

六五七



Miss R. C. Brooks,

S. Scituate, Massachusetts,

U. S. A.



Via California

Sapporo, May 23d. 1884

My dear sister;

The last mail brought, as mails usually do, a good letter from you; and in it you mention my 'appeal' as you designate it. I am truly sorry if it has caused you any pain. My letter was called forth out of sympathy for Eva. then she was lying ill with all her household gods burned up, and all the holiday mails brought her nothing to speak of from home. This when I know that she

is always remembering others and more especially since our expectations were known did seem hard. By saying that I have become hardened, I simply meant to imply that I am less dependent upon such manifestations of remembrance - though prizing them highly enough I can assure you - I am afraid what I have written may convey the impression that Eva complained or manifested her disappointment: nothing could be farther from the truth. She was quick to find excuses for those who had apparently

neglected her and was so brave, patient and cheerful under all her sufferings, that she has justly drawn out the highest compliments from all who were cognizant of the facts.

You were mistaken too in the impression that I or we were 'saddened' by our misfortunes: we were all quite jolly even in the midst of them; and were so comfortable that we felt we had no right to accept the expressions of sympathy which poured in from all sides.

We have quite a pleasant house with a nice garden

not far from the place  
where our old one stood  
and expect to move into  
a new and larger house  
in the autumn which will  
stand in the college grounds.  
I have received a letter from  
Prof. Goodell written at the  
request of the President of the  
M. A. C. in which he states  
that there is soon to be  
a change in the Chair of  
Agriculture and asks whether  
I would accept the posi-  
tion and how long I am to  
remain in Japan. I have  
decided after consulting with  
Eva that it will be better  
chiefly for financial reasons

to accept a reengagement here if it should be offered on satisfactory terms. I have accordingly stated my position to the authorities here, and have been informed that they are desirous of making a new contract for two years, but the matter is not yet fully decided. Mean while I have written Prof. Goodell that I have the matter under consideration. If I remain here two years longer I shall probably have saved about ten thousand dollars; then I can return home and feel in a measure independent.

I may purchase a farm somewhere or await a good

opportunity to teach as  
seems best. On the other  
hand if I accept the M.  
A. C. position the saving  
of money will be very slow,  
and I shall be in a meas-  
ure the slave of the position  
all my life.

Though missing many home  
pleasures we are very hap-  
py here: our lives are much  
easier than they could be  
at home; and so we hesi-  
tate to make any change.

Clara Lushings marriage is  
indeed a great surprise. Could  
she not give her 'paralytic' a  
home without marrying him?

I should think there would be  
neither love nor pleasure in such  
a marriage. Lovingly as ever  
Will-