

Sapporo, April 28, 1880.

My dear sister;

Yours of the 6th ult. was received a few days ago; and I take time to answer it now for I think that if written at this time a letter will make close connections and not be more than two or three months old at the most when you receive it. You can't guess how much dis-

appointed I was upon
the arrival of the mail
before the last not to re-
ceive a single thing, not
even a paper. I was
much puzzled to account
for it, but finally about
came to the conclusion
that, having seen by the
papers that I had re-
signed, my friends with
a zeal which in a better
cause had been commend-
able, had succeeded in
stopping all my mail
matter. You may believe
that I was prepared to
be quite provoked, for

I thought you ought to think that I must know my business, and if I wanted my mail stopped that I should write to that effect. This was the more provoking because I had sold to the college my year's subscription to all the periodicals which I take. Day before yesterday, however, I received the missing mail, it having been sent up as far as Hakodate and then sent back to Tokio. I sent that evidence of

very efficient manage-
ment—in the line of
"how not to do it." We get
a plenty of such evidence
in the matter of mail
transportation between
here and Tokio. It often
takes longer than from
San Francisco to Yokoha-
ma; and we foreigners
are in a state of exas-
peration nearly half
the time. The natives
take matters coolly e-
nough: they are never
in a hurry. Now I
have filled up one sheet
of paper with nonsense
which must be of vast