

to pension my widow, or myself in case I survive my wife.

16. There is one more point of great importance to be mentioned, & that is the printing of the Chinese-Japanese translation of the four Gospels & Acts, which I am persuaded both the English & American Bible Societies will now be very zealous of seeing published. As the fund raised for my translations stands, as I suppose, exclusively under my hand, I direct that immediately Japanese types be prepared, to be in readiness in China, whither I hope to come as soon as my American brother arrives here.

I should much prefer if one of the Brethren already in China were to accept the invitation. This would save the passage money. If among the community of American Residents in China a worthy family be found, who hitherto had not been missionary, and now offer for this work they are quite welcome, their character & capacities to be approved of by the Bishop of Victoria. Conjointly with two of the American missionary Brethren in China.

In great haste & extraordinary pressure of business. Commodore Perry, for the present, is pleased to rely upon me the — (Commissariat for the Squadron. Imagine what trouble this is, especially in Yokohama. However I am ready to risk my life on the success of any Expedition intending to unlock Japan.

Yours very affectionately  
B. J. Bennett

The End Bishop of Victoria.



23. You will receive a good file of journal, which  
I transmit care of ~~Rev. John Wilson~~ Rev. John Wilson, that  
our Shanghai Board may also rejoice in the progress of  
his mission & console in the afflictions of his brother,  
purposely brought on him by the guilt of people  
calling themselves a missionary Committee. These  
terms, however, I beg to state clearly, apply only  
to Commander James & Lieutenant Clifford, who for-  
merly united their effort in distressing me, & who, as far  
as I know, were the active Committee of our  
Society, though men names figure on the list.

Of the present Committee I have not heard  
as yet any thing, & cannot speak of them at all.

It is perfectly understood, & I declare it  
here once more very plainly, that my journals  
are my private property, & I commit them  
to the Rev. John Wilson & your Lordships under  
the condition, that nothing therein relating to our  
old Committee, especially if censuring them,  
be published. Our difference, which must be brought  
before the Society, will be clear from my letters to  
you, including all of the pecuniary arrangements  
as set forth in this present letter. Another con-  
dition of my entrusting you & brother Wilson with  
my journals is, that in case the present Com-  
mittee do not entirely agree to pay me the  
£ 1500 of my former account & the £ 300.



owing near September. I shall be obliged to consider that  
some of the leaders of the old Committee still remains among  
them, and that they continue to ruin both mission &  
missionary. For the whole sum I claim is pretty nearly  
disposed of entirely for the support & advancement of  
the mission as I find the mission must be helped.

In case of their dissenting from me -  
which would be a great misfortune, I cannot  
entrust them with my journal or with any thing.  
Nearly the whole fund, I should feel obliged  
to declare to the Society that I disapprove of the  
Committee, & think it quite useless for this  
mission to entrust them with money, & that  
our friends had better choose a Banker apart  
from him, on whom I may draw according as I  
shall see fit.

Our best regards to Mrs. Smith & your  
Orinice. We are at present too busy to send him  
things. & they will go better by a ship sailing direct  
to Hong-Kong, which, under present circumstances,  
is likely soon to happen.



Napa June 1<sup>st</sup> 1853.

My dear brother

I beg you to deposit for me Seven Hundred Dollars in the Oriental Bank, & to send me the Bank's receipt on such sum. I should for several reasons prefer if this deposit was kept secret.

The enclosed letter with acquaints you better with my money matters, & why it is necessary for me to make extraordinary efforts to send over money to China. I shall, I fear, never get as fellow missionary, unless I first lay in funds entitling me to the title of Committee or Board. On what foolish customs we have come to in mission-ary concerns, which might be more simply conducted.

Give my compliments to all the Brethren & to your good Lady.

Rev. Dr. Bridgman, Shanghai

Yours affectionately  
W. J. Belcher

Please send the enclosed letter off to address of  
St. David's Esq.

Featherstone St.

with the request, in case he find our new Committee continues to do with it as directed in the P.S. of my wife, to his letter City Road, London

P.S. Please let my sister be enabled to as to be brought me over through the post by means of letters



10/11  
Napa. June 1<sup>st</sup> 1853.

My dear brother

The Enclosures will tell you all about us.  
I mean Express my confidence to our Consul  
& his friend is his recent bereavement. It  
was a heavy blow. Let all accomplished ladies  
in your parish, while they move over their heads  
long, repent & stand in awe. The announce-  
ment of Mrs. Alcock's death struck us here  
as with a thunder bolt.

I pray for you & wish you &  
yours all happiness & peace.

yours affectionately

W. J. Beecher

Rev. John Wilson  
British Consulate  
Hong Kong.



12/  
Napa. June 1<sup>st</sup> 1853.

My dear Brother

many thanks for your timely offer.

I beg the Bishop to let you read  
my letter to him, & my Journal, that  
you may be fully informed of our case.

I have no moment to spare,  
The Lord bless you & console you  
& comfort you.

yours very affectionately  
W. J. Russell

Rev. Mr. C. Odell,  
Missionary Tutor  
in Saint Paul's College.

Very Rev.



Nap. June 21<sup>st</sup> 1853.

13

My dear Sir

I need scarcely tell you that your letter addressed to me this morning was very agreeable. Nothing is calculated more to cheer a christian minister than to find the children of God walking in & ready to confess the truth before men. That you have confidence in me on the simple ground of my being a missionary, without any thing else that might commend me to your favour, is also a strong indication of your sincere standing before God, & greatly contributes to make me believe the resolution you form to devote yourself to God & his service is formed in sincerity, & as yourself say, with simple reliance on the grace & mercy of our Lord.

The counsel you ask of me would at best be very poor human wisdom. Ask counsel & advice of Him, in whom are hid all treasures of wisdom. You have the anointing which cometh from above, & you need not that any should lead you. If God be for you, who can be against you? A man resolved to do any thing for God, through his mighty aid & in faith of him, will have strength given him for any undertaking. Be strong in the Lord & in the might of his power, & all things will be possible & even easy to you.



If your heart is indeed with the Lord - and, as already  
said, I hope it fully is - no better sphere could offer for  
the realization of your wish than Japan, & time is  
acceptable, too soon, when missionaries will always be  
in a position effectually to prepare themselves for  
Japan.

Beyond the above concurrence in your views  
& the suggestion ventured as to the spot in this  
globe to which I should wish to direct your atten-  
tion rather than to any other - from reasons which  
it would take too much time to write here down, but  
which I am ready to state to you, whenever you  
may favour me with a visit - I think it un-  
necessary to say any thing further, till I shall  
have had the pleasure of making your personal  
acquaintance & to learn more of your circum-  
stances.

With my friendly greeting to your  
friend, to whom, of course, I beg to say the same  
as to yourself.

I remain  
yours very truly

W. J. Bebbelheim

Mr. J. Goble

Marine,

U. S. Fr. Mississippi.



19/ Napa July 1<sup>st</sup> 1853.

my dear Lord! you see I have still leisure to write letters, certainly not more strange than my complaining of non payment from my Committee & yet having plenty of cash. How I manage to get time for the extraordinary variety & quantity of business rolled upon my poor shoulders is more than I can explain. Often am I reminded of the words of holy writ: "I said ye are gods," and again of the cheering text: "Partakers of the divine nature". There is something of omnipotence & omnipresence in man, upon whom the scriptures are come. God in his mercy through Jesus Christ exalts his humble people above their own strength & knowledge, & without their being able to explain it to themselves they are sufficient for all these things, which appear insurmountable mountains in the eyes of those worldly giants who look down upon us as upon grasshoppers. We hope on in our own humble way & still get forward at an astonishing railway speed.

Need I tell you, my Lord, that both your last favours, dated respectively June 10<sup>th</sup> & June 13<sup>th</sup> contained all it needed to cheer us on again in our hard struggle? A missionary brother, with wife and child, already on his way out to Loochoo - is ravishing, transporting & unspeakably pleasing news indeed. All my quarrels with the Committee are at an end as soon as I see they do something towards the carrying on of the mission, something perceptible on the field of the mission itself. For of all their work done at home, we hitherto had not the slightest perception here, except, perhaps, answers to their & other friends' prayers, without which I should certainly be at a loss how to account for our being still in the land of the living, & evidently seeing life & light dawning & springing up in a land of darkness & death. Oh the joy & hallowed complacency of knowing this spark of truth which seven years of hard toil have struck,