Dear sister,

Your letter of May 18th, was received some time ago, and I am sorry to say that the last mail brought me no letters from home; but I expect another in a few days. The steamers at present are sailing at irregular intervals, three or four a month, but this will not only a few months, that is during the tea season. The proper time to mail letters is, I believe, as I stated, when the steamers sail regularly, the 1st. and 15th. of each month, as they usually do.

I believe that every letter which I have received from home since I left has inquired after those 'pants,' and I think that I have answered every time that I get the articles in this season; but I mention the matter once more, as you seem to have been uncertain about the whereabouts of each item of clothing when you wrote me, May 18th. At the close of our term which was July 15th, we had an annual exercise, consisting of a Soliciting address, original and selected declamations both in Japanese and in English. Everything moved off well. In the evening, your uncle and myself invited the officers and citizens.
of the place to witness a pyrotechnic display in honor of the Fourth. We had quite a good show, but it was injured by showers during the evening. The fireworks were all made and fired by native artificers. Our house was profusely decorated with paper lanterns on some of which were original designs. One was about eight feet wide and two feet high. The tiercine painted the American Eagle and the Lafayette Dragon. On another was the Maroon-Columbus Book of Honor; on another, the Goddess of Liberty; and on another, the Sacred Bird of Jupiter.

On the Monday following the Fourth, Miss Wurts and Miss Bunn and I walked to the point, the former on a concerning expedition, and the latter to explore in the country about the Instructor's River. At 10 o'clock students met him, Capt. W. E. Foster and six were left with me. They came to be gone and left about the middle of August. I have seen him once or twice and to remember once with the students; the remainder of the time I have spent in going to town attending to family affairs. Next Wednesday I take my students and back to a collecting time to be gone about a fortnight.

July 21st. Wednesday morning brought me a letter from Mrs. W. W. and many letters from home friends, among them one from Martha in which she makes the unfailing good. I may tell her that I received my Grandchild
in San Francisco. The last mail brought news of the marriage of Southwick to a lady to whom he has been paying attention about three years. I also had a letter from Lorenzo Debrah in which he informed me that Lorenzo Debrah was to be married in September. I saw the gentleman when I was in Philadelphia last summer. I suppose that at least about the time Pree, Debrah will be arriving in San Juan, and perhaps you will have seen him before you receive this. The state legislature has treated him shamefully this winter, of the accounts which I have seen in the papers are true, at first refusing any appropriation to the college for the purpose of preventing the payment of his salary, and afterwards giving what was asked for on condition that he should not be paid. Now when the first received the offer to go to Japan, he offered his resignation to the trustees, but they were unwilling to accept it. So he told them that he would give up one thousand dollars of his salary, furnish a man to teach the branch which he commonly taught, and still keep the general management of the college in his hands. The they agreed to, and it certainly was a very fair arrangement on both sides, and the legislature saw the honesty of the right to block it.

Our business interpreter Mr. Hoganman who lives in the house quite near me, has recently
takao to himself as wife, and the manner
of doing it is quite strange. A Japanese
desiring to enter the married state goes to some
friend or in some cases to someone whose busi-
ness as match-making and employs them to
arrange matters with some eligible party, who is
usually a stranger. To have been intimately ac-
quainted with each other is to the Japanese
mind, a strong reason against marriage.
The parties have no chance to refuse each
other which is when they meet for the consum-
ation of the ceremony, but it is very unusual
for such a thing to occur. The parties must
not see each other from the time of engagement
till the performance of the ceremony. There
is no show of cards; there is no ceremony or
I can find out, the parties simply meeting
in presence of friends, and all having a gen-
eral good time. Mr. Koizumi's wife is a very
good-looking lady, as Japanese ladies are
usually, and seems to be modest and pleasant.
It is very common to see Japanese ladies with-
to the waste and not unusual to see them bath-
ing side of the shore;decorate even of "fig-leaves".
Men are constantly seen naked, with the excep-
tion of a breech-cloth, and sometimes with not even
that when washing side of the shore. The authori-
ties are trying to stop such exposure of the persons
but the people seem to be perfectly innocent in it.
Remember me to all. Inquiring friends and give
love to all the home circle. Yours truly,
Brother J. N. J.
Dear Sister:

Your letter of May 18th was received some time ago, and I am sorry to say that the last mail brought me no letters from home; but I expect another in a few days. The steamer at present are sailing at irregular intervals, three or four a month; but this arrangement will last only a few months, that is during the tea season. I hope, when the steamer call again, letters in your name will be stated, when the steamer sail regularly the 1st and 15th of each month as they usually do.

I believe that every letter which I have received from home since I left has inquired after these parts, and I think that I have answered every time that I got the articles in due season; but I mention the matter once more, as you seem to have been in uncertainty about the whereabouts of said item of clothing when you wrote me, May 16th. At the close of our term which was July 4th we had anniversary exercises, consisting of a Salutatory address by a origin and selected declamations both in Japanese and in English. Everything passed off well. In the evening, Prof. W. & P. and myself invited the officers and citizens of the place to witness a pyrotechnic display in honor of the Fourth. We had quite a good show; but it was injured by showers during the evening. The fireworks were all made and fired by native artists. Our house was profusely decorated with paper lanterns on some of which were original designs. One lantern was about eight feet wide and two feet high. On this was painted the American Eagle and Japanese Dragons. On another was the Massachusetts Coat of Arms; on another the Goddess of Liberty and on another, the Sacred Birds of Japan, the Herons.

On the Monday following the Fourth, Prof. Wheeler and Penhallow both left Sapporo, the former on a surveying expedition and the latter to explore in the country about the Tofubari River. Prof. P. took six students with him, Prof. W. took four and six were left with me. They are to be gone till about the middle of August. I have been to Sapporo once on business and to Osemihako once with the students, the remainder of the time I have spent in Sapporo attending to farm affairs. Next Wednesday I take my students and start on a collecting tour to be gone about a fortnight.

July 29th. Yesterday morning brought me an American mail, and many letters from home friends, among them one from Martha, in which she makes the unailing inquiry. You may tell her that I received my pants while in San Francisco. The last mail brought me news of the marriage of Southwick to a lady to whom he has been paying attention about three years. I also had a letter from Cousin Deborah in which she informed me that Cousin Clara was to be married in September. I saw the gentleman when I was in Philadelphia last summer. I suppose that at just about this time Pres. Clark will be arriving in Ashbur, and perhaps you will have seen him before you receive this. The state legislature has treated him shamefully the past winter, if the accounts which I have seen in the
papers are true, at first refusing any appropriation to the College, for the purpose of preventing the payment of his salary, and afterwards giving what was asked for on condition that he should not be paid. Now when he first received the offer to go to Japan, he offered his resignation to the trustees, but they were unwilling to accept it. So he told them that he would give up one thousand dollars of his salary, furnish a man to teach the branches which he commonly taught, and still keep the general management of the college in his hands. This they agreed to, and it certainly was a very fair arrangement on both sides; and neither the legislature nor the trustees have any right to break it.

Our business interpreter Mr. Kojima who lives in the house with us has recently taken to himself a wife, and the manner of doing it is quite unique. A Japanese desiring to enter the wedded state goes to some friend or in some cases to persons whose business is match-making and employs them to arrange matters with some eligible party, who is usually a stranger. We have been intimately acquainted with each other in, to the Japanese mind, a strong reason against marriage. The parties have one chance to refuse each other which is when they meet for the consummation of the ceremony; but it is very unusual for such a think to occur. The parties must not see each other from the time of engagement till the performance of the ceremony. " Ceremony" I have said; there is no ceremony as I can find out, the parties simply meeting in presence of friends, and all having a general good time. Mr. Kojima’s wife is a very good looking lady, an Japanese ladies average, and seems to be modest and pleasant. It is very common to see Japanese ladies nude to the waist and not unusual to see them bathing side of the street, destitute even of "big leaves". Men are constantly seen naked, with the exception of a breech-cloth, and sometimes with not even that when bathing side of the street. The authorities are trying to stop such exposure of the person but the people seems to be perfectly innocent in it.

Remeber me to all inquiring friends and give love to all the home circle.

Yours truly,

Brother Hill.