Boston May 26th 85

Dr. & Mrs. Parker

Dear friends:

Since I left Washington I made short visits here and there on the way and finally returned to Boston last Friday.

Of course I rendered your word to Mr. & Mrs. Hardy. They were very glad to hear of you through me. Permit me to inform Jan that they are both feeling quite well as usual.

Since I returned here I have kept myself very busy for writing home several mission letters.

Now I feel I must write you even a few words to thank you for your so cordially receiving me into your welcome
home. I regarded it my great privilege and thank God for his permitting me to see Japan once more in this side of the world. I trust Jen knows how gratefully I feel toward Jen for her giving us the very first gift of $1,000 to start a Christian School in that long excluded and benighted Island Empire of Japan at my urgent and tearful request in the meeting of the American Board held at Portland in 1874.

If Jen had not given us that timely gift at that moment, we may never be permitted to see that most useful, most hopeful, and most promising Christian School in the very heart of Japan to-day. We shall celebrate its tenth anniversary next
November. I can safely state to you that most of those Churches belonging to the Mission of the American Board are the offspring of this Christian school.

There are now 26 Churches with us and most of them are self-supporting. And their members must have reached above 2,000 at this time.

But this is a mere beginning.

We are now trying to raise up the standard of our school—specially in the Theological Training.

We are also hoping to found Special Chairs for Political Science, History, Philosophy &c in not many distant days.

It is our day dream now. But we shall realize it soon or later. Our humble aim is to make it the first class Christian Institution in the
country to educate the coming race. This is the whole burden of my soul. I am laboring for it and praying for it.

I am sure it will be given us. Will you also take a share of our burden and pray for us so that in God’s almighty hand our desire may be granted unto us? [Since I made my last visit to Japan, Washington, Rome, I have put your family in my prayer list. So far I will remember daily in my humble prayers. I will not forget your request for —].

Hoping you are all well,

I remain

Your grateful friend

Joseph H. Nellsma

Kutte, Japan.

C/o Rev. Alfred Hardy, 40th Ave S. Bain.