

Sapporo, Sept. 14th. 1883.

Dear sister:

Your very pleasant letter containing an account of your rock garden, your long walks, your new cat &c. &c. was received a few days ago. Of course I was glad to hear of your improved health and that you attribute it in a measure to out-of-door exercise: but you add that you are beginning to dread the winter. Now, dear sister, I am just as sure that you need

not to dread it - as I was
that plenty of out-of-door ex-
ercise would benefit you.

Only don't give up the latter, but
walk faster and farther right
in the teeth of a North Wester if
that comes till your whole
body is in a glow and the
perspiration starts. You may
say - "It is impossible, I can't
get warm: but I know that
if you are warmly clad and
in such a manner that you
can freely move you will be
able to get really hot."

It isn't very good fun I
am aware to walk just
for the sake of it; but

we, whose work does not
require exercise are obliged
to do it. In Sapporo we can
not make business for nearly
all our winter walks; we
are obliged to walk with
no aim, except to be able to
digest our dinners: but you
I should say with your ex-
tended circle of acquaintances
and the poor people of the
vicinity might find an
errand every day. Then when
the spring comes your bot-
any will call you out and
you will find a constant
charm in fields and woods.
I hope you will persevere

in it for a little: then I
know you will get inter-
ested and need no further
urging to pursue the study.
By means of my specimens
you will be able to identify
many of your collection; ~~as~~
to verify your first analyses.
I wonder whether any worms
have got into my herbarium
if so, will you kindly pick
them out. I presume that
there are none, as my plants
were all carefully poisoned
with solution of corrosive
sublimate in alcohol: still
it is best to be sure.

There have been many

visitors in Sapporo since I
last wrote. First came a
missionary family - Thompson
by name - father, mother
and three little girls; ten,
eight and five and very
pretty. With this family came
Miss Smith and Miss Haupton,
missionary teachers in girls'
schools respectively in Tokio
and Hakodate. The latter was
our guest and ^{she} remained
with us about ten days.
Eva enjoyed her visit much
as also did I. We had many
very pleasant rides, Dr. Cutter
usually coming in to balance
the party. Miss Smith has

hired a house, and when she came purposed remaining here a month for her health. She has already been here nearly that length of time, but is so much better and likes so well that she may remain longer. She even thinks seriously of trying to get permission from the Government to establish a school up here.

There have been twenty or more foreigners here this summer and we have been quite lively, having entertained nearly all of them more or less.

Last week came the Opening Ceremonies of the Poronai Railway and Coal Mines.

The Mikado sent a Prince to represent him, and about sixty high officials from Tokio came also for the same celebration. Better than all a Brass Band came too, and I heard the music of ~~free~~ for the first time in seven years - no, I did hear one a few times when home; but the trip home seems like a dream.

Dr. Lutter and I were invited to all the ceremonies - horse race, excursion over the line, opening speech making.

and soiree. He went - of course - and we were given the best positions every time. He rode in the same car with the Prince and both were introduced to him and shook hands. He seemed a very affable and pleasant young man. Eva and Japanese ladies were invited to the soiree: but the latter were overawed at the prospect of meeting a prince and all "squawked", so Eva as she would have been the only lady there decided not to go. I was sorry for I know she had anticipated much pleasure. There were about five hundred and seventy invited guests; seventy up-

stairs in the grand reception
rooms of the Hokerikwan where
the Prince was; the remainder
down stairs and in tempo-
rary pavillions erected outside.
The grounds were beautifully
decorated with gaily colored
paper lanterns; two bands
alternately discoursed sweet
music (2) — of one of the bands
more anon — at a little
distance fire works were
being constantly sent up,
and on another part of the
grounds were two large
parties of Ainu men and
women dancing, chanting

and singing.

One of the bands played upon old Japanese musical instruments and rendered music (~~by~~ ^{by} charity we will call it such) said to be two thousand years old. I should say it must have been as old as that: it was unworthy of any more advanced age. Of all the Catawaulings I ever heard it was the most horrible: nevertheless I was of course glad to have the opportunity to hear it and to see the instruments.

General Oyama, Minister

of War gave a small
dinner party while he was
here to which Dr. C. and I
went. We found him very
pleasant. He is large-very
for a Japanese - and cer-
tainly is one of the best ap-
pearing among all the
high officials of this coun-
try that I have seen. He
has been twice to France -
the Japanese Army is equipped
and drilled according to
French models - and
speaks French very well
I believe.

The grand pavillion erected

ed for the speaking was
in itself well worth seeing.
It was ninety by one hun-
dred and fifty feet in size,
and the roof was support-
ed by great arches, so that
the interior was mostly clear.
There were a few posts left,
and they were ornamented
with bunting or evergreen.
There was not a single
nail nor bit of iron in the
whole structure, nor yet a mortise
or tenon. All was held by string
made from rice straw, and the
timber was not at all injured
by being used. But now I must
stop, I have written thrice as much
as I intended, and it is to-day the
23d. With love from both to all
Will.