

Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan
Aug. 8th, 1880.

My dear sister;

The last mail received three days ago brought me letters from both you and Mat; and I hasten to answer your ever welcome favour.

You cannot expect much news from one located in such an out-of-the-way corner of the world as this; but I will write you of some of the events occurring within the bounds of my little horizon. First of myself as being the centre of said field of view, ahem!

I am in my usual health and spirits, and enjoying vacation as

well as the high temperature (85° - 95°).
and the amount of work I do (very
little) will allow. I have made a
trip to Izu Ishikari to see the Ainos in
company with two young English pro-
fessors from Tokio and Dr. C. & Prof. Pea-
body. We went into the hut of the
chief and there partook of some of the
worst tea I ever tasted. I slyly poured
mine out into a crack between the
slabs on the floor, and the old fellow
soon observing that my cup was emp-
ty tried to persuade me to take more.
I declined with thanks. As this Aino,
quite an old man, knew Japanese I
was able to talk directly with him.

He said in answer to my ques-
tion that he did not like this coun-
try nearly as well as Saghalien
the place from which his tribe em-

igrated when that country was
ceded by the Japanese to Russia in
exchange for the Kurile islands.

He said that here there was not
so good fishing and hunting and
that the country was inferior in
every way. He also said in answer
to my inquiry that the deaths in
his tribe now outnumber the births.

His race will probably become
extinct at no very distant day.

I saw the school and the manufacto-
ry of fishing-nets under Japanese
charge: but could judge little of
their usefulness, though the Ainor
seem pleased with both.

Two days ago I received the
appointment as President ad interim
of the Sap. Ag. college. I am also
appointed to take charge of botany

till a permanent teacher can be appointed which will probably be next July. Prof. Penhallow taught botany and chemistry while here.

His place in chemistry is to be filled by two Japanese, one a graduate of Rutgers College in America, the other, a graduate of the Imperial College in Tokio.

Have written you of our new English teacher for the Laboratory department. I think not so here goes.

He is an Englishman, aged I should judge about fifty; and has a wife and seven children, three boys and four girls, the eldest a girl of about fourteen years of age. I think we shall like them reasonably well.

First graduation exercises of S. A. C. were held July 10th. and were a success. Will write you on that about them sometime soon.

Yours with love, as ever, Will