

Lindenwood University

Digital Commons@Lindenwood University

Mary Easton Sibley Papers

George and Mary Easton Sibley Papers

11-5-1873

Letter to Mary Sibley from Isaac Yokoyama, November 5, 1873

Isaac K. Yokoyama

Virginia Theological Society

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.lindenwood.edu/mary>



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Yokoyama, Isaac K., "Letter to Mary Sibley from Isaac Yokoyama, November 5, 1873" (1873). *Mary Easton Sibley Papers*. 7.

<https://digitalcommons.lindenwood.edu/mary/7>

This Correspondence is brought to you for free and open access by the George and Mary Easton Sibley Papers at Digital Commons@Lindenwood University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mary Easton Sibley Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Lindenwood University. For more information, please contact phuffman@lindenwood.edu.

The Sem. Alex. VA

Nov. 5th 1873

Dear sir,

Please let me write a few lines to explain, why do I wish to send my sisters to so far distant school, while they could be educated with more suitable Christian educators, as it is spoken by Dr. Hepburn.

What does he mean by suitable education, I know not? Does he mean by that, to educate my sisters with comingled sentiments both of heathen & Christian?

I have been acquainted with the Dr. Hepburn for three years at Yokoyama, and also I am well acquainted with all missionary operations there.

But sir it is very painful to say that neither Japanese nor ___ can explain ___ vital point of Christianity.

Moreover we have no fit language to express true meaning of Sacred writing and our language never ___ used like an ___ ran tongue.

Therefore we must learn an English language to understand the Bible. But it is ___ and work to make it so as to understand the Bible.

Therefore if my sisters study the English there, by no means can they read the bible before three years at least.

This is the greatest objection that they stay at Yokoyama, while they are not connected, because there ___ no ___ bad, mean demoralized, sensual, base, and crippled place on earth like Yokoyama.

It will one great translation to ___, artless, and ___ girls & stay in no langerous place, away from their fathers care. Besides that there are hundred objection for them to stay at Yokoyama.

There every the way subjected to heathen power, and outside of missionary every thing is that leads to heathenism. May I speak more freely? Indeed my parents relations, friends & neighbors are blatant heathen, no be otherwise also. In spite of all these objections it is well, if they are corrected by the grace of our Savior, but if not, how lamentable, it is. Could I try ___ great dangerous things?

For if they are not connected then they shall be lost for sure, also they shall be worse than they are under the care of their parents, for no respectable person will ___ with them, then.

But I have great hope of sending them to this country. Not only to become Christians but also to learn all the advantages of Christianity.

If any missionary at Yokoyama ___ of my sisters with all he can, yet they shall never be able to teach others, or there knowledges are limited, I am soon ___ they then come ___ they will enforce to hear the people, then there be no great benefit for the cause of Christ. But if they are instructed in this country they shall learn enough to teach others, that ___, we wanted.

If you have any good opinion in regard my sisters please let me know it.

I am yours,

In Christ

I. K. Yokoyama