

ALPHEUS HARDY & CO.

Alpheus Hardy and Ezra Baker in the early forties were successful in the coastwise trade, so much so, in fact, that for the purpose of extending their commerce they purchased the "Otho," a little brig of 150 tons, to send to the Mediterranean, and although she was very small the merchants of Boston looked with jealous eye upon her. The "Otho" made a remarkable trip, and arrived in Boston long before the rest of the fleet. At once her cargo was advertised at auction, and buyers thronged the pier where old John Tyler was reaping fancy prices, when in the midst of the sale one of Boston's merchants drove up in a chaise and called out to the crowd: "Buy easy, boys, buy easy! My bark is just signalled, and she will be here before night." Perhaps the sale would have terminated more successfully had the buyers known that this bark had not signalled, and that a fortnight was to elapse before she appeared in port. In spite of this misfortune which attended the disposition of the "Otho's" first cargo under her new ownership, the firm of Hardy and Baker prospered, and became a worthy predecessor of the later firm of Alpheus Hardy & Co. The latter firm had the distinction of owning many swift vessels. They also never sold a ship nor changed a flag through fear of either foreign or domestic foe, and perhaps as a reward they never lost a ship to the Confederates during the Rebellion. Their ships included the "Conquest," "Ocean Pearl," "Cowper," "Granite," "Wild Rover," and "Mountain Wave," and their barks were the "Young Turk," "Kepler," "Cleber," "Wild Gazelle," "The Turk," "Bounding Billow," "Daniel Webster," "Dorchester," and "Young Turk, 2nd." The "Daniel Webster" owned by the Hardy firm was usually the ship that brought the first cargo of fruit into the Boston market, a coveted honor among the vessels of those days. She was later owned by John S. Emery & Co. of Boston.

In a letter written by Alpheus Hardy at Gibraltar, November 20, 1845, he said: "I sailed from our good city, the Queen city of the States. My leaving was under the most pleasing and happy circumstances, so far as conveyance and company were concerned, our firm having prepared a new bark completely fitted for our comfort. My pride was moved by going in my own vessel, and with a cargo under my control. Poor human nature!" During this tour made by Mr. Hardy to the Nile and the Holy Land, ships belonging to the firm were frequently met with, and in them were sent home many purchases, and mementos of travel.

It was the "Wild Rover" belonging to Alpheus Hardy & Co. that in 1865 brought into the United States the first Japanese to come to this country in search of learning, and it was Alpheus Hardy who became the benefactor of and who educated Joseph Hardy Neesima, the young immigrant, and who lived to see his protégé serve Japan and there found Doshisha University. Neesima's escape from Japan to China was made in an American vessel of which William T. Savory of Salem, Mass., was master. Captain Savory kindly consented to aid the young Japanese, and, in order to secure his safety from the custom-house officers, locked Neesima in the store-room of the cabin. At Shanghai, Neesima was transferred to the Hardy ship "Wild Rover," commanded by Captain Horace S. Taylor of Chatham, Mass., and after a prolonged voyage of eight months the vessel reached Cape Cod. When the young Japanese came on board he could speak only a few words of English, and when he was asked his name by the captain he replied that it was "Neesima Shimeta." "I think I had better call you Joe," rejoined the captain, and from that time he was known by that name. Upon meeting Neesima in Boston, Alpheus Hardy undertook the education of the young foreigner who had risked his life to come here in search of knowledge. He was placed in Phillips Academy at Andover, and afterwards was sent to Amherst College, where he was graduated in 1870. He is remembered as the Apostle to Japan. Up to Mr. Hardy's death in 1887 his interest in Neesima's work was very great. Professor T. Makino and Professor Mizusaki, who have been living in Boston recently, were two of Neesima's pall-bearers when he died in 1890.

Alpheus H. Hardy succeeded his father as a member of the firm of Alpheus Hardy & Co. The younger Mr. Hardy in 1853 -- when but thirteen years of age -- crossed the Atlantic in the 320-ton bark "Young Turk" belonging to his father and manned by a Chatham crew. During this voyage young Hardy kept a diary in which he recorded impressions of the sea and of places visited, his last entry, November 9, 1853, giving a vivid picture of the lad's joy in seeing Boston again. "On Long Wharf," he says, "I recognized father among the crowd, and also the blacks (black horses) and mother's face at the carriage window. I touched the wharf before the ship and was soon out of the crowd and where in comparative seclusion, I might be welcomed at home."

At the two hundredth anniversary of Chatham, Mass., in 1912, Mr. Hardy recalled this early voyage. "In the years," said Mr. Hardy, "when we still owned ships, so far as possible, we chose Chatham or Cape men as masters. Among them was John Paine, to whom was gladly paid a higher wage if he would take his wife with him; David Nye Nickerson, Thomas Crowell, Thomas

Sparrow, Andrew Reynolds and others. The choice was based upon the confidence and belief in the character and ability of the men. In connection with this, let me mention an incident which occurred this morning. Captain Ephraim Smith told me that my father told him when he had chartered him for a special voyage, 'I have not chartered your vessel, but you.' It was not the ship, but the man he wanted. I recall the unwillingness to let the now Rev. S. S. Nickerson go to sea in command of the 'Heroine,' which he had chartered, because of his extreme youthful appearance, until he learned that he was a Chatham boy. That settled it, and he made a successful voyage."

Source: <http://www.kellsraft.com/captainsboston/captainsboston05.html>

Named in honor of Josephine Kent Atkins and her adoptive parents, James and Almena Kent, the China Trade Room contains furniture, an elaborate set of rose medallion china, Canton china, Chinese import paintings and Oriental curiosities brought back from the Far Eastern voyages of Captain Kent and other seagoing men from Chatham. Most items date from the mid to late 19th century, the period of the greatest involvement of Chatham seamen. There are also items from Japan, India, Burma and other areas of the Far East that give a broader and more accurate definition to the term "China Trade."



Of particular interest in this gallery is the China Trade painting of the ship Wild Rover, one of several ships owned by Alpheus Hardy of Chatham. In 1864, the captain of another American ship, the Berlin, recently arrived in Hong Kong Harbor from Japan, told Captain Horace Taylor of the Wild Rover that he had discovered a young Japanese stowaway on his ship. Because Japanese law at the time made it an offense punishable by death for any male citizen to emigrate, the young man could not be returned to his home. Therefore, the Berlin's captain asked Captain Taylor if he would take the stowaway back to Boston. Named Neesima Shimeter, the young boy recently had become interested in Christianity and took this risk in an attempt to get to the United States where he could learn more about this religion.

Neesima was transferred to the Wild Rover, and during the voyage back to Boston learned the rudiments of English. Because the crew had

difficulty pronouncing his Japanese name, they called him "Joe." When the ship arrived in Boston, Alpheus Hardy was intrigued by the young man and agreed to sponsor him. He sent him first to Phillips Andover Academy, then to Amherst College and finally to Andover Theological School. During his school years, Neesima spent his vacations with the Hardys in Boston or with the Taylors in Chatham.

Shortly before Neesima's graduation from Amherst, a Japanese delegation was in the United States studying our education system. They enlisted him as their interpreter, both in this country and in their subsequent travels in Europe. Because of this experience, Joseph Hardy Neesima (the name he had adopted) became interested in transforming Japan's educational system. Upon completing his studies in this country, he returned to Japan and founded a small Christian college patterned after Amherst College. The school was named Doshisha (Sharing Ideas) and gradually grew into a university in Kyoto. It now has an enrollment of about 25,000 students.

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Source: http://www.chathamhistoricalsociety.org/collection/cl_chinatrade.htm

Ullikana

by Ilil Arbel, Ph.d.

The tale of Ullikana was discovered by Mr. Alpheus Hardy, a gentleman from Boston who spent many years as a China trader during the nineteenth century. His ships sailed the Pacific, and being an intelligent, curious person, he learned much that was forbidden knowledge to Westerners at that time. Notes regarding this Hawaiian tale, along with some other information written in one of Mr. Hardy's diaries, was sent to me some years ago by Mr. Hardy's great grandson, with permission to tell it when I see fit. I think I may tell it now.

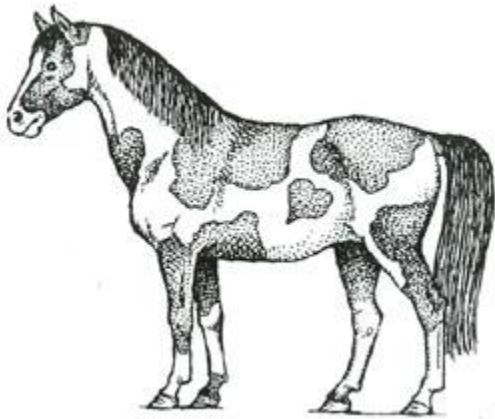


Image drawn exclusively for the Encyclopedia Mythica by [Patricia J. Wynne](#)

When the world was young and some islands were still emerging from the turbulent water of the Pacific Ocean, every animal had a guardian spirit. The animals patiently endured hard labor and unkind masters; they knew that some day a loving guardian spirit would lead them to the next world, to receive their just reward. When necessary, the guardian spirits also intervened between the gods and the animals, because only humans were permitted to pray directly to the gods. For animals such behavior was taboo, but they did not resent that. The noble pigs, the chickens, the goats and all the other animals were content.

But when the visitors from the mysterious lands of Europe came, the great change followed. For the foreigners brought a new animal to Hawaii, an animal that had never lived there and therefore could not acquire a guardian spirit -- the horse. As the Europeans did not believe in guardian spirits, they neglected to pray to the gods to send one to the new animals, and none came. The horses suffered. They worked faithfully, as horses always do, but some of their masters treated them harshly, the heat oppressed them, and they missed their homeland. Worst of all, they saw that all the other animals looked forward to the great forests and meadows of the next world, while the horses could hope for no such reward. Without a guardian spirit, how could you possibly pass the gates to the next world?

Despair settled on the community of horses like a great cloud of ashes. They worked, suffered and died without hope. But one day, a small mare named Ullikana could bear it no longer. Her dearest friend was dying, and Ullikana felt she could not let her go. Not without the certainty of a guardian spirit conducting her safely to the next world. She assembled the other horses of her stable, and spoke.

"Horses, as none of our masters is willing to pray to the gods to give us a guardian spirit, we must do it ourselves. Even if we chance offending the gods, can our fate be any worse? Let us have courage, and if the gods are enraged by our breaking the taboo, and kill us, what are we going to lose but a few years of sorrow?" The horses stood in awe; no animal had ever broken

the terrible taboo. But they had to agree this was their only choice. They went outside into the warm, silent night, lit by a red moon surrounded by a halo that promised a storm. The dying horse could see them from inside, but her strength drained swiftly, and they knew that only speed would save her soul. The horses formed a circle, facing outside, tails entwined, so as not to offend the gods by turning their backs on them. Ullikana led, and they followed, whispering their prayer to the gods, trembling with terror.

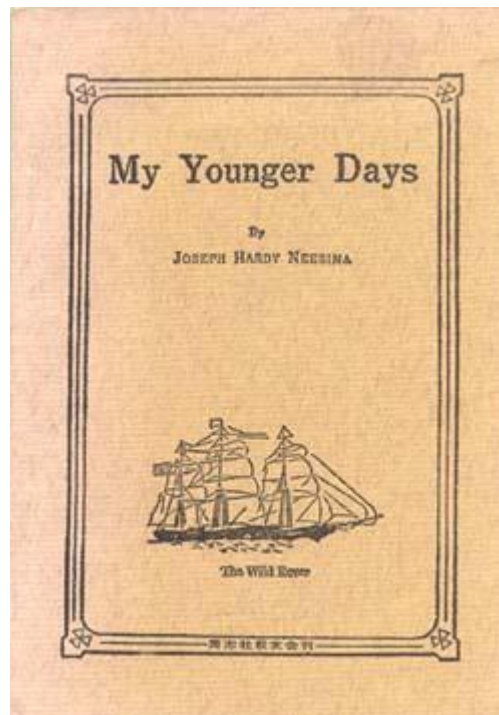
Suddenly, a soft blue light glowed in the dark sky. Slowly it floated down, finally to hover, shimmering, above the cowering animals. The light strengthened, became denser, and finally shaped itself into a magnificent blue horse with silver wings.

"I am your guardian spirit," said the apparition. "The gods granted your wish. They sent you a message, which you must tell all the other animals as well. Never be afraid to pray directly to the gods -- they love and respect the animals as much as they do the humans."

The spirit went into the stable, and covered the dying animal gently with his glowing wings. The horses looked away, as was the custom, so as not to interfere with the sacred moment. When they looked back, the ghost of Ullikana's dear friend emerged, ready to follow the guardian spirit to the next world. She looked at Ullikana, who stood modestly aside, her eyes filled with joy. "Thank you, my friend," said the ghost. "We will meet again in the great meadows of the next world, thanks to your kindness and wisdom. You will always be remembered as the savior of all Hawaiian horses."

Source: <http://www.pantheon.org/areas/folklore/folktales/articles/ullikana.html>

My Younger Days
Joseph Hardy Neesima
1973 Edition



To purchase this book online, click [here](#).

Neesima, Joseph Hardy

My Younger Days, 1976, ©1934, Kyoto, Eibundo Printing Co, Ltd, 57 pages (stated to be the 11th edition) and copyrighted in 1934 by the Doshisha Alumni Association, Kyoto, 12mo (5 x 7 in), 57 pp, cover is attached at the spine. The front cover has the title and a drawing of the sails ship "Wild Rover." The title page has a sketch of Neesima. A frontispiece has a picture of Neesima and a facsimile of his signature. The text is in English and contains pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus Hardy, his American sponsors. This is a narrative of Neesima's early life in Japan and how at some risk he left Japan and came to Boston. The account covers the period

from his birth in 1843 through August of 1865 at the culmination of his journey to the United States aboard The Wild Rover. A fascinating first hand English language account, from the Japanese perspective, of a person who was present in Japan when the American squadron under Commodore Perry shook the very core of Japanese society and politics.

Neesima wrote this account of events in 1885. It was first published in the US by the Joseph S. Hardy in 1890. A review of the Hardy book published in the New Englander and Yale Review in 1891 can be found on-line [here](#). This was followed in 1934 by this publication. While this is stated to be the 11th edition, I have only seen reference to the 1st edition in 1934 and this edition.

Joseph Neesima was born in 1843 in the Tokyo area. As a youth he witnessed the events surrounding the Perry Expedition to Japan. He developed a strong desire to travel and this led him to leave Japan in 1865. He is sometimes referred to as the "Japanese Robinson Crusoe." This apparently is based upon the fact that as a youth he read Robinson Crusoe and that inspired in him a desire to travel outside of his own country. In the United States he graduated from Amherst College in 1870 and Andover Theological Seminary in 1874. He returned to Japan at the end of 1874. In 1875 he established the Doshisha English School in Kyoto and that ultimately became what is now known as Doshisha University. Joseph Neesima died in 1890 leaving a rich legacy of accomplishments both in his native land and the United States.

For an excellent chronology of Neesima's life, I recommend you visit the one on the [Doshisha University web site](#).

Collation. Full Title: ***My Younger Days***. Paper covers, Short Title Page, Frontispiece with picture of Neesima, Title Page with drawing of Neesima, Neesima's Dedication with pictures of Mr. & Mrs. Hardy, Forward, Contents, Text (starts at numbered page 13 and runs to 57).

Source: http://www.baxleystamps.com/litho/neesima_1973.shtml