

Sapporo, Hokkaido, Sept. 9th, 1877.

Dear Sister:

No mail from home since I wrote last; but I don't suppose it is your fault, for I know that the steamers are somewhat irregular just at present. They will probably soon resume their regular semimonthly trips, so it is not advisable for you to change the time of mailing your letters. College duties began as intended and everything is moving on pleasantly and harmoniously; but without much variety. The arrival of an American mail is the principal excitement that we have. Our new Freshman class numbers eighteen, and they all appear well so far, some especially so. I wish that you could see one bright little fellow by the name of Hiroi. He is handsome, if he is a "heathen Japanese." Owing to the non-return of one of our Japanese teachers I have six hours extra teaching per week to do at present. My time is fully occupied planning and superintending farm improvements and buildings, when not engaged in class-room duties, so you must not expect very long letters from me. We have just had a visit from Mr. Harris a Missionary in Hakodate and Acting United States Consul at that port. He is very pleasant, and we enjoyed his company very much. He baptised fifteen of our students. He is a Methodist; but the students do not profess to belong to any particular sect. Pres. Clark taught them however in rather of an orthodox manner.

The weather for the past week has been fine, just right for comfort; but today it looks like a storm. One week from tomorrow is a holiday, why I don't know. We shall have no College exercises and perhaps I may see something of interest. Give lots of love for all and accept a good share for yourself. Good night.

Brother Will.

P.S. I wish that you and all my S. S. relatives would send me photographs of themselves. Please tell all to whom you gave one of mine that I would like the favor returned.

W.P.B.