

the yarn to arrive
safely the night
you sent them
I did not
you let
I have
the red b.
knit as
that is the
pretext
I can hear
a little
voice.
M. N. D.

Nannai, Hokkaido,
July 14th. 1879.

My dear Sister

As you will see
by the above heading, I
have started on my
travels. I left Sapporo
last Wednesday morning,
expecting to take a steam-
er which was advertised
to leave ^{Otaru} at noon of that
day; but failing to get
a cargo there, she left
at eight A.M. and so
we missed her. I say
we because I am accom-
panied by six students;
and Dr. Cutter, who is on
his way to Tokio, came
with us as far as Hak-
odate. We were then ob-
liged to wait in Otaru

till noon Friday when we set sail in the Hakodate Maru, reaching Hakodate at about seven o'clock Saturday evening.

We had a smooth passage; but after nine o'clock Friday evening till the time we landed, I was much sicker than any horse ever dreamed of being. I felt rather tired yesterday; but am all right now.

At four o'clock yesterday the students and myself were taken in a coach drawn by four horses, and started for this place which we reached at seven. We then spent some time in looking at crops, stock, buildings, etc.

In the evening, I was asked to address the farm-students upon the subject - "Farm Economy"; and under such circumstances that - I could not well refuse, so I complied, Mr. Sato, one of the students who came with me interpreting for me. Two of my students afterwards made short speeches, and, I think did well, though I could understand but little of what they said. This morning, I start from here on a trip through the southern part of this district, the service required of me being to select places suitable for farming settlements,

July 14, 1871

and to examine locations for roads, canals, etc.

I shall be gone till about the first of August, by or before which time I intend to start for Sapporo.

I can not tell how much time I may find for writing: if we have fine weather, probably not much: but I will do the best I can. I have got ~~two~~ letters, one from you and one from Mat. within three days; and will answer them at the first opportunity. I don't consider this hasty ~~perme~~ an answer. My boy, Sakamoto, will return to Sapporo with me when I go. I shall return via Moeroran as I have no longing for another sea voyage.

Yours affectionately
Will-