

12. A Day of accidents. We should have had a riving party, as promised, & we grounded three times, twice so disagreeably that we thought we might have to wait for a week when to disembark. - Arrived in the junks' harbor we met crowds of japeres, both men & officers, addressed them both in Japanese & Cooshoon, tried at last some amusing talk, but not a word was to be got out of any. though they could not forbear laughing. - Our Philips who since a fall some days ago has a considerable tumour on the forehead & an oedematous swelling of both lower eyelids, for which I commenced giving him this morning some medicine, had again a heavy fall, fortunately however without increasing his injury.

Put all this into nothing compared with what follows. About 7. in the evening we heard an American tailor had fallen into the water & was drowned. I sent for information & was told he was not dead, but drunk & with two others now carried in Pugas to Funai, which our servants quite envied them, saying "such pleasure, ~~day~~ & honours this class of people certainly never yet had in all their life." A while after the whole procession, with Mr. Dixon, arrived at our house, with torches & a deafening din. One man indeed was dead, apparently from drowning, though the corpse showed a serious wound on the scalp. Persuaded that I had no means of resorting to an artificial respiration, nor yet of warming apparatus, which I thought likely would be on board the ship, & having examined the corpse & convinced myself that life was extinct to a degree that mind means would be of no avail whatever, I ordered the corpse immediately to be removed to the Funai Hospital, thither I promised immediately to resort. His Dr. Nelson arrived. One of the other two had nothing at all the matter with him, except a little liquor. The third in full success, had both arms dreadfully wounded & one meta-carpal bone of the right hand broken or dislocated. He stated he had been on the market, bought vegetables & a fish, & the natives had dropped him into a corner & stoned him till he scarcely could rise. He knew nothing of his companions, so that the whole party met accidentally at our house. Ordered the two patients also off to the Funai Hospital.

June 1854

523 Ichivazidi, who was also present, said, it was an accident arising from misbehavior of the men, as they had been drunk & quarrelling among themselves. The man who died had fallen down from a wall, then again he said, had walked down & up the steps near the <sup>market</sup> which lead to the water line he took. One of the wounded two said, they <sup>(natives)</sup> had held the man under water till he died. They had taken him out once & finding he was not dead, had again submerged him.

Arrived at Funai nearly at the same time with Capt. Glasson & Dr. Nelson who had been called from the ship. As Dr. Nelson kindly inquired after my opinion I inclined, little & distant as the chance of recovering the man was, that it might be attempted. Some sent off for the emergency apparatus & the stomach pump. The only instrument we could think of would be of any use. Stimulants &c. to be brought from the ship. But I was found, when trying to introduce a small bamboo, which I had prepared before Dr. Nelson arrived, that the jaws of the corpse were so clenched that nothing, except liquids, could be introduced. The attempt then at artificial respiration must be quite given up. We had then the man brought under soap, & gave directions to continue the rubbing, putting near of hot bottles &c. as begun for 2-3 hours. Capt. Glasson & Dr. Nelson asked me whether I thought a post mortem examination advisable, which of course I did, which is to take place to-morrow early. - Yuki-rato told me Ichivazidi requested me to speak to the master friendly word with the Captain, so that no charge be brought against them. I told him one of the men had already stated how he had been treated, & as for the corpse we shall see to-morrow about it. - Returned home about one o'clock a.m. & found Mr. Mouton awaiting me.

13. I need not say that neither of us had had any sleep, considering two that little Philip caused his mother a restless night. - Both Mr. Mouton & myself were in time at Funai. Arrived after Messrs. Pennell, minor, Selton & Purser Mitchell arrived, constituted by Capt. Glasson a regular jury to investigate the case. They had a sealed letter with them to the Consul which was sent off, of course written only in English. I rather feel gratified that an attempt was made by Capt. Glasson to let me out of the

matter, although I scarcely knew how they will be able to carry on communication with our mandarins without my translation ship. - The jury now transported themselves to the place where the corpse was found, while myself in company of Dr. Nelson made the post mortem examination. The result cannot here be entered minutely, but I believe as I have no copy of the notes taken at the dissection that the evidence was clear enough to show that the man did not come by his death by drowning but by injuries arising from violence, & on the subsequent examination both myself & Dr. Nelson underwent <sup>before</sup> the jury we could not but give our decided opinion agreeing to the same effect. - Ichivrichi, in canonicals, brought back the letter, stating they understood here no English & that all communications must be written in the Chinese. The jury charged me with the translation, & myself & Mr. Morrison returned home.

Whenever much labour falls upon me the only means which can sustain me to get through is cheerfulness. My dear wife knew this so well that she had always on such occasions a peculiarly loving look for me, & ~~offered~~ an extra change of linen, a cup of coffee & similar trifles ready. To-day I had to be my own comforter, & exhauled with excitement from yesterday evening, in addition to a sleepless night & the to-day's <sup>post mortem</sup> ~~examination~~ Examination, I could not think of sitting down to my translation without first getting my poor body some refreshment. Washed, changed linen & dined, & then took up Captain Glatton's letter, which runs thus:

W. I. Stoveship Lexington  
Napierian Road, June 13<sup>th</sup> 1854.

To H. E. the Regent  
of London.

You are doubtless aware that one of the ships' company of his vessel, named William Board, met with death last evening while he was in the two towns of Napier. From the contusions on his head & other marks of violence on his person it is to be feared he lost his life by wicked means.

The character of the Deceased was excellent, a very quick & unobtrusive young man.

I have appointed a jury of Officers to investigate every circumstance touching the death of this young man, William Board, & in order that the whole truth may be brought to light justice requires me to demand of you & all the authorities such aid & assistance, as may be required in the course of the investigation.

I am very respectfully

your Obedient Servant

John J. Glasson. Lieut. Com.

We had already arranged this morning that in case the burial took place this day Mr. Moreton should read the service, & <sup>a note</sup> ~~had~~ having arrived from Mr. Pennel to say at 6 p.m. all will be ready for the funeral ceremony, Mr. Moreton is riding to Sumner town with him my translation of the original of Capt. Glasson, to be sent off immediately from the American Depot there. This was about 4 p.m.

Myself proceeded shortly after five, sorry indeed that <sup>my</sup> indisposition prevented Mr. Moreton from attending the funeral. I arrived just in time, but not to prevent Mr. Moreton's going through the whole funeral service, including the longer part thereof destined to be read in the Church, before the strictest regard to the Rubric does not require this. How much more solemn & awful is the impression produced, when on the coffin being deposited at the mouth of the grave & the whole company standing waiting & breathless, the minister earnestly addresses to them the startling words: "Man, that is born of a woman, he has but a short time to live!" I have had several burials here & ~~never~~ <sup>few</sup> did I see <sup>in</sup> the company who had not shed tears. I always

introduce a short address to the bystanders before I proceed to the  
"Forasmuch as it hath pleased &c. The opportunity of the to-day's  
burial, for producing deep sensation among the funeral party, can  
rarely be equalled, & was entirely lost. I almost regretted that  
I did not conduct the service myself. But, the Lord knows, from what  
motives I make effort to meet that I may suppose a young man  
like Mr. Mowton ardently wishes, hoping at the same time failures  
may become a useful lesson to him.

Capt. Gerson with tears in his eyes spoke to us of his esteem for  
the young man just interred. He said, if he had ten thousand dollars to  
send home he would have confidently entrusted them to his man. The  
cushions of his boat were somewhat obsolete. William Board, the  
coxswain of the Captains boat, drew stuff from the Donnet, on his  
own expense, quite unbeknown to the Captain. I tailored a new  
set of cushions to cheer & please his Captain, & it took  
time & repeated persuasion, said Capt. G., to get the man to  
let him know the expense he incurred in fitting up these cushions,  
which, of course, Capt. G. much pleased paid him.

Both the Mowton feels the case of manslaughter  
perpetrated on an American subject to be so paramount  
an affair, that in case the Commodore took no decided  
steps against the murderers, he (Mr. M.) would not  
feel safe here, & began to think of leaving. He repeatedly  
expressed himself to this effect this evening. This may however  
be only passing thoughts, produced by the present excitement.

I must not omit mentioning in connection with the to-day's burial,  
that this was desired some foreigners here say for their own. The hypocritical  
murderers sent to-day also, gave already yesterday night an offer to have  
the grave & coffin prepared at their own expense, but they were refused. They  
would in Japan give nothing with more pleasure to foreigners than graves,  
& coffins, & perhaps a bronze altar to officiate at the funeral, a fact

June 1854  
Sheet 524 } which we heard took place recently before Jeddah, on occa-  
sion of the death of a man belonging to the Squadron of  
Commodore Perry. The Japanese first offered to have him transported  
to Nagasaki, & on this being refused to have him buried at the  
Commodore's first anchorage, last summer; & on this likewise being  
refused, & the man being buried near Jeddah, since the Commodore's  
Squadron this year is at anchor, & service being performed by the ships'  
chaplains, the Japanese sent a bronze to perform the funeral rites  
afresh, & we an old <sup>nation</sup> watch had been appointed over the grave  
for a long time following.

14. Capt. Glisson <sup>coming in</sup> ~~arrived~~ a boat for me to interview at Fumai  
went there, accompanied by Mr. Murrells. It rained while we were  
on the water, & still more so after we had landed, & a stormy hour  
+ <sup>arrived</sup> we had to wait for the mayor, who at last arrived with <sup>native</sup> witnesses as to  
the drunkenness of the sailors, & also with the natives who took the deceased  
lifeless out of the water. He also brought a letter from the Regent.  
The witnesses were remanded for to-morrow to be examined by the jury,  
myself being requested both by the mayor & Capt. Glisson to be  
present. The following is the Translation of the Regent's Letter:

"A respectful communication. Yesterday I received  
your letter in which you say: Last evening a man  
of my ships' crew, named William Board met with death  
while in Naga. From the contusions on his head & other  
marks of violence on his body - - he lost his life  
by wicked means. - I have appointed a Jury of Officers  
to investigate every circumstance touching the death of this  
man - - in order that the whole truth may be brought  
to light." I immediately appointed Officers Mandarins  
to inquire into the matter, and they state:

Three American Sailors had walked through  
Naga, entering people's houses, searching for Liqueur,  
& having drunk beyond measure got become intoxicated.

thrown about every where, jumped over the walls, <sup>brope in</sup> at <sup>break</sup> doors, entering people's houses & frightening old & young. Two of them then lay down drunk in the market, one while the third <sup>struggled</sup> <sup>would</sup> to a good life he was look right off. A little while after some native sailors, <sup>in a native boat</sup> <sup>near</sup> <sup>shore</sup>, something <sup>in the water</sup> <sup>they</sup> <sup>found</sup> <sup>them</sup>, & they made for it, but found life quite extinct. This is clear the evidence as to facts. In addition & having already repeatedly ordered that when our humble people meet the Americans in the street they must respectfully run aside & are not to behave improperly, meeting mad drunkards they will, <sup>entirely be</sup> <sup>they</sup> <sup>more</sup> <sup>frightened</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>venture</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>slight</sup> them, how should any of <sup>them</sup> <sup>have</sup> <sup>maliciously</sup> <sup>have</sup> <sup>inflicted</sup> injury & caused death? Now to infer only from the two men found drunk on the market the third one <sup>is</sup> <sup>undoubtedly</sup> <sup>by</sup> <sup>must</sup> <sup>have</sup> <sup>lumbered</sup> <sup>&</sup> <sup>by</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>false</sup> <sup>step</sup> <sup>fell</sup> <sup>into</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>water</sup> <sup>&</sup> <sup>down</sup> <sup>by</sup> <sup>his</sup> <sup>death</sup> <sup>by</sup> <sup>downing</sup>.

This I beg you on this statement to hold us excused. - This inch of letter is my respectful reply & with <sup>good</sup> wishes & compliments I am

middle mountain office  
Si-en-Fung 4<sup>th</sup> year, 5<sup>th</sup>  
month, 19<sup>th</sup> day (19 June 1854)

The Resident  
Shang-Hung-Hinn

my humble opinion on this is: the whole statement of the native sailors is an invention. William Brown, as the Post master examination showed, never died by downing, & though he did he could not have been after that have floated, & the life then just coming in he could by no means have been carried out the or come to the mouth of the junk's harbor, when he had been found. One of them said to have lain drunk in the market, lay still from being pelted with stones & wounded all over, & the other had been left there to watch the purchases made. I saw both the same evening & found them quite in their senses.

After having this evening read to the merchants the above letter & stated my opinion on it, Mr. M. told me, he was resolved, in case the Commission did nothing, <sup>decision</sup> calculated to meet such case, he would say of him a passage back to China. Mr. M. also asked me whether I found it not right they should leave? I need not say that I then felt, inasmuch as I now am more <sup>wise</sup> than I was, that the merchants are only writing for the first plausible excuse to get somewhere a home with more social comforts than they are likely to get here before the country undergoes a thorough change, which may still cost a missionary many a year of privation while waiting for such change. What I am to do in case they leave I fear to decide upon.

Poor futile ministry who often suggest a name <sup>& will</sup> ~~without~~ having an honourable place in the church, thy compass may lay hands on thee but surely God in Christ has not visited thy heart with a minister's love. O my heavenly Father, keep me in thy love & give me faith to overcome to the end. Rescue me from the ways of the futilities - and grant them repentance & more regard to thy known & real concern about the heathens.

15. The boat of Capt. Glasson arrived early & we went on board. Delivered to him the Chinese original & Translation of the Purgent's letter, & added my own remarks on it, which were approved of.

went then on shore to Fumai when the Mayor & witnesses were arrived. The following is the summary of Testimony:

Five sailors belonging to the junk lying in the channel of the junk's harbor went out in a boat for the purpose of mending the cordage, or cables which hold the junk. Seeing something white one of them said "very white" at the bottom of the water (Deep 1 1/2 fathoms, the tide having then come in & being half up, he stood itself being opposite the bridge in the pier leading from the temple to the fort, & distant from the bridge 3 fathoms) one of them, Myaderch,



jumped into the water. He could not reach the bottom with his feet, but dived & brought up the body, when the others had assisted to take it into the boat, which then was rowed to the jetty of the Temple, where Mr. Brier bore found it. Two more, I believe Ohnizingi, & Takeshi, examined & corroborated his statement. None of the witnesses present saw the deceased before his covering him in the water, & the mayor said he could find no witness to say how deceased came into the water.

My opinion is, the whole of this statement is forged. To go from the Naga market to the pier without being followed by crowds, at any rate by spies, is quite impossible in Yokohama. For the man to tumble into the water near the market & be carried out by the tide is impossible the tide then having come in, & he could not have been carried against the current, if ~~at~~ at all floated so soon after death. Had he been as these natives' statement intends to make us believe - had he, in a drunken state been able to find his way to the last pier, how could & why should he have ascended there the wall or parapet, & had he fallen from the parapet of the bridge he should have been found near the bridge & not 15 feet, or 3 fathoms off towards the center of the channel, the coming up tide & the abutments before the bridge making it impossible the body should be moved off the spot it fell upon. - It also appears to me deceased had no white shirt on, but a red flannel shirt & wore this another dirty flannel, so that the colour could by no means have shown through a depth of 8-9 feet of water & that too after sunset. The time given by the sailors when they discovered the body. - The examination was concluded at noon. - We returned home, & at two o'clock the jury, according to previous invitation, honoured us with their company to our simple dinner, this being the day on which the American Treaty with Japan was to go into effect, although, for my part, I cannot have myself to believe that Japan will ever yield without actually being either punished or convinced and is ready for inflicting chastisement unless she yields. At most they would offer other nations that she now does for the Dutch, imprison them at Nagasaki; so much I also saw in a Hong Kong paper had been said the Americans. All the rest, tho' I said printed, I consider mere conjecture.