

Sapporo Apr. 30th 1883

Dear sister;

I have this time allowed a three weeks interval to pass without writing home: but when I tell you that in the two mails last received from America there has not been a single home letter for me, you will admit that I have had some provocation to neglect. I know, however, that you, too,

have had 'provocation
to neglect', so I am re-
solved to keep up my
share of the correspon-
dence, at least, until you
shall have had time to
respond. But - enough of
this - here have I filled
nearly two pages of what
is intended for a four page
letter with - nothing!

Really, however, there
is little to write. E. and
I have been & both are well.
My duties go on and are
fulfilled after the same

old fashion. On Saturday
the 21st. inst. Dr. C. & I went
to Otaru to deliver lectures
and Eva went with us.
We lodged in a Japanese
hotel, but Dr. & E. took food
from home: I took the native
food from choice. We had
expected to find the herring
fisheries in 'full blast': but
on that part of the shore,
up to that time the fisheries
this year had been a failure.
We looked through the rail-
way shops at Teruiza with
considerable interest.

On Sunday morning we

returned to S.

Farm work this year commenced earlier than usual. First ploughing was done on the 20th: but the weather is still cold and backward. Some twelve spring flowers are out - several of them very pretty - particularly an anemone, a Daphne and Corydalis. Eva has been for two weeks riding horseback a little almost every day and now begins to ride quite well. We anticipate much pleasure, for there are many pretty riders about here.

With love as ever,

Wm. P. Brooks,