

85 明治16年10月24日 ジェーン

(英文巻末8頁)

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Boston Oct 24 '83

My dear friend

Would you ever have believed, (bashful as you know me to be,) that I could write a letter to a young man in the face of his direct command not so to do. But, really, it is more than ever to me right to insist on such utter silence & the possibility of losing all means of knowledge of you was more than I could stand. Every time a letter has come with its "rememberances for Miss Jennie" I have said "I will write to Takeo" but it was not easy to get my courage up to the point of execution of the threat. But your last letter was irresistible, of course you can take no offense at a note of congratulation, such as certainly is in order. That dear baby! How I should like to get hold of her, for now she must be very very cunning. It is hard, indeed, for me to imagine you settled down with a wife & now with a baby. I'm afraid you are growing old while Jennie Mc is just the same girl you knew three years ago, not feeling a day older & instead of settling down are getting to be very gay. You will probably be surprised to learn that I have developed into a good business woman & hold a responsible position in a large insurance office in town. The work is so arranged that I have a great deal of leisure but when I am busy I enjoy it very much & am glad to find myself of real use in the world. You will receive this letter together with a card of introduction from Miss Shulman, a very pleasant intelligent young lady who leaves for Japan very soon. I have not forgotten your opinion of missionaries but I know you will be pleased to meet her. She has very kindly burdened herself with a package intended for your little daughter & on that account I feel greatly obliged to her. Remembering what you had told me of the fondness of Japanese girls for their dolls I seized upon the idea of sending your baby one & only hope that sometime it may

afford her one tenth of the pleasure the getting it ready has given me. Hours & hours have been devoted to her & my pride has been great at the manner with the work has been done; my accomplishments as a seamstress had never been very creditable but now I feel equal to anything in that life. Every stitch was a pleasure & was taken in delightful remembrance of the many favors received from you. What nice times we used to have together & what a good boy you were to me! Never mind you'll surely get your reward for it all. I have seen your friend Mr. Mashuzima several times & was much pleased with him. He reminds me in some ways of you. Among your old friends here there have been very few changes. Annie has a lovely little boy born on the 23 of last November & is as happy as ever. Bradford Locke has given up his business in the West & is located in Boston to my great delight. With the Hunnemans I am still quite intimate & they often speak of you, indeed all your friends do that. Truly, Takeo, I shall think it mean enough if I dont have a letter from you in return for this & shall expect you to tell me all about yourself, your wife & your ways of living. Of course I am interested & always shall be in any thing that happens to you. One thing I must have & that is a photograph of the baby. Mother improves this opportunity by wishing to be remembered & sends all good wishes, in all of which I join with her, sending also oceans of love to the baby & having adopted her as a niece I take great pleasure in signing myself.

Yours, as ever
"Aunt Jane"
2859 Washington St
Roxbury

(封筒表)

「 司法省 菊池氏

Takeo Kikuchi (消印)

Tokio, Japan

Judicial Dept 」

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