Tabris, Tabriz, Sept. 30, 1877.

Dear Sister,

Your very welcome letter, was received some time ago and four days ago I received Martha's dated Aug. 1st. I should have answered your letter that Sunday as that was my regular day, but we had company and so I deferred writing. I hope that this will reach Tabriz in time for the next steamer, but fear that the time is rather short. Our company now is Mr. Squire, the English Consul at Bak'tale, and his wife. Only think his wife, the first white woman that I have seen since leaving Yokohama more than seven months ago! It seemed rather nice to speak with a lady once more.

They have been spending the last week in Tabris, and I have seen considerable of them, they are very pleasant.

I hate to rehash the arrival here during the past week of two Americans from the State of Maine, Sargent and Treat by name. They came to instruct the Persians in the arts of preserving and propagating salmon.
Treat is nearly seventy years old and seems like a very neat old gentleman. Dressed in a suit of gray, he is apparently about twenty-eight. Neither of them are highly educated. Mr. Treat is very old-fashioned both in dress and speech. Today Governor Rook and the soldiers who went from here to the seat of war last April have got back to supper. We rode out a short distance to meet them. Though in several engagements their loss has been small, only about twelve more out of five hundred. The rebellion is now at an end, the dead bodies of the two leaders, Sango and Niiro, having been found on the last field of battle. Whether they were killed or seeing that there was no hope committed "baka shira", we have not yet learned. Probably, however, the latter was their end, for the Japanese here prefer to kill themselves rather than to fall into an enemy's hands.

The weather here now is very pleasant and, just right for comfort. None of us have been yet had any fire in our rooms, and on one night only has the temperature been as low as forty degrees, so you see we have not been anywhere near having frost. I fancy you have had a few nights and mornings for some time.

I have just been floating on log-cabin, which are a kind of wild fruit growing here very
abundantly. I suppose that I must call them berries, though they are as large as good-sized plums. The pulp is much the same in consistency as very ripe blackberries, but very small and soft, rather more tender than that of very ripe grapes. I can hardly describe the taste to you, for we have nothing which in the least resembles it in Illinois; but it is very sweet and reminds one very slightly of plums. This fruit grows on a very beautiful climbing vine, and is very cheap, five cents buying all that a man can eat in a day. In the summer we have a few raspberries, different harvest from ours, and not so good. We have also had a great abundance of melons, both melon and watermelon, not quite so good as ours, but the latter as good as any I ever ate. We have all kinds of vegetables in their season, tomatoes, beets, turnips, potatoes, beets, lettuce, cucumbers, egg-plant, asparagus, common and sweet potatoes, &c. &c. We now have plenty of salmon and other nice fish, venison, and rarely beef, chicken in abundance, &c. &c.

Our bill of fare the noon was as follows: soup, broiled chicken, beef-steak, Irish and sweet potatoes, bread and sponge cake. We seldom have either pie, cake, or puddings. The Scandinavians make good cakes, but our cake does not understand the mysteries of pie and
The making of bread, fruits, cakes, and cooked meat things, was well. We did not find it pleasant to indulge in many Japanese dishes, so I shall be unable to furnish you with any receipt, or recipe, which is correct? The common Japanese people do not have any bread. Rice takes the place largely of bread, vegetables, cake and pie. I was surprised as to the number of dirty shirts with which I entered Sapporo, and I don't know my self how many I had, but I had washing done in San Francisco when I arrived, and so hardly think that I had more than a dozen or fifteen when I reached here. The Japanese women are employed in an excellent laundry work. I take the Boston Weekly Journal, Harper's Magazine, besides some Agricultural papers so I get all the news. The Old Colony Memo-rial has been received regularly for some time. I think that they pay 25 cents twice the necessary postage as more of my other papers pay more than this rate per copy. How about your toilet? You need a description of the whole affair, and though I suppose that I ought to sympathize with you, I can't but laugh when I think of the amount in the well. Do you and Matt drink the water yet? Save lots of time to eat, and believe me, very truly yours,

[Signature]

Brother W.H.
Dear Sister:

Your very welcome letter was received some time ago and four days ago I received Martha's dated Aug. 1st. I should have answered your letter last Sunday as that was my regular day; but we had company and so I deferred writing. I hope that this will reach Yokohama in season for the next steamer; but fear that the time is rather short. Our company was Mr. Hudson, the English Consul at Hakodate, and his wife. Only think his wife, the first white woman that I have seen since leaving Tokyo, now more than seven months ago! It seemed rather nice to speak with a lady once more. They have been spending the past week in Sapporo, and I have seen considerable of them. They are very pleasant.

I have to chronicle the arrival here during the past week of two Americans from the state of Maine, Sweat and Treat by name. They came to instruct the Japanese in the arts of preserving and propagating salmon. Treat is nearly seventy years old and seems like a very nice old gentleman. Sweat is apparently about twenty-eight. Neither of them are highly educated. Mr. Treat is very old-fashioned both in dress and speech. Today Governor Mori and the soldiers who went from here to the seat of war last April have got back to Sapporo. We rode out a short distance to meet them. Though in several engagements, their loss has been small, only about twenty men out of five hundred. The rebellion is now at an end, the dead bodies of the two leaders, Saito and Kirino, having been found on the last field of battle. Whether they were killed, or seeing that there was no hope committed "hara kiri", we have not yet learned. Probably, however, the latter was their end, for the Japanese here prefers to kill himself rather than to fall into an enemy's hands.

The weather here now is very pleasant indeed, just right for comfort. None of us have as yet had any fire in our rooms, and on one night only has the temperature been as low as forty degrees, so you see we have not been anywhere near having frost. I fancy that you have a fire nights and mornings for some time.

I have just been feasting on Cohos, which are a kind of wild fruit growing here very abundantly. I suppose that I must call them berries, though they are as large as good sized plums. The pulp is much the same in consistency as very ripe inviolable, the seed small and skin rather more tender than that of very nice grapes. I can hardly describe the taste to you, but we have nothing which in the least resembles it in Mass.; but it is very sweet and reminds me very slightly of plums. This fruit grows on a very beautiful climbing vine, and is now very cheap, five cents buying all that a man can eat in a day. In the summer we had a
few raspberries, different however from ours, and not so good. We have also had a great abundance of melons, both Musk and Water, the former not quite so good as ours, but the latter as nice as any I ever ate. We have all kinds of vegetables in their season, tomatoes, peas, beans, squashes, beets, turnips, cucumbers, lettuce, eggplant, asparagus, common and sweet potatoes, etc., etc. We now have plenty of Salmon and other nice fish, venison, and rarely beef, chickens in abundance etc. Our bill of fare this noon was as follows:- Soup, Broiled Chicken, Beef-steak, Irish and Sweet Potatoes, Bread and Sponge cake. We seldom have either pies, cakes, or puddings. The Japanese make good cake, but our cook does not understand the mysteries of pies and puddings. He makes splendid bread and fried cakes and cooks most things very well. We do not find it pleasant to indulge in many Japanese dishes, so I shall be unable to furnish hat, with any receipts, or recipes, which is correct? The common Japanese people do not have any bread. Nane takes the place largely of bread, vegetables, cake and pie. You seem to be curious as to the number of dirty shirts with which I entered Sapporo, well I don't know myself how many I had; but I had washing done in San Francisco when there and so hardly think that I had more than a dozen for fifteen when I reached here. The Japanese whom we employ is an excellent laundress. I take the Boston Weekly Journal and Harper's Magazine besides three agricultural papers so I get all the news. The Old Colony Memorial has been received regularly for some time. I think that they pay on it just twice the necessary postage as none of my other papers pay more than two cents per copy. How about your teeth? Cake wrote a vivid description of the whole affair, and though I suppose that I ought to sympathize with you, I can't but laugh when I think of Lorenzo in the well. Do you and Mat. drink the water yet? Give lots of love to all, and believe me, very truly yours.

Brother Will.