United States, landing at the Port of San Francisco, California. While in California I lived with my father at his place of business, the "QUONG SANG COMPANY", on Eighth street in the City of Oakland.

During the first month of the 32nd K. S. I came to the City of Chicago in the State of Illinois, where I became associated with the firm of Chinese Merchants known as "Quong Yuen L. C. Company", dealers in Teas, Groceries and General Chinese and Japanese Merchandise, at No. 321 So. Clark street, assuming an interest in said business of One Thousand Dollars, which said interest had been given me by my father at the time of his departure for China during the first month of 32nd K. S. I still retain said interest, and the same is worth reasonably and at least, the sum aforesaid.

For upwards of one year last past, I have not been engaged in the performance of manual labour, skilled or unskilled, of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of my said business as a merchant and member of said Quong Yuen L. C. Company; but have been continuously and actively engaged in the business and affairs of the said company.

I desire to visit China with the intention of returning to resume my present residence, occupation and status in the United States. Wherefore, I transmit herewith the evidence of two credible witnesses other than Chinese, and pray that the same may be endorsed as provided by Regulation. Very respectfully,

Lam Gay

Department of Commerce and Labor
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
SEATTLE, WASH.

Ham

No. 26,364.

RECEIVED
OCT 15 1910
Inspector in Charge,
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Oct. 11, 1910.

Inspector in Charge,
U.S. Immigration Service,
Chicago, Ill.

S i r:

This is to inform you that Chinese LAM
GAY whose status was the subject of your report of
Dec. 23, 1909, No. 715, arrived at this port Oct.
10, 1910, on the S.S. "Princess Victoria", and that
he was readmitted as a returning merchant of Chicago,
Ill., on the day of arrival.

Respectfully,

HAM-TMS.

Ellis J. Bullock
C o m m i s s i o n e r .

JHS

Department of Commerce and Labor

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

SUBJECT:

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR IN CHARGE
ROOM 522, COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILL.

December 30, 1909.

CHICAGO, ILL.
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR IN CHARGE
IMMIGRATION SERVICE
No. 715.

Inspector in Charge,
Immigration Service,
Portal, North Dakota.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th instant, No. 2691, will say that the address of LAM GAY in China is c/o Hop Yick We, No. 79 Connaught Road, Hong Kong, China.

Respectfully,

Acting Inspector in Charge.

GMP

Lam Gay
c/o Hop Yick We
79 Connaught Road
Hong Kong China

#林
紀

Department of Commerce and Labor
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF
IMMIGRANT INSPECTOR IN CHARGE
522 COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
CHICAGO, ILL.

December 23, 1909.

715.

(Portal 2691, 12-20-09.)

Inspector in Charge,
Immigration Service,
Chicago, Illinois.

S i r :

As instructed by you I have investigated the case of Lam Gay, a Chinese merchant asking an ad interim investigation, and enclose a transcript of my notes of the evidence given by Lim S. Lett, manager of the firm in which applicant claims to be interested, from which it appears that applicant retains an undivided interest of \$1,000.00 in the store of Quong Yuen & Co. and that the business of this firm has not changed materially since applicant's departure. I visited the store, which appears to be in good condition. I am therefore of the opinion that applicant should be admitted upon his return.

All papers in the case are returned herewith.

Respectfully,

H. A. Plumb
Immigrant Inspector.

APPROVED, and Forwarded to the Inspector in Charge, Portal, North Dakota, in reply to his letter No. 2691 of 20th instant.

Inc. 1650.

Acting Inspector in Charge.

CHICAGO

December 23, 1909.

Case of :
LAM GAY, : D. A. Plumly - Examining Inspector.
Merchant, ad interim.:

Witness, LIM S. LETT, sworn, testified:

- Q What is your name? A Lim S. Lett.
Q Have you any other names? A My marriage name is Lim Leong Lip.
Q What is your occupation? A Manager of the firm of Quong Yuen &
Co., 321 S. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.
Q Do you know this man (Showing photograph of applicant.)?
A Yes; that is my partner, Lam Gay.
Q What is his interest in your firm? A \$1,000.00.
Q Has he disposed of that interest or any part of it since his
departure for China? A No, he has not changed his interest
since I was manager.
Q Will he resume his position in your store upon his return?
A Yes, that is what we intend.
Q Is your business in virtually the same condition as at the time of
his departure? A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in English and Chinese.

(Signed) LIM S. LETT

林標立

林社立

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of December 1909.

(Signed) D. A. Plumly, Inspector.

Dec. 23-1909

2 ———— Lim S. Lett

— — — — — Long Lip
— — — — — Lim Lips

26 — — — — — 321

26 — — — — — 6

7 — — — — — 6

26 — — — — — 6

— — — — — 33

— — — — — 6

— — — — — 6

Lim S. Lett 林社烈

林標立

N. A. Plumbly

Department of Commerce and Labor
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR IN CHARGE
PORTAL, N. DAK.

Dec. 2, 1903

L. T. Plummer,
Chinese Inspector in Charge,
Chicago, Ill.

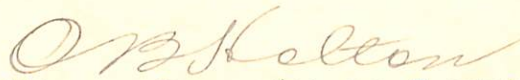
Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 30th ultimo, No. 715, together with all papers in the case of LAM GAY, Chinese merchant of your city, who desires endorsement of his papers under Rule 25 of the Regulations, upon his departure through this port.

In view of the favorable report of the investigating inspector and your concurrence therein, the applicant will receive the said endorsement upon his departure through this port.

If the applicant wishes to sail on the Empress of Japan, he should be here by next Saturday morning.

Respectfully,


Chinese Inspector in Charge

RECEIVED
DEC 4 1903
Chinese Inspector,
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

No. 715.

November 30th, 1908.

Mr. O. B. Holton,
Chinese Inspector in Charge,
Portal, North Dakota.

Sir:-

I hand you herewith papers in the case of LAN GAY, merchant of this city who desires to visit China and return to the United States.

Chinese Inspector H. E. Tippet conducted the examination of applicant and the manager of this firm, and I inclose his favorable report. I also inclose the sworn statements of the two white witnesses upon the regular forms used. I regard them both as credible witnesses.

This firm of Quong Vuen Chung Kee is a bona fide mercantile establishment and does a first class business among the Chinese here, and I believe that the members are entitled to the privileges of merchants. In view of the favorable report of Inspector Tippet, I would recommend that the privilege asked for be granted.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. T. Plummer.

Chinese Inspector in Charge.

522, Commercial Nat'l. Bk. Bldg. CHICAGO November 25th, 1908.

Case of : H. E. Tippet, Examining Inspector.
 LAM GAY, : Charley Kee, Interpreter.
 Merchant departing. : W. B. Calkins, Stenographer.

Applicant, LAM GAY, sworn by Inspector Tippet, testified:

Q What is your name? A. Lam Gay.
 Q How many names have you? A. I have only one name, Lam Gay.
 I am not married.
 Q What is your occupation? A. Works in a grocery store.
 Q What firm? A. 321 So. Clark St.
 Q What is the name of the firm? A. Quong Yuen Chung Kee.
 Q What do you do in this store? A. The first thing in the morning I open the store. I also sell goods.
 Q Are you one of the partners in this firm? A. Yes.
 Q How long have you been one? A. Over two years.
 Q How much interest have you in this company? A. My father put in \$1,000.00 for me.
 Q What is your father's name? A. Dum Mow.
 Q Where is he now? A. He went to China.
 Q When did he go to China? A. Two years ago.
 Q What date did your father buy this interest in this firm for you? A. I do not know when he went in it, but he told me he had and to go and take the interest.
 Q Have you \$1,000.00 in the firm now? A. Yes.
 Q Does your name appear on the partnership list? A. I do not know. Only my father came up here and told me to take care of it.
 Q Was your father in this company before you came in? A. My father was at Oakland. He put some money in this place and told me to take care of it.
 Q Is this interest in your name or in your father's name? A. My father put it in my name.
 Q Your name must be on the partnership list? A. Yes.
 Q Have you been actually engaged in this store ever since your father put this interest in there for you? A. I do not know how long my father held an interest in that store, but I served my time in this store two years.
 Q You have been engaged in this store two years, have you? A. A little over two years.
 Q What part of the work do you perform in the store? A. In the early hours of the morning, I open the store; and serve the customers to every little thing they need.
 Q Do you know how many partners there are in the firm? A. Seven or eight.
 Q Seven or eight stay in the store all the time, or are there that many in the company? A. Seven or eight are in the store all the time.
 Q How many are there in the company altogether? A. I do not know how many stock holders there are in this company. All I know is that there are seven or eight in the store now. My father sent me here.
 Q What is the capital of the company? A. \$30,000.00.
 Q Who is the manager or boss? A. Lim Lett.
 Q Where were you born? A. Sun Wie, China.
 Q When did you come to this country? A. I was fifteen years old. My father came with me.
 Q How old are you now? A. Thirty-one.
 Q Where were you landed? A. San Francisco.
 Q What was your father doing then? A. Kept a grocery store in Oakland.
 Q Are you married? A. No.
 Q What firm was your father connected with in Oakland? A. Quong Sang on Eighth St. I do not know the number.
 Q How long have you known Mr. Dana, witness to this paper? A. I have known him about two years.

Case of LAM GAY.

Testimony of applicant, LAM GAY, continued:

- Q How long have you known the other witness, Mr. Henson?
A. Since I arrived in the store.
- Q Do these men come into your store frequently? A. Yes.
- Q Have they both seen you there selling goods? A. Yes, they would see me right along.
- Q Was your father ever connected with this store here in Chicago? A. No, he never had an interest in his own name.
- Q Where were you before coming to this store? A. At Oakland.
- Q While you were in Oakland, did your father buy an interest in this firm for you? A. Yes.
- Q When did you leave Oakland to come here? A. K.S. 32.
- Q Have you been in the store here ever since? A. Yes.
- Q You have not done any other kind of work except that pertaining to the store? A. No.
- (Partnership list signed and sworn to October 6th, 1906, shows Lam Gay's interest as \$1,000.00. His location as Oakland.)
- Q Did you get any dividends from your investment in that store? A. No, not yet.
- Q Do they pay you any salary for your services? A. I have received a salary for the last two years.
- Q You still hold your interest there of \$1,000.00 and expect to retain it? A. Yes.
- Q If you go to China, do you intend to return to the United States? A. Yes.
- Q What port are you going out at? A. Portal.
- Q How many men spend all their time in the store? A. Seven or eight.
- Q Give me their names? A. Lum Lett, Lum Tone, Lum Gin, Lum Foo, Lum Hung, Lum Gay, (myself) Lum Quay, and Lum Tung.
- Q Is that all? A. Yes.

Applicant signed his testimony in English & Chinese.

(Signed) Lam Gay, Applicant.

林紀 (Lam Gay)

(Signed) Charley Kee, Interpreter.

(Signed) H. E. Tippet, Inspector.

Case of LAM GAY.

Place: same.

Witness, LIM. S. LETT, sworn by Inspector Tippet, testified:
(In English)

Q What is your name? A. Lim S. Lett.

Q How many names have you? A. That is my own name.

Lim S. Lett is the name I always use. Lim Leung Lett is my marriage name.

Q Are you the manager of the firm of Quong Yuen Chung Kee Co.
A. Yes.

Q How long have you been the manager? A. Since 1906.

Q Can you identify the photograph on this paper? A. Yes, he is one of our members.

Q What is his name? A. Lam Gay.

Q Does his name appear on your partnership list as a member of your firm? A. Yes.

Q How much of an interest has he? A. \$1,000.00.

Q How long has he had that interest there? A. He had it before I became the manager.

Q What does he do in the store? A. He helps around selling goods. He takes care of the goods.

Q Has he been in the store ever since you came back from China? A. He was there before I became manager.

Q Has he given this store all his time and attention for the last two years? A. Yes.

Q Has he any business outside of this store? Any occupation?
A. No.

Q How many members are there in the firm? A. Twenty-five.

Q How much capital? A. \$30,000.00.

Q Does this man get any salary for his work there, or does he get only his share of the profits? A. After I came in as manager he gets a salary.

Q Do you know how he got his interest in this firm? A. They told me his father bought his interest before the boy got to Chicago. That was while Lem Chee was manager.

Q Where was this boy before he came to Chicago? A. Oakland, California.

Q The boy came from Oakland to Chicago? A. Yes.

Q Has he been in the store since he came from Oakland? A. Yes.

Q Since you became manager has he given this store his whole and undivided attention? A. Yes.

Q How much stock do you carry approximately? A. About fifteen thousand dollars in stock. I carry ten thousand dollars insurance on it.

Q What kind of business are you in? A. General merchandise, Chinese groceries, Japanese goods. Most every little thing.

Q How many partners work in the store? A. Six or seven. Sometimes eight.

Witness signed his name in English & Chinese.

(Signed) Lim S. Lett,

Witness.

林社烈 (Lim Leung Lett)

林樹立

(Signed) Charley Kee,

Interpreter.

(Signed) H. E. Tippet,

Inspector.