

the coal mine. There they seem quite active. The pri-
mers work upon a sys-
tem which allows
them upon working
out - their sentence
to receive the
expense of their
earnings above
a certain amount
Moreover by good
behavior & indu-
try they can show
less thickness of
confinement.
With love
always,
Will.

Sapporo, July 14th, 1883

My dear sister R.

By the last mail was
received M's letter containing
news of the trouble you had
with your eyes and of the
burning out of your chim-
ney. I should have thought
you would have been thor-
oughly alarmed at the lat-
ter: and I hope you will take
measures not to allow it to
burn out again when the
roof is so dry.

Was the trouble with

your eyes due to personal indiscretion, or (which I judge to be more probable as the writer of Ralph's having had the same trouble) was it epidemic? I can heartily sympathize with you, for I have heard so many here, where eye troubles are common, say that nothing is harder to bear, since one can do nothing for self amusement.

Mr. Mori, Director of our College and his wife both suffered much from an affection of the eyes last winter and the former has not even yet fully recovered.

A week ago last Friday I sent our horses to Terri-

bako (twelve miles distant) early in the morning and the betto came back by train at eleven A. M. Then at one o'clock Eva and I went down by train and after an afternoon spent in botanizing and walking on the beach we started for home at about seven in the evening reaching here at a little after nine. We had a delightful trip, the ride home being especially pleasant. Eva did not appear so much tired as she used at first after a little ride of a mile or so.

While at dinner on the 4th of July we were surprised by Mr. Batchelor who had just

come in from the Airo country.
He is a lively young man and
we much enjoyed his visit.
He made an excursion by
rail to Poronai during his stay
and remained there over one day.
While there, he and I visited Tobi-
kishiri, the penal settlement which
is about four miles from Poronai.
They have there now about
five hundred and sixty prisoners
most on life sentences - none for
less than ^{twelve} eight years. They have
in the one year since they settled
there broken up and planted about
one hundred & seventy-five acres of
land; but their farm which I was
asked to look over does not look
well: it has not been properly cul-
tivated. About one hundred and
fifty of the prisoners work in