4. One of the great boasts of Confucianism is that it encompasses the whole circle of life, not only from birth but even from conception to & beyond, i.e. while in the grave. If a work were done for the mere saying where it was to begin & when to end, then Confucianism would indeed deserve praise, as much as if an engineer could create a railway across three continents by merely sketching a line on paper commencing at London & finishing at Calcutta. A man accustomed to practical actions & sound thought when contemplating Confucianism as a whole scarcely knows whether to be amazed at the boldness of the plan or at the emptiness of the details. Ignorant men of those ages past rise before him with assertions of practical achievements, which the whole christian world together with the enlightenment of of Greece & Rome have as yet failed to realize. & when you ask them as to the mode of effecting all their boasts, they answer you with puerilities, rejected by the gross ignorance they display. Thus reading today in the Tái Shó the rules which, for the safe development of the foetus in the womb, not only bodily but even mentally, the mother is enjoined to observe, it is manifest all are proceeding on the supposition, that if the woman keeps her body in a straight line, the body & mind of the child will be neatly shaped. Can there be a greater puerility than this? The woman is forbidden to lie on the side, to stand on one leg, to sit on an unequal mat &c. and, of course, I asked my Tofujin, the same rules would apply still more stringently while the child is born? Of course so, was their answer. I gave them a small sketch of our obstetrical rules for the best of which I referred them to births of goat & pigs, which they are in the habit of witnessing with their own eyes much rather than the birth of a human child, & pointed the various turns round their own axis. I proved that the diameters of the pelvis are not the same, & that a fixed position will therefore secure a better transit through the largest diameters than a hasty position. They could not resist the evidence of the ignorance of their own sages & astound me - what I readily believed - that very many women in Tokyo died in childbirth, undoubtedly owing to the gross ignorance of midwives, coupled with the hypocrisy

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indispositions of this crew be omni ignorant tropes. Mostly they lie, said he, in sleep, getting paler & paler from pressure hideous, till they get refrigerated cold, and dead.

One of our chinese friends (in a moment of self-forgetfulness, we fear) told us, a family here could live upon twenty Dollars a year. Be we at little startled when told the mandarins carry our yearly account to between 5 – 6 hundred Dollars, for mere eatables alone, & that too while we eked a good store of provisions, very dearly paid for, from China. This piece of information, which indeed we long suspected to be the case, together with the great difficulty I had some weeks ago, when paying the last year's heavy instalment, to come to a fixed lower scale of expenditure, greatly induce me to believe the offer our mandarins made me of several thousand Dollars in case I left, all accompanied by protestations of the utter valuelessness of silver coin in London, are all mere empty sayings. Why overtake us so enormously if they be no friends of our round Dollars? In my present reduced state of cash & not knowing what may be the next arbitrary measures my transgressors may come to with the funds they amass profitably for my support, I quite at a loss how to get over any money from China without chartering a ship & taking all responsibility on the £ 200. yearly they have so shamefully reduced to my salary. I could not do otherwise but determine on stopping my house at the lowest possible kind of food. We have now lived so for nearly three weeks. Perhaps this alone has much to do with the derangement of my health. For low diet to an exhausted overworked frame is certainly any thing but beneficial. Sooner rather than fall into debt with a Japanese mandarin I prefer feeding on crumbs of potatoes & pulse, as long as I shall observe no detriment thereof in the health of my wife & children. The latter, it is true, look sometimes with sharp queries on the sudden change over table – already poor – has undergone this month, but it will be a good exercise for them in the principles of honesty, & a good preparatory schooling as to what they are to expect from the world & even from christians, though they might serve God & that sincerely not living such a hard life as we here do. And moreover I make no mystery before them of the cause of our domestic change, and they may thus early in life learn to have in honour the name of a missionary Committee. But I am experienced & I stand near time

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believed it possible that a christian minister, while doing his duty to the utmost of human ability, & while the church amply contributes for his comfort in his isolated situation, should be reduced to the necessity of imposing actual want on himself & family, unless he would expose himself to the blame of a possible bankruptcy. my children actually go barefooted, or in Tom, patched shoes because I cannot longer afford paying heavily as I did for a pair of shoes for each of them usually as I have hitherto done, the untanned native leather together with the bad work making their shoes crumble off their feet as soon as they get once wet. We have of course sent an order for shoes to China & England but how are they to be got over? This now 15-16 months we are without a ship from thence, & who knows how long we may still be without, & who knows what sad news of new attempts at illtreating us the next may bring. Of a truth, unless it be from unknown friends, from the Lord may mercy, of few we know, have we to expect any good. The general experience of the woeful years we have passed here has unfeelingly taught us such dreary lessons, as to make it a folly to hope for better.

What shall I say of my continued sleeplessness enhancing my trouble with frantic fits thrilling all over my muscular system. My nervous irritability is so great that the slightest sound breaks the dozing rest into which exhausted nature sinks, & up I start in convulsive fright from the hot pillow as if handled by a nightmare. Oh what a comfort under such sufferings to have a conscience void of offence towards God & man! no balm so strengthening for a broken heart, as a drop of gospel faith in each of its thirteen fragments. Its life resembles that of the worm crushed into pieces, each of which still is tenacious of vital energy, & capable of writing itself once more into renewed existence.

I made an attempt of proceeding with the japanese interlineations in red between the chinese columns of several sheets of my translation. What a time consuming work this will be again. The interlineations made in some parts by my former teacher in the printed books sent us over by Dr. Medhurst being so incorrect as not to be depended upon, & I must thus go over the whole text again before bringing the interlineations in a state capable of transcription.

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Exhausted in mind as well as body I am thankful for several prayerbooks we have to assist our languid family devotions. In using this morning a prayer, including among its mediums of praise "refreshing us with refreshing sleeps". I confess I found it greatly discordant with my personal state. But what for that! How many times may I during my ministry have uttered such discordances with the feelings & the individual condition of many in my audiences. Where then is the boasted advantage, on this head, of extempore prayer over a written formula. Never will either written or extempore prayer fit all persons present. An unalloyed unanimous chant is imaginable only in heaven.

7. Two of our Navy Patients have twice absented themselves under plea of illness, so that the third in the set had to come alone, & late too. I greatly suspect it was the illness of the one who came, who manoeuvred to get the other two reported ill. For during both solitary visits he confidentially entrusted me with his case, nothing less than an old standing venereal disorder, contracted he says by contact in a house of friend who had imported it from China. Once more I had full opportunity of convincing myself of the circumcision of married Loochooans. In return for the secrecy my patient — quite needlessly — exacted from me he offered to answer any questions I might ask on Loochooan matters. I thought it most fitting to inquire concerning the marriages of the Japanese residing here. And was told, they would consider it a disgrace to send their daughters into a foreigner's house; yea not even between inhabitants of different villages in Loochoo are marriages contracted. They marry each of their native villages. What marriages therefore are entered here by the Japanese are clandestine, or so to say ignored, though they are well known to exist. Many, he continued, do as the Dutch do in Japan, not marrying but keeping women. He also said they had numerous women of this kind in Loochoo, especially those who came from the islands, as the Kerammas, who prostitute

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Remitting for a little money. Query, said I, Does this not establish the fact that you have regular money circulation in the island? No, said he, Such things may be got for a few cash, silver is used only for the hair ornaments, or in trade with China & Japan.

Had this week also two applications for medicine brought by servants.

8. Lordy. Rose after a very exhausting sleepy night.

"But the Comforter" the scriptures tell us, "no man has seen God at any time," and none need be grieved, or doubt his salvation, because God did not appear to him. Rather we know with Jesus Christ after the flesh yet believing the Scriptures concerning him, we need not be alarmed at our want of personal acquaintance with his person. But the Comforter being promised to every Christian to testify of Christ it is a most momentous question for all concerned in their salvation whether have received the spirit or not. Here personal acquaintance with the person is indispensable. Not indeed as a person visibly appearing, for we no where in the scriptures read the spirit had, except at the first effusion (Acts 2:) Believers may rest assured of having received the Comforter when they have received the comfort of the Gospel, i.e. when they are enabled heartily to believe that sins are forgiven through the blood of the Redeemer. They also many times know both of the comfort & its blessings. To pass the Comforter, to rejoice in the Lord always is far indeed from excluding either mourning over sin or the feeling of pain & sorrow under the casualties to which earthly life is subject. The chastisements for the present is joyous, & yet most of the children of God are chastised, & cannot be off feeling pain. The fact is while feeling the grievousness of the chastisement & while mourning over sin by exclaiming with Paul, O wretched man that I am! we may never be beyond the comfort of being capable to say with him, I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So that while with the flesh we are subject to the laws of fleshly nature, we shall feel the Comforter within, mining & bearing us witness, that with the mind we always approve of the law of God.

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May 1853 } went out accompanied by Mrs. B. visited a house of former
Ref 413. } acquaintance. Here we in while going to Ning I had opportunity of passing a place from which I heard ~~[illegible]~~ sometimes the early ~~[illegible]~~ of the singing-reading voice with which our scholars turn off their classics. So-Ty being near I thought I must make the acquaintance of this Confucian star, who aims no doubt at a large orbit to move in as reward for all his study. Here it is remembered that here the mandarinage is confined to existing families, who keep themselves in office by inheritance, & that what is left open to competition are merely Schoolmasterships, Judgeships & the office of Mys. Envoys to China, Japan or the islands – the Governorship of the islands being again reserved for the so called nobility – it is surprising indeed to find people apply themselves with all the iron diligence chinese love imposes to get nothing more than a bubble. For they make them live believe that a Lookhos an graduate is as good as a chinese one, though the latter has visible tokens of reward from his Government, & with each higher examination open a field which may lead him to the highest rank of honour. I was not long in discovering my man, a youth with a dirty sheet round his loins, for all bodily covering, the mats being filthy & dirty & stinking, the whole room bespeaking squalid poverty & constituting only a lounge in the smoky kitchen. My wonder the eyes of the scholar should be bad as they were, both being encircled with a purple margin owing to the long seated seated inflammation in the Tarsi, which has so degenerated as to show thick layers of the conjunctiva making a bright crescent rim all round the ball, & constantly dripping with tears, he wiping which with a dirt stiffened rag is of course not very suitable to stroke the irritation. I offered immediately my aid for the eyes, at which the youth smilingly said, they were declared incurable whatever I might say on this head I would not consent. The best I could do, I saw, was to lay truth before them provide gushing eyes. I got him to follow me some paces but without any mark of either approval or any other emotion. At last there were heard some calls from within & my man told me he had business & I should be off. It was not worth while stopping longer. I summed up briefly all he had heard, laid once more the outlines of the Gospel before him, & entreated him in the name of God, to meditate on these things, & with a repeated offers of relief for his eyes I left. – In another house saw an old sick woman the

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説明ターゲット

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After our friend had left Tshiwashi & Lin-te-fu came again partly consulting & partly telling me their resolve, although not yet entirely fixed, on, to be to-morrow early on board the Commodore's again with the proposal, that the meeting should be held in the Regents' office, & not the palace. They had no sooner left, then – upon consideration I found it quite right – I wrote the following note:

Napa. June 5th 1853.

Commodore M. C. Perry
U. S. Str. Susquehanna.

Sir

Have strong suspicions the native authorities intend to wait on you again to-morrow morning very early. I beg humbly to suggest, that the proceedings be so arranged as to give visible & unmistakeable evidence of its having commenced very early; in which case the mandarins themselves will see a retrogressive step was quite impossible. I should say: flags hoisted on all ships; a gun fired by each early; after which music bands proceeding in the direction of Shuri, followed by a body of soldiers as van-guard; or circle of festival boats drawn around the stairs of the flagships, or might effectually stop every unbecoming intention on the part of the native authorities.

I have the honour to remain
with profoundest respectfulness

Sir

your most humble & obed. servant
M. J. Bebellem

A short while after this note had been off the Commodore himself with Captain Walker (Saratoga) & Messrs Speiden & Harris & other officers arrived. The Commodore immediately inquired how matters stood on shore, & I of course unhesitatingly acquainted him – after of course, having been told that there is no need of making a secret of the matter – with the contents of the note just sent off. "I do not think," said the Commodore, "for the sake of the Loochooan mandarins, to deprive my men even of a single breakfast. Their breakfast time is at nine, & the procession cannot begin to move before 11. o'clock." All present, myself included, applauded the