

**Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers**

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**Series: I. Correspondence**

**Box / folder: 3 / 36**

**Folder label: ESH to John and Kate Hildreth (parents), from Chaochowfu, Tientsin, Thaiyong**

**Dates: 1918-1924**

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Chaschowin via Swak  
about April 30 1965

Dear Mother:

The last letter you wrote you said that I might perhaps be coming for furls in 1970 instead of 1970 I suppose you were a little excited about that I might have written more then, but then that was not quite certain, so I waited till it was dead now I'm going to write and tell you the rest. I know you will be quite now excited. The fact is that Zotte (not I) is coming to America this summer, and that is why they Mission voted to let me come home next spring and the reason Zotte is coming home this summer is because we are expecting the arrival of a little one this fall, and welcome says she ought to go to America for that occasion. I can't go because there is no one to take charge of the field, and is peccably of the first priority says school, but we hope Baker will really return this fall.

In 1970-71 several members of our mission are due to have furls all at once, and some others in 71-72, but if all these new on furls return this fall there won't be spaces in to put anyone in. We were talking about that at a committee meeting a little before long since and the suggestion was made that Lewis the man who apparently would have no house this fall should go on furls, on account of that congestion that wouldn't be desirable in any way, and wasn't seriously considered, but the matter of sending someone home early is not to be back in the fall of 1970 was seriously considered. Among others I said that while I would consider it I didn't want to get the my full term was - one can get so little done in a first term anyway.

But when I was telling Zotte about this on return to the city after committee

I & the and I feel very strongly that  
 we have been misled by just in all this.  
 First the actual fact is entirely un-  
 expected, and all our previous experience would  
 tell us it is unlikely. Then the situation  
 seems showed other boats can go now  
 without being separated more than a year,  
 we might know whether passage could be  
 got at all. But both gave us choice of  
 Empress of Asia June 11, and 3 other boats  
 on June 17, 20, 21, one of which is the  
 Yung, on which Mr. Gray, Mrs. Probst  
 and others are going. Both also got from  
 Nanking on the last mail that would give  
 me a chance to talk with Zotte before I  
 started for Amoy at 9 AM. The Com-  
 mander endorsed the plan and I got a  
 letter to book on the 9 AM boat.  
 But I was on the very day it was  
 announced that the Empresses was  
 taken off the run, and both still  
 had tentative reservations on that pla-  
 ce. I heard of the Empresses being  
 off on Friday, then our Consul  
 (Hans Jagers not yet arrived) and sent  
 a note to both, asking them to change  
 reservation to Yung. Mr. apt was just  
 starting for Hong Kong and I was just in  
 time to hand that note by him.

Saturday morning early I went to  
 Swanton to check my mail sent to Kabeish  
 It had been going by to Zotte, but I felt  
 with the boat make in the air I had  
 better have it come to me. Further South  
 All Chinese <sup>train</sup> post office had a mail  
 for me so I went and got a haircut  
 and then just as an unnecessary pre-  
 caution went again to Chinese P.O. and  
 there was one letter from both. They  
 had written me on Wed to know what  
 was my chance now the Empresses  
 was off, and now wanted an answer  
 by noon. So I telegraphed - in case  
 that he had delayed my note, and  
 got me by special delivery Zotte sent

all of a sudden the same idea seemed to occur to both of us that Lotte should go home this spring and be the one to go in 1911 for early pills. Then I would ameliorate the pressure of work as in 1908 and if all those at home return this fall, one family could live in my house and let us stay in a corner. That family logically would be the Davis. As I had charge of the Washington field but the Kermans have no house. Mrs. L. has lived alone (except for her children, at Washington for 10 or there many years but they think it about enough as she is living at Chaoyang now. I have the company of the Drogoffets, while her husband spends most of his time in the field. They could likewise live here next door to Bobers.

The question of this summer had been troubling me a good deal. Lotte didn't feel she could bear to be away from me and I didn't see how I could be away from my field more than 6 weeks and it seemed entirely wrong for her to stay here in the heat. The Leachs of the Harbor had just written suggesting a change of climate, and that we plan to go to Nankai-shan next year and have our confinement there in the fall - but our arrangements didn't fit. So when this idea came to us, it seemed like the solution of a very perplexing problem. The more we thought about it the more it seemed the only thing to do. So we wrote to Dr. Mitchell Scott and Dr. Kerman and I of night Paul doctors who know a good deal after experience and they all endorsed the scheme. So did the 2 East Berlin doctors, but their answer and Dr. Kerman's came too late to be presented. However when I saw the reference in my letter a few days later, they told me to go ahead and write to Bob. Some members were absent so they wanted to see the next meeting before offering endorsing Lotte's return. The next meeting was on 17th. I got books another from me

me Book's W ed letter which had gone to her. So in due time I got word from Book that it was all fixed for my mam. So the meantime I had been growing impatient about not knowing an. We wrote to the Leaches (you know they came out the year we did. And have had 2 children, one a year or so old and one a month or so. Mrs L is Mount Holyoke 1910) and said that for obvious reasons it would be impossible for us to accept their kind invitation for 1919 & come and live in their house, paying board but no room rent. They wrote at once, congratulating us on our prospects, and wanting us to come this summer on the same terms. That letter got to us just about the time we were deciding America was the place for father. So we wrote the Leach's saying that if for any reason I couldn't go by June it should certainly be grateful for a chance to accept their invitation; and if she did go, would they take me in? and on the strength of that proceeded to rent our 7th room. If the Leaches had said **NO** I should have been badly let down, but after a long while they letter came saying they would be glad to have us come just about the same time that Book's letter came saying all was right for the P. says.

We have done a good deal of thinking about what Lottie should do for the party but haven't been able to think out any definite plans. One plan was that she should go to a maternity hospital at Mount Clark St Syracuse N.Y. or Boston. There are advantages in the Syracuse one which I haven't time to go into just now. Another plan was that if you thought it wouldn't be too much for you I should go and they

with you until close to the time, and  
then either have the party in our house  
or in a hospital at Holgate or N. or S.  
It is a good deal to ask of you, and if it is  
too much for your strength I want you to  
say so; but I felt that as I could not be  
there, you would be glad to act in my  
place, - if your strength permitted. Frankly  
it is a good deal of an ordeal, so don't  
want to run any risk of overtaxing  
yourself and am depending on you to  
say whether it would be of worth. If  
it would be all right for you, I would  
be awfully nice for me to feel that Father  
was in my home and my Mother was  
caring for her. This is all in the  
air the Sisters are doing a lot of planning  
for us, and investigation etc. I expect  
that when we get to S. F. there will be a  
letter of advice about plans etc. from them  
which will demand careful consideration  
I would be nice if there was a letter  
from you "passing on" things more  
fully than Kahala. Always say of course  
about July 20th"

your loving son  
E. Eldon

Return to Holyoke Mass  
1166 Northampton Street.

Quentin Station 10.30 PM  
Sept 13, 1918

Dear Mother;

There is so much to write about on this trip that it proves to be hopeless to write to both you and Lottie about everything and I shall just have to ask you to share letters. I have written to Lottie about the trip from Shanghai up here, which constitutes the first stage of the journey. I had to change at Hankow. That is walk to ferry boat, cross the river and walk to the other train, which as I happen belongs to another company, and I had to see about getting my hand baggage carried at both sides. But as my heavy baggage was checked over to Hankow, and as I did not want to give my attention to the making of the change, I didn't go saying or anything, but wrote a line to Lottie - writing as soon as I got settled in the train, I feel that the whole trip from Shanghai up here really is one stage.

There is a definite break here. By the original plan I would have to get off the train, claim and reclaim my baggage, go somewhere and get supper, and come back at midnight to take the train which comes down from Peking, and go on to Mukden, by the revised plan, whereby I come down here and fall two fellows off the train take them to a Japanese consulate tomorrow and we can all get our passports wired, and then take tomorrow night's train, there is still more of a break.

There are two stations in Quentin. The one you reach first, whether coming from Shanghai or Peking is Quentin Central, and that is where most of the Chinese got off. Then the train goes on to T. East, which is right at the edge of the foreign settlement, that is the terminus of my train from Hankow, but of course not of the Peking-Mukden line.

I have told Lottie about how "another man" met me thro' afternoon at T. Central and told me that the two men whom I was expecting to meet me at Quentin, was coming down from Peking on the midnight train and expecting me to join them (therefore the necessity of pulling them off) but I didn't tell her who the other man was, - Bulver and Brown were to meet me and go on with me to Siberia. At T. Central I saw a man who looked as tho he were looking for someone so I asked him who he was Bulver, and he said "Mr. T. in Brown?" and we fell into conversation. He felt much quizzed but as I had given him the impression that he was ready to start at once, he couldn't possibly be ready before I was etc. etc. He went up to T. East with me, and it was half way there before it occurred to him that he wasn't

the Boyer of "Brown & Bulver" that I was expecting to meet me. Not at all. He knew that Brown, and sure enough he was starting tonight with Bulver. He himself was a different Brown, who hadn't got in touch with Ritzel yet but had come down to meet this train for the express purpose of getting into touch with him. So we finally got straightened out, but not till after making some hasty plans for telegram to Ritzel. Fortunately I had stipulated that I was to send the telegram. So it is up to me, if one is to be sent. I don't think I'll send one. I think a letter will be just as quick and far more satisfactory.

There are a lot of foreigners waiting to take this train. It seems a shame to see so many Germans running around loose, and apparently happy & comfortable. The train is late and I'm tired and want to go home to bed. (2)

---

And they didn't come after all.

So I telegraphed them just after midnight, to get their Japanese vicecons in Peking, and come down the next night and go on to Mukden, and this time we made connections all right.

We are just approaching Mukden now, and it's Sunday afternoon, but we hardly realize. All three of us have been standing on our heads to get ready, and we have to stop and figure what day of the week it is. Today one of the men suggested after lunch that we have a game of Rook, and was greatly surprised when I

asked him what day of the week it was, and he realized that it must be Sunday. They two stayed in bed till lunch time; I have written letters most of the time, except when I was talking with them. They are good fellows. This afternoon, we have sat in the dining car, as being more comfortable than our staterooms. It has been an interesting sight. Culver and me pounding the typewriter; Brown reading a W Churchill novel; a young Russian couple at a table, two German men and a girl of twenty or less at another, a couple of very young Russian blue-jackets part of the time, miscellaneous Chinese military men from time to time, and almost all the afternoon a party of four or five Chinese gentlemen playing draw poker with great enthusiasm. Brown tells me that one of them lost eight dollars during the afternoon. I don't like to travel on Sunday; but if we don't take a train that either starts or arrives on Sunday, we lose two days; and men are needed urgently up in Siberia; furthermore, these are Reitzel's orders. So we come. Reitzel is getting into Tientsin this afternoon, so he has traveled all day Sunday, himself. I think the business is urgent enough to justify it.

Good night. I am going to mail this at Mukden, for I don't think it's wise to carry it any farther away from anywhere.

Your loving son

*E. Brown*

L.R.P.

2000



ARMY and NAVY  
Young Men's Christian Association.



Dear Mother:

You have doubtless heard from the Board that I am returning to China. I have been so busy getting ready so to it that I haven't had time to write you a good letter about it. The fact is simply that Siberian gov't agreed with me so poorly that I shouldn't be a good investment for the Y.M.C.A. this winter, and it is cheaper for them to send me back to China. I expect to be all right there, and be able to put in a good winter's work. And the Y.M.C.A. is getting plenty of men now, so they can spare me all right.

I got my release

the same day I got the cable  
about our son. That was a  
great day. I don't need to  
tell you how happy I was

Your loving son

Elijah +

Dear Mother;

I found this poem, and copied it to send to you to show how I feel about you. I have been several days in the hospital with a rather severe case of diarrhea but am getting on all right now. I feel fine and have a great appetite but haven't got all my strength back yet. I will try to write you a real letter tomorrow, but this is a chance to send this off right after breakfast, so I'm going to have something for you even if it's only a line. I love you, and wish I were with you — only to be with Totted right now if I were in U.S. at all.

Your loving son  
E. Olson

Return

# DON'T BE ALARMED

American Red Cross.

Russian Island Hospital.

Vladivostok, SIBERIA.



My mother she's so good to me

Camp Service. If I was good as I would be

I couldn't be as good. - no, sir!

Can't any boy be good as her!

She loves me when I'm glad or sad:

She loves me when I'm good or bad:

An' what's the funniest thing, she say

She loves me when she furnishes

I don't like her to furnish me -

That don't hurt - but it hurts to see

Her eyes! Then I cry: an' then

We both cry an' be good again.

She loves me when she cuts and sews

My little cloak an' Sunday clothes;

An' when my Pa comes home to tea

She love him most as much as me

She laughs an' tells him all I've said

An' pats me up an' pats my head

An' I hug her, an' hug my Pa.

An' love him just 'nigh much as Ma

(Put your organization at head of sheet and not on envelope.)

Rockport

Chaocowfu  
May 12

Dear Mother;

If this makes a quick trip  
it may get to you in time to  
wish you and Father many happy  
returns of June 13th. I hope the  
day will be a very happy one.

Something else (not much) is  
following this - and lots of love  
goes with it.

I showed John the picture  
of the house <sup>to</sup> with me on a pony  
and he said "fome aden". I ask him  
every once in a while "what did  
grandpa filditts make?" - "toke".  
"what did grandpa H. do?" - "on the  
knee. or on the foot. or. gee. gee. gee."  
"what did Aunt Fannie do?" - "julyaby"  
or "mawis"; what did Miss F. now do?  
- oranges.  
"ook you to ride in the auto? Grandpa  
who else? daddy."

I killed a mosquito on my hand  
this morning and got some blood.  
and John said "ability; you better  
wash it."

I think it will be a long  
time before he forgets who made  
the toffee. when I showed him

When you see this name  
by other days and such  
I have  
I think it  
looks like

your picture the other day he  
recognized it at once. I must hunt  
up a good one of Father and  
see if he recognizes it. I think he will.

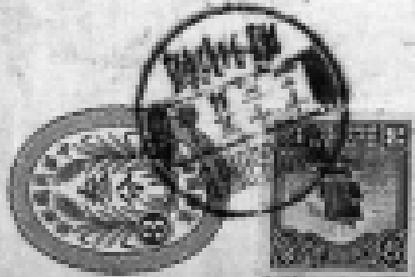
Wishing you both a most happy  
anniversary and year. I am  
Your loving son  
Allison

Very much love, from Letti, too!

Alicemond and you sweet kisses. She is very dear.



Maggen Kibick  
4866 Kensington St  
Brooklyn, NY 11214



Maggen Kibick  
4866 Kensington St  
Brooklyn, NY 11214

Dear Mother;

I intended to write to you today, but I didn't intent to do so this morning, for there was a lot of work that I wanted to get su out of the way, bright and early. But something happened. Almost as soon as I got to school, I found that instead of having to teach English the second hour, I had to teach it the first, and the time was already arrived. I had worn old clothes and shoes to go into the school, so I hastily changed to the good ones which were there all ready for me, and neglected to take my keys up off the desk. When I went out of course I locked the door which has a spring lock, and then I was out. There was nothing to do except to send a messenger over to the house for another key, and in the mean time to scamp out in Baker's office.

When I changed my clothes, I thoroly emptied my pockets as to my desk. So I have neither notebook, pen, pencil, nor knife, to say nothing of keys or money. In my little suitcase are accounts, on which heaps of work is urgently waiting to be done, and letters to write, papers to arrange, my Bible, a little hard work to do, and I don't remember what else. On the shelves, are a lot of other things. In my notebook are some accounts to add up. Somewhere around the room is something that I want to have framed, and if I could get it I could go and see the graner. But altho I can look thro the window and see the keys, the window is locked, and I am stuck.

Fortunately Baker leaves a key to his office in care of the janitor, so I can get in here. And fortunately he has a typewriter, tho as a matter of fact, there is no pen and ink available and only this rough paper. So I am writing to you scribler than I intended, tho it may not be so good a letter.

Our school has opened quite suspiciously. We have in the lower grades about as many boys as we care for; in the three upper grades, which pay the higher tuition, and in which we expect to have the more effective Christian influence, we still have nowhere enough, but that is no cause for worry. On Friday of this week, is a high heathen festival, and on Tuesday of next is another, and a lot of scholars are too busy to come till these are over. And of course, we still have to feel the effects of the superstition that a scholar must have someone choose a lucky day for him to go to school, and has to wait till the day is chosen, no matter how long after the opening of school; and the still worse superstition that if you wait till after Easter to start school you will be wise. Maybe there is a pun in that for the Chinese Easter is called chheng meng, which wise is ohheng meng. Anyway I am not get worried about getting enough scholars, but I am somewhat bothered about teachers.

We had our full quota long ago, but just a few days before the opening of school the lack of the upper primary school resigned, which put us badly in the hole. I at once tried to get hold of a man from Peking, who had been available a while previously, but it was too late. It happened that a highly recommended man was available, and I tried to get hold of him, but the man who was acting for me made a mess of it, and after

I had waited till school actually opened I got word that the man had gone and accepted another position without giving me a chance to make a proposition. Then I went off in haste to another man who was recommended, but he was already invited. Now it rather looks as if we might have to take a non-Christian in order to get out quota full which would be unfortunate, as we need more Christian teachers rather than less. And if we have to take a non-Christian to replace one of the best Christian teachers, it will be a decided step backward.

The whole matter makes a lot of bother anyway. Until we know whether that last teacher is to be a Christian or a non Christian, we can't make out the schedule, for if he is a Christian, we are going to give him some Bible to teach, but if not the Bible teaching will have to be assigned to others. Because our school schedule can't be made out, Miss Boss and I can't have our permanently, and this affects Miss Boss's teaching in the girls's school, for their schedule can't be considered as finally settled, until Miss Boss's hours are settled.

In spite of it all, the school seems to be going on pretty well. Every once in a while a class has no teacher, either because it is one that should be assigned to the not yet invited teacher, or because its teacher fails to appear; but the students seem to make very little disturbance.

When the upper school dean resigned, I immediately talked to the dean of the lower primary school and asked him to be dean of both schools. He is doing this quite successfully, and really the arrangement seems to go better than last year when we

had a loan for each school.

Our Sunday School is pretty important for it is our big chance to influence the scholars. The local church practically turns over its Sunday School work, except for adults, to the schools, the boys' school and the girls' school, to run. We have four grades in the lower primary, and three in the upper, so we have to have seven classes every Sunday. To teach these, we have Baker and myself, the dean, and three other Christian teachers. If we get the odd man as a Christian, it will give just enough to go around.

Love

J. Olson

Your Jan 3. letter has just arrived the first home mail for a while I won't delay this to answer.

The seamen are on strike as I suppose we have mentioned and my few steamers are running so we get very little mail. It got ~~here~~ <sup>the strike</sup> just in time to delay about ~~the strike~~ <sup>same</sup> a dozen things.

books, and the like that I had ordered as well as a hold up corresponding with you. It has dragged on for over a month now hope it gets over soon.

Feb 21. 1902

# Imperial Hotel, Limited.

裕  
中  
飯  
店

TELEPHONE: NO. 1002.  
MANAGER: F. MARSH.



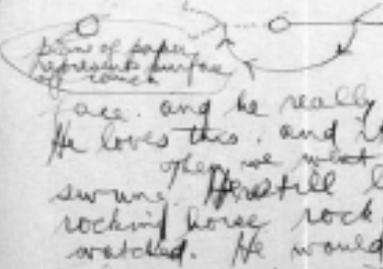
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"EMPIRE" TIENTSIN.

Tientsin, \_\_\_\_\_ 191 .

Dear Mother,

I had a great time with John when I came home from church this afternoon. Before we were fairly thro tea. Alice had to take Alice up stairs. leaving John with me. So I ate another cookie or so in fragments. while giving John some exercise. One thing which I often do is to have him face me. put his head between my legs. then I take him by the waist & hoist him over my head so that he rests on my shoulders, back to back with me; then get him down any convenient way. then hold another way. He faced forward. and I grabbed him by his knees. thrusting them away from me. and turning him upside down. I cant very well describe how I got him back right side up, but he liked it for the sudden change of position gave him a thrill. Then I put him on a long flat thing something like a couch. with cane seat. I put a pillow on it. and had him lie with his head on the pillow facing up; I took him by the ankles and pulled him thro a back somersault. He liked that. and after a while. he said he could do it himself. So he would lie down and kick and wriggle till he had pulled himself around to the final position at the same time turning over on his face. and he really believed he had turned a somersault. He loves this. and its good exercise for me too. Then we went up stairs. and he wanted to be swung. He still loves that. Then he went to making the rocking horse rock. while Alice sat in my lap and watched. He would turn it up to an angle like this or higher. and let it go. of course it rocked. tremendously and Alice liked it. But once John made a miscalculation

bits of paper  
represent surface  
of couch



and got kicked in the eye. Of course he could, and I think Alice could as hard as he did.

John loves to climb up anywhere he can get, and jump down. After saying 1. 2. 3. ready set go, and then waiting quite a while after 'go' before he gets really ready to go. Alice likes to be put up, and then flop off and be caught. Alice can't go up and down stairs very well yet. She

can do it, and she usually falls when she tries to walk down a steep place so ordinarily she stands at the top and appeals for help. She has learned to use the Victrola, and asks for it by imitating the wincing motion. She can say thank you John very sweetly. For please she sometimes says please John, but usually says something like hu na ma (which by the way is a Chinese word for stepmother)

Alice has developed a taste for literature. I began with some ancient copies of Christian Endeavor Manual, and set of the Lesson, which I had ducted were not worth keeping any longer as I had never looked at them for 10 or 15 years, and their contents were of some value. I don't seem valuable about to justify the labor of collecting. Alice was delighted, and for a while she used to carry one around nearly everywhere. Then she became devoted

to a book of Scotch plaids that had  
to be expected from our book case for  
on account of bookworm infestation, and  
she loves to look at that. Another  
great favourite is the "Object Teacher".  
In general we have assigned mine  
to John and Kate Woods to share, and  
they have had to be rebound once already  
and show signs of reading it again  
within the year. John is especially  
fond of mine, and takes a very well-  
warranted interest in it. Alice at  
present chiefly loves a certain  
reader given to us by Mr. Eldredge  
of Rockport which contains a story  
of a gingerbread boy who ran away and  
was chased by various animals all  
of whom said "stop, gingerbread boy".  
To me, it is chiefly a reminder of  
the day when you had a gingerbread  
boy for me and a gingerbread girl for  
John and I think I enjoyed it as much  
as he did, if not more. To Alice it  
is a story with a nice picture which  
causes her to say "top, boy."

You know I carry my spy ring on a  
fastener on my trunks belt. John was  
very anxious for a bunch of keys. And as  
I got some old ones and put them on a  
spy ring, and now he wears them pinned  
on his belt and is very proud of them.

Your loving son  
A. Chase

Mar 12, 1902

MR. & MRS. BEN L. BAKER

AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION

CHANGCHOWFU VIA SWATOW

CHINA

Mrs. MARCH H. BOND

MR. & MRS. E. S. HENRETH

June 30, 1922.

Dearest Mother;

I think the last letter to you was a week ago, telling how Lottie had been hindered in getting away, and delayed two days, by the flood. And I mentioned that she had actually got away. I don't know yet how much it cost us, for Lottie hasn't told me how much she had to pay the boat for waiting those two days, but it can't be over a dollar, and is likely to be quite a little less. The extra cost at this end was just about five dollars <sup>or so</sup> that is, a little over 2/50 U.S. Where I was afraid that we should be badly hit, was on harvest prices from Wukingfu to Thaiyong. If they are planting or harvesting at the time, we have to pay a heavy excess to get the men. Tell Lottie was late enough to strike the harvest time, and had to pay the excess, but if the flood had not come she would have been late anyway, for in order to get ahead of them she should have gone a week earlier when so many other women did. But she had her own personal <sup>reasons</sup> why that week wouldn't suit. Failure to have the ability to start the previous week merely cost us somewhere between five and ten dollars U.S. money. And the trouble is that no one is particularly the better off for it, and I think we need the money, in this particular case, worse than the Chinese who got it/

Well I have been to Kakchieh twice since then, on a lot of errands; to see the Academy Commencement; to see the boys who are going to run a Daily Vacation Bible School (saw them on two trips); to see the faculty of the Kakchieh Girls' School; to learn whether the Academy is going to work the 6-3-3 plan; to get inoculated for plague, and buy some medicine; to borrow \$300. from a Chinese bank, in order to pay off the teachers before they go home for the summer, hoping to be able to pay the money back before the end of July. If I succeed it won't cost me much for

interest. If I don't, it will probably cost me at the rate of \$ one percent per month. But I guess I can pay off most of it anyway, out of the money I expect to have coming in during July.

The Academy seems resolved to apply the 6:33 system, and I am afraid that it will make difficult my problem of co-ordinating our course with theirs; but co-ordinating with the Girls' school is the stickier. Mrs. Baker ran a half-hearted grammar school, that is fifth grade and upward, last year, but this year there was prospect of very few pupils, and as the provincial educational authorities have pronounced in favor of coeducation, we decided to put those girls right into the boys' school, and let them go to it. And it wasn't until the very opening of school that I learned that the girls' curriculum calls for four year up of grammar after the four years of primary, whereas the boys course calls for three years grammar school only. Why the difference? Largely because the girls' school gives so very much more Bible than the Boys' schools do. As the girls' school periods are not the same as those in the boys' school, to get a common denominator you have to count how many <sup>minutes</sup> ~~periods~~ a week each gives. The girls' school gives 300 per week, and in eight years that makes 2400. We give 90 a week, and in seven years that makes 630. 2400 minus 630 is 1770 which is the difference between the amount of them they spend and the amount of time that we spend in formal curriculum Bible study. As there are only 1530 minutes a week in our boys' schedule, it is easy to see that if the girls' school are going to give all that extra Bible, they have got to take an extra year to do it, and cut down on the other features of the curriculum too, somewhat, unless they can speed up the girls to learn faster than the boys do.

I don't think I had better start a discussion of the merits of the case. But I will only mention that all these men endorse the boys'

MISS MARION H. BOSS

school curriculum as the only one practicable under present conditions, and all the women are keen not to say inflexible, in their support of the girls' school curriculum. But there has been enough discussion of the subject so that one can easily rub a sensitive spot. And my plan to co-ordinate with the girls' school enough to get our diploma recognized as an entrance certificate, is, to say the least, not an easy one. The Boys' academy without hesitation admits any graduate of a Mission grammar school: if he flunks out after six months, that is to the discredit of the school. But all the mission grammar school in the country follow the same program, and so far as possible approximate the standards of the grammar school right there at Kakohieh which is closely co-ordinated with the Academy. To co-ordinate with the Girls' school, however, so that our graduates can enter their Academ grade, is some job. The girls school holds out this hope; that they will examine our graduates for a couple of years or so, and if we are making good in the training of them, they will then take our diploma as an entrance certificate so far as the courses are identical or approximately so. But that leaves the Bible still for our girl graduates to be examined in. And how I can crowd in an extra year's instruction in the Bible, plus about the equivalent of one half day a week for another year, I have not yet figured out. I must admit that the more I study into it, the harder the problem looks. Fortunately I don't have to have a solution for a month or so

Your loving son  
Ellison

Return  
finally to  
+ spoke

Chas. May  
Dec 17. 1882

Dear Mother:

Confession is over and we are back  
at home. The fact of a marriage off  
one Sunday day trip to Sagadahoc Spd.  
probably the last country trip  
I shall make in the S. part field  
for quite a while. The Mission  
left no end of time in working  
the question and finally voted to  
send Lewis to the field and send  
W. Swatow to fill in till  
Speicher's return in the fall.  
I to make it clear I regard a  
big resume of Swatow history.  
There has always been a chapel in  
Swatow, controlled by the ~~missionary~~  
missionary in Keshichu. Some 4  
years ago Mr. Speicher was in  
Boston working for the Publication  
Society and decided he would prefer  
to live in Sw. so the mission agreed  
and he moved up about the time  
Lothe came to the S. He was to continue  
his Publication work, and he wanted  
also some churches to practice his  
evangelistic ability on. After many  
adjustments he had the Swatow  
churches and some 8 or 10 country  
churches. While I was at home  
the Swatow <sup>city</sup> church burned down.

Mr. Spicker is a man of great wit  
 to say brass & gall. He passed for a  
 German American but a lot of us are  
 absolutely convinced that the see  
 really is German Jew. At any rate  
 he has the aggressiveness of the Jew  
 in getting things. And he is a wonder-  
 ful man to get specifics. So by  
 these means and others he  
 peddled all the money in sight,  
 and considerably more, and built  
 a reinforced concrete building of  
 4 stories & roof garden, the highest  
 and the most wonderful building  
 in Swatow. It really was a great  
 achievement. This is known as the  
 Swatow Institutional Church and  
 is one of the } most conspicuous  
 pieces of work that our Mission  
 is doing. (Swatow, playing academic being  
 the other two)

Mr. Lewis came out last fall  
 and was asked to take the Sw.  
 work and let Mr. Spicker go on  
 furlough. Mr. L. had been plagued  
 with typhoid and should have gone  
 home earlier, but he hung on  
 till Lewis arrived "turned over the  
 accounts and the keys" he  
 had written describing the work  
 of the Institute and left the nest

day for America. He left the finances in a pretty poor condition; he would have had difficulty in financing the work if he had stayed — and when he went home the stream of specifics stopped. A large part of his constituency evidently consists of German Baptist churches who do no mission work of their own but give specifics to missionaries of our board who are German — a plan very desirable for the German personally, but far from being the best way to advance the kingdom as God. So Lewis had his troubles with the finances. But he managed to solve them pretty well, and I understand that the work is on a firm foundation now. Spencer also left the spiritual side of the work in a poor condition. It is not fair to censure him for that; it seems to have been pretty much unavoidable. But anyway Lewis has pretty well cleared that up too. Now Lewis feels that unless he is to be there

4  
firmly he has made his con-  
tribution to the work. If it were to be  
his work permanently he would change  
a lot of things. But if he is to try to follow  
Mr. Fishers policies, he feels that he  
cant do much but waste time, and that  
someone else would do that.

Now Lewis's real field is Yangkung,  
altho he hasnt resided there a great  
deal of the time since 1918. And it  
is a most flourishing field. Its partly  
to conditions and largely to the good  
work that Lewis has done in it. At  
present he feels that there is a wonderful  
opportunity there and he is anxious to  
go and seize it. So as early as last  
September he began agitating to be  
released from Sw. in order to go to Yangkung.  
The September meeting of the R.F.C. didnt  
feel able to decide the question and so  
deferred it to conference. That's giving  
me very two months of uncertainty, but  
also giving lots of time for everyone to  
think it over.

I would postpone telling about the  
opportunity at Yangkung, but everyone  
was convinced that it was as represented.  
But serious questioning was felt as to  
whether Mr. Lewis ought to live there. It  
is 80 miles away, and the only fast way  
of getting there is by a launch which goes  
every other day - unless it doesnt go,  
which is often the case, and is a very  
rough voyage. In case of sickness  
this makes a serious problem. For  
instance, a child has high fever.

during the night the launch goes at daylight tomorrow. If you are going to send for the doctor to ride up from Swanton you can send in the morning and get the doctor up by the next afternoon if all goes well. But if you don't send in the morning you have to wait till 2 days later. This consideration is somewhat offset by the fact that Mrs. Lewis is a pretty good home physician and a wonderful dietician. Also by the fact that nowadays there is a fairly good Chinese doctor at Yangking whereas in the days of the first Mrs Lewis there was none. The first Mrs L. died in U.S.A. of tuberculosis contracted at Yangking. but one can hardly blame that on the lack of a doctor - there are too many complicating factors to make it safe to lay the blame anywhere. However, the fact that it is this Mrs. Lewis and not the former one is felt to be a second objection. She came out only a month or so ago to be married. She does not understand mission field conditions particularly Yangking. She is a temperamental woman as one physician puts it. and it is

6  
not at all certain what would be the effect  
on her of anything isolation. Allegation  
#3 is that if the transfer is made this  
Swator work is given over from Spector  
& Lewis in 1921. Lewis to me in 1922 and  
back to Spector in 1923. greatly damaging  
the continuity of the work. Also no one  
would pretend that I am as well  
qualified as Lewis, who is one of our  
best missionaries, and came out about \$03.  
Further it would presumably be a detri-  
ment to the Shachoung work for me  
to be removed. And there were other  
considerations less interesting or less  
easily understandable.

On the other hand the lengthy  
opportunity was admitted to be unique: and  
Lewis felt it to be urgent for him to  
go at once; he was anxious to go, and  
there is no one else in sight who would  
be willing to take up

The Conference certainly gave the  
matter full consideration, and after  
several sessions, it was finally referred

to the Reference Committee. This comm. made no unwelcome haste. I don't know how much of the committee time was spent on it. but finally Wed. 2:30 P.M. they called us in to talk it over. This was just 1 week minus 5 hours since they opened. Lewis was on the committee. also Baker. to represent C. G. and Mr. Decker a Miss Northcott to represent the objections to having Mrs L. live at Weyburn. Lotie and I talked it all over. Lotie agreed in disapproving of Mrs L. at Weyburn. But if the Lewis's were to go to " " we all felt that the best and only thing was for us to come to Swatow. So the left voted 1. to send the Lewis's to Weyburn. (2 neg. votes) 2 to send us to Sw. (unanimous) and L & I left at 4:25. She went home and I went to a tea reception given by the Sw. Y.M.B.A. man's wife to a distinguished guest. at which were a lot of Sw. non-missionary people whom I was glad to meet. Most of our Mission were there.

and we left about 6:30 (I couldn't get away any earlier) and with much difficulty got boats for Kakabith. I got home at 7:12. and so naturally didn't get to 7:30 session on time. But I got there at 7:50 and the opening hymn was being sung. We adjourned about 9:30. and I had to attend a meeting of the new Reference Committee after that. I was a full day.

During the past year I have been chairman of the language committee. a position that I thought I never would reach; and also one of the Trustees of the Academy & Seminary, a position the extent of whose authority & responsibility has not yet been determined. The Lang Comm job is as follows. When I was studying, the Comm was definitely composed of "old-timers" and I was a progressive, therefore out of harmony with the Committee's policies. Now we have a lot of language students who have been to Hankow Lang School, and others who have been infected by them with scorn of all the old regime. But the old regime was not

all bad and the ranking people if they  
 came down here to investigate, would  
 cordially approve part of it. These  
 recalcitrant language students just  
 arbitrarily apply to some things down here  
 the condemnation that is justly due to  
 corresponding things up north. Not yet  
 knowing enough to see that the things  
 down here are different and so ought  
 not to be condemned. Now as I see it,  
 they put me on the job to sit on the  
 lid during the period of transition.  
 The Mission realizes that the old  
 curriculum must be largely replaced  
 by one modelled after ranking. and they  
 gave our comm. a mandate to do so.  
 But as we don't have the resources of  
 ranking, we can't do it exactly. And with  
 what we have, we have to carry on -  
 during adjustment, find out what is the  
 best course, and the proper amounts,  
 and try to make our students believe in  
 the course so that they may work  
 heartily at it. Now I am known to believe

in the ranking <sup>10</sup> methods. and alas to  
feel that there is some good in the old  
so as to look at it. I was put on to conserve  
the old. and at the same time make the  
students feel that the committee was  
progressive and therefore worthy of their  
confidence. That sort of a mediating  
job is not specially satisfactory. And  
I have felt that this year, the job of  
chairman should be given to Diett,  
who was a year at Wanklyn and had  
a splendid record there and here, as a  
long student. Such people as Mr.  
Ashmore wanted to insist on my being  
again chairman, and I really think that  
by putting Diett in as chairman we  
are running counter to instructions of  
Conference; but they are not formal  
instructions, and Mr. Ashmore told me that  
he wouldn't make a fuss, so I got the  
conv. to elect Diett.

Well, to go back, my term as  
I make continues the the year that is  
just beginning; and I'm again on

the Long comm. I was also elected on the Reference Comm. which is the real executive comm of the mission, and when Conf is not in session, has all the powers of Conf. I have never seen or before, and it really means a good deal, but I guess I had better not try to explain all the various reasons why it does. Also I was elected vice-president, a position which I once held a few years ago; it's not a place of great power. In fact the president's power is not very great, consisting largely in the appointment of a few officers; his work consists of keeping Conf orderly, and expediting business. A clever chairman is a great asset. In East China they re-elect the same chairman year after year. He keeps things moving and keeps folks in a good humor. We have no such outstandingly good chairman; I am only just about the average. I was also re-elected Statistician; it is our policy to " " " as long as he stays

on the field. Mother term as trustee of  
the Girls School. also holds over for the  
present year. that is about all now.  
that affects us, is what Gough did.

Dec. 21. I found this Mr E's dad, and he  
says for me to send it on. He wants me to  
write how very much we appreciate Fownd  
very generous check for \$500. It was very good  
of her. And we thank you, too, for the other  
\$5.00. It isn't difficult to find use for money  
as we had a deficit of \$3000 in the school last year  
and that together with the typhoon relief gives plenty of  
opportunity not to mention personal needs. Elmer  
has just ordered a very nice road machine & keep  
him warm in winter / and he and all of us will  
have to have better clothes living in Swatow than we  
may here. But we'll get along all right. It is  
so much less worrisome to have a little sum  
in the bank to call on for relief or emergencies.

He has been at Phe. He to marry a girl whom  
he baptized not long ago. Now he is consulting  
with Mr Baker and I suppose he starts on  
a water again for twenty four hours at least.  
My things were very little damaged. I lost three  
out of six diamonds and a rather large pair of diamonds  
(a half dozen nice linen napkins, and a few less  
valuable pieces. My hat and shoes were more  
damaged.

Thank you for the resolved subscriptions  
in donating the magazine. Send letters to Swatow  
after this, but you need not bother to change magazine  
addresses. We will read all mail to Swatow  
over

He has received according to your record.

Mary Childs

- Aug. 8. Here, above, rubber cap. x
- These above have been used & converted into white, and they fit so nicely and last so trim.
- May 3. Draft for 25<sup>00</sup>
- July 19. Mrs. Ball's draft for 5<sup>00</sup> x
- Sept 22. Underwear, collar & cuff of paper. x
- Oct 7. J. Underwear x
- Oct 22. Draft for 5<sup>00</sup>. & 25.
- Nov 11. — not at hand.

Much love to you all. He'll write again as soon as possible. He thinks of you lots and is so often exclaiming, "What would Grandpa and Grandma Aldrich give to see that!" Ah, as he sees the children doing or saying some cute thing.

Love,

We expect to be in Swanton by end of January.

to be over for  
 Mrs. J. Childs  
 doctoring old father

Swanton to Swanton  
 on side of Swanton guide

Rockford -  
 Swanton  
 Rockford  
 Swanton

I have been temporarily transferred to Swatow to have charge of the work till Mr. J. [unclear] return.

Swatow, Dec 18, '22

Dear Mother:

I am down at Swatow now, to learn about the work. The work is considerably more complicated than at Cefu where I had merely the responsibility for the school, and occasionally made a country trip, but the trips were under Babie's supervision, not my own responsibility. Here we have Boys' School. Girls' School. Night School. Commercial School, Kindergarten. Dispensary. Besides the regular services Model Sunday School, prison preaching and I don't know what else, and a dozen more or less of churches other than the Institutional church. I don't even know the full list.

The Inst. staff has a Cabinet which meets every day if not oftener, and has charge of the work with

or under the missionary. I must learn who the Cabinet members are, and why they are on the Cabinet while other folks on the payroll are not on the Cabinet. I must learn what each worker does, and be able to help plan the various forms of work.

I shall need to get acquainted with all the teachers in the various schools. I shall need to get acquainted also with the church members, in the hope of being able to enlist them more in the good work that we are trying to do.

Further it is necessary to get acquainted with all the influential people in Swatow, and all the official and semi-official organizations, for the work is very closely associated with such people. And it is necessary to know community conditions, in order to know what

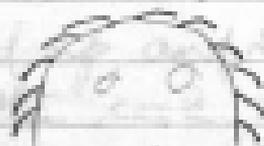
forms of work can be undertaken to  
 advantage. Now has been coming  
 down to Sunday School, and the  
 methods of keeping it up to snuff are  
 a special problem; the evening  
 lectures and entertainments are  
 another, complicated by the fact that  
 street noises are so bad that it is  
 hard for a speaker to make himself  
 heard: and the country churches  
 are another, which I shall prob-  
 ably have largely to the Chinese  
 ordained man who has been doing  
 the work of visiting them for a year  
 or more.

The Conference adjourned Wed eve  
 late. On Thursday morning I had  
 some mission business to do and  
 then Lottie and I went to Swatow, taking  
 the children, amah & coolie. I took  
 the children to the Beeber shop, where  
 Lottie and the others went about their

business. Our picnic in left the SA.  
 the children's hair has been growing  
 strange to say. And I have cut it off  
 at the edges. But have not made  
 the hairs the same



length. so now those  
 on top were long and  
 those lower down  
 were short, giving an effect something  
 like the football player hair that  
 was in the pictures years ago. So  
 now I had the barber cut the hairs  
 all the same length, and I hope the  
 heads will be



now comfortable  
 After that I put the kids in a rickshaw  
 to ride around while waiting for the  
 amah. When she appeared we sent  
 the children home with her, and I  
 and I went for lunch in a Chinese  
 hotel, and found it surprisingly good  
 after that we separated for an

respective herds and met at 4.  
 at Lewis's to look over the house  
 together. But as a matter of fact,  
 I did her looking before I got there,  
 and so I went and measured the  
 house. Then we went <sup>to breakfast</sup> ~~had~~ getting  
 there in time for supper. In the  
 evening I had to visit every house  
 on the compound, but was so long  
 at the rest to the last house, that I  
 didn't get to the last one until at 10-

Friday we had a language  
 committee examination then got  
 packed up and sent the cook ahead  
 with the cook ahead with the baggage  
 while we took dinner with the Germans  
 which was a great help to us in getting  
 away comfortably, after dinner, and it  
 was possible for the cook to make a  
 easy and deliberate trip. "The baggage"  
 went with him, and it was five loads of about  
 100 lb each, but when we went after

dinner we had my little <sup>super</sup> bag Lotties bag  
 a basket containing things the children  
 would need on the trip. my overcoat & John's  
 & Alice's, a broom, 3 umbrellas, a camera,  
 and perhaps other things that I have forgotten.  
 divided up among Lotties, small, Alice & me.  
 Also John carried his Teddy Bear (from  
 Mrs. Bellingwood) which he loves very much,  
 and which helps him go to sleep every night.

We got away very promptly after  
 lunch, and had a good trip, so that when  
 we got to Swatow we had time to stop  
 and let the photographer snap the  
 children in the rickshaw, using my  
 camera, to see whether he could get  
 better results than I can. Then we went to  
 the station arriving just in time to see  
 that the carriers got the baggage thru the  
 gate to the point opposite where the  
 baggage car would be, just a few  
 minutes before the train arrived.

I planned it thus, I would get on

the train to reserve a section for us. (as  
 a matter of fact the train wasn't crowded  
 and we had 2 sections of 6 <sup>seats</sup> ~~places~~ each  
 for our party of 4 Americans and 3 Chinese)  
 Then to the and the amah were to get on  
 with the children, and hold the place; the  
 coolie was to pass the small things  
 thro the window, and I would receive them;  
 and the cook was to supervise the loading  
 of heavy baggage into the baggage car.  
 The only difficulty was having so  
 many different articles to keep track of.  
 My list was 32 pieces. I wonder how many  
 you remember. 1. my clothes. 2. servant clothes  
 3. our bedding & servant bed. 4. 5. our suit-  
 cases. 6. servant suitcase. 7. 8. 9. our suit-  
 case. 10. servant suitcase. 11. servant food 12. our  
 food. 13. typewriter. 14. my papers 15. 2's papers  
 16. bag. 17. books 18. packages from U.S.  
 19. camera. 20. umbrellas. 21. cans. 22. overcoat  
 23. basket. 24. trunk 25. over

That is all I can remember now. The  
 underlined ones are comparatively small things

that could easily be overlooked. I checked the list before getting on train, and after, before we left Sufe sta. when the carriers got to the boat, and when the stuff got to the house, and it is gratifying that they all got home safely. I would prefer not to have so many pieces.

When I ran away from Rockport to Holyoke with John, he was very good. He was just old enough to stand on the seat and look out of the window and be interested. This trip it was about the same, except that he sat on the floor or breast on the seat, and was much interested in all he saw. Alice was good too. Some animal crackers that I had bought were of great help, as also they had been at certain difficult situations during conference. When we got to the city, 2 animals & 2 children got in chains and went direct to the river. I helped get the baggage on to the carriers and paid the native customs fee of inspection (a formality that merely means identifying the stuff

as mine) and then I went ahead to the chapel to tell them that I actually was going to Swatow and then joined the party. I guess we got home before 6 and I was practically unpacked and settled before bed time but of course Lottie couldn't get settled so easily as that.

On Saturday I went into the city to talk things over with the teachers, and went home about 4 because I was tired and it was threatening to rain. Result: I had to have one of the teachers come over for supper Sunday and talk over a lot of things that I might have talked Sat P.M. if I hadn't been tired. This conference appears to have been especially exhausting to everybody. Conference is always tiring, and this may not have been so much worse than usual. Maybe I felt it worse because I had more responsibility than usual. Anyway, I was tired, but I didn't get to bed as early as I would like Sat eve. for I had to

cast up my accounts. Sunday I went to  
 Pagoda Rapids, a boat trip down the river  
 1 1/2 hours, morning service common, and  
 a walk of 6 miles home. The weather was  
 quite cool, and a heavy mist with wind,  
 practically a rain, made me want to keep  
 going, and I made it in 1 1/2 hours, which is  
 the quickest I have ever done it I think.  
 The last mile I was quite aware that some  
 thing was wrong with my right heel. It  
 proved to be a nail, and was very uncom-  
 fortable when I got home. But now 40 hours  
 later, the heel is all right.

Mon. AM. I went to school. Then came  
 down to Swanton on the 1.00 train. Now  
 I have better tell about Congress. I went  
 down on Monday on the evening — but I  
 shall have to let that wait till tomorrow  
 or delay this letter — and it has been too long  
 delayed anyway.

Your loving son  
 Nelson

Work at Smator  
Speicher's furlo

Thaiyong via Swatow, August 13, 1923.

Dear Mother;

This has been a most unusually wet summer, even for Thaiyong. I had hardly realized how unusual it was, tho I fully understood how wet it was. But when I heard the other commenting on how unusual, then I realized. As I had been expressing it to myself, "There are two days' interval between typhoons". These typhoons are not wicked ones like the one last summer. They are merely rainy and windy spells - altho one of them did do a little damage to roofs here. But if you have four days when it is too wet to go out except in bathing suits, and then two days of showery weather, and one and a half of fair weather before the next storm, it really feels as tho the weather man was working overtime.

In spite of this we managed to get in a few trips. John was crazy for me to take him to diamond hill to get some diamonds, and we started off with a centhen and a bucket, both of which he carried. Presently he was willing for me to take the centhen, but he stuck to the bucket. We couldn't find the diamond hill, but we wandered way up a beautiful brook and both of us took off our clothes to bathe. We had a lovely time; but John kept it up longer than I did, and he got rather more sunburned than I expected; nothing very serious. He certainly did look cute wading around in the brook, dipping up water with his bucket and pouring it around and finding where two rocks were close together, so he could sit on one and use the other for a table. He became very fond of that "little brook" and several times I have taken him, or both of them, over there, to put on bathing suits and play, mostly wading, while I sit and read. It is much more exciting, because more rare to go over there with me, than to go down to the nearer place where they bathe in the big river under the smah's supervision. And it is more fun for me to take them, than to stay around the house and try to read while they play somewhat more noisily and less happily.

Another day all of us went to the diamond hill, and just as soon as we got there it started to rain. We had only one umbrella, and we all got under it for a few minutes. If there had been two, we might have tried to sit it out, but under the circumstances, it seemed prudent to retreat, and we got home before the rain became very heavy. Another day ~~John and I~~ John and I went to a little hill near by, and gathered some flowers for Lottie. These are about all the places that John and I have gone to. Lottie hasn't been to many as she is tied rather closely to the house. But beside the diamond hill she and I went once to the foot of the Elephant Hill for tea with all the Americans, leaving the children at home and also one day over to the canyon where our spring water is brought from.

I have been on three major trips, that is trips which normally are all day trips. One was to the Canyon, and I was the only American (not an unusual condition). We walked to the head of the canyon, then down stream to a certain waterfall, where most of them bathed, and then we had lunch. After lunch we some rested peacefully, but the more adventurous ones wanted to go to the more beautiful and ~~scenic~~ impressive waterfall. As it is a difficult climbing and there were not enough men to go around, I put aside my inclinations and went along. But before we got there some of the women dropped out, at a time when it did not seem as tho I very well could, so that after all I was a extra man. We went down a very steep incline into the waterfall pool. From there we were supposed to go up the bed of the stream, which is a exciting job. But just as we got down there it started to rain. And when the rain comes, we don't know what the river is going to do, so the only safe thing was to climb back the way we came. We had a nice tea an hour or so later. Fortunately the rain held up for us to get to the tea place and eat tea, but just then it came down and rained hard all the way home. If it had been earlier, I fear we should have had no tea

Another day we went to the flume, which means a walk of some three or four miles in the thills. Then we cross a ford and go down the river to the top of the flume, where there is bathing and lunch. After lunch we go back, up around the tip of a hill and then slide down a steep and slippery gully with a brook in it, till we get to the top of the bottom of the waterfall. More bathing, then a very steep climb, and a mile back to the place where the servants have tea ready. At this trip Garman and Miss Witt- Winn were the only other Americans. Some others who might perhaps have gone, had just come up to Thaiyong, and were not toughened up for long hikes. I came back from this trip feeling fine, altho from the canyon I came back pretty tired.

Last Saturday I went on one other major trip, but I made it a small one because I only went part way, and came back as soon as lunch was over. That was because the tea at the Elephant was arranged for that afternoon, and I had planned to go with Lottie before the morning trip was arranged. We vainly went down the Thaiyong river a certain distance, and stopped for lunch at a usual place. We had barely got there when it started to rain, and I was among those who had rashly taken a cane instead of an umbrella. But by getting under some rocks we kept fairly dry and the rain didn't last long.

The minor trips are short ones that start about ten o'clock and get home for lunch; or start at three o'clock or after tea, and get home by dark. There have been several of these, and I think in only one was there any other American. It seems funny to think of the British being more enterprising, to get up such things. But a lot of our Americans are either not feeling well, or else are older folks, or else are isolated. Whereas the British all live close together and are largely young and homogeneous. And as we live just on the edge of their neighborhood, they have been nice enough to ask me to go along.

The other chief recreation is Badminton, which is a sort of tennis played with shuttlecocks. It has been going since 1917, and every year there has been a tournament, and in no year has the tournament been played to a finish.

It is always played on the plan of having everyone play everyone else. This year that required 20 games. You can get off about 2 or 3 games for afternoon and there is not a very pleasant day with no hope to run off the whole tournament before folks leave. It is Aug 13. Three men have gone already and another is going in 3 days more.

I must close this to catch the mail. More rainy day. I have got 3 badminton games off.

Your loving son  
Elton

Swatow Nov 8 1907

Dear Mother:

I am at the shoe store washing while they work on a rubber heel. I left one that fell off last night in the ditch & was not when I last saw you was going to Kitzyang. They have had a pretty bad time at Kitzyang since then. When I arrived it was already serious. The Suedt's 3rd baby was only a few days old and the mad was critically ill with some other - colic in other words marks a of a serious nature. It was not long as they moved the kid from his home to the hosp. and after both Suedts are dead they telegraphed for Julia Brown to come and consult. He kid died after a while and his father was going to take the body down for the funeral. But the previous Sunday in Kitzyang he had caught cold and had either a touch or a threat (I'm not sure which) of pneumonia and appendicitis which had been threatening for some time. Instead so that instead of going to the funeral he stayed at Kitzyang to be operated on. and I guess it's a pretty serious case. Dr. Blana Leach was with them. So with a hospital & foreign doctors. I think doctor is a foreign name. There was certainly no lack of resources.

From Kitzyang I went to Phan than which in English would be pronounced Pwan tie (only the way we would pronounce those syllables would sound at you like Bow. T.A. and it awful (pabel))

I went to Phai Thai with M. W. & my first  
winter and enjoyed the trip there. Since  
then I haven't had a better visit. It's  
have called a short-time trip on 2 or  
more memorable occasions.

M. W. is away all the time on evang-  
elistic campaigns and this important  
church wanted communion. I'm way behind  
on my communion schedule, but not so far  
behind as he is, and I'm steadily catching up  
while he isn't. So at his request I called  
to go a late communion service for him.

It made a very busy day for me. I  
have 2 churches to (or 3) and 10 (or more)  
miles away from Phai Thai. But pretty  
inaccessible. My best way to visit them  
would be to seize the opportunity to take  
day trips from Phai Thai. A day trip  
doesn't give very much time, but it gives  
proof for what was urgent just then.

So I got up at about 5:10 plus A.M. &  
catch the launch which got me to Phai Thai  
at 7:20 and by 7:40 I was at the chapel  
eating breakfast, which I had got myself.  
The new innkeeper had proved to be led by,  
On the way to Kityang someone had  
stolen my pump. So I landed with the  
baggage and let the boy go to the SW to  
buy a pump. Then instead of riding my  
AT miles I left the soft-footed bike  
at home, and hopped it. — keeping a  
mountain for good measure to take some  
geographical observations.

Next day I didn't walk so far, but was just  
as busy. In AM the preacher & I visited  
these villages where there are no getting  
home just in time for lunch. In PM we  
had exam of candidates. Then visited  
a place of prayer and a chapel, and got  
home after dark (It was not exactly dark).  
Sat I had the pump, and rode my bike  
but about 6 miles up the journey the road  
was so bad I had to walk.

Sunday AM for meeting, preaching  
service (I preached 45 min) & baptism  
— no lunch. After lunch I will visit the  
Sunday School, communion and then  
we walked some 3 miles & back.

preaching in open air at 2 places home  
at dark.

Mon AM, I saw the boy home via  
Swatow with the baggage while I went  
outland to investigate the route of  
which I had heard for nearly 10 years,  
and've been over parts of it, but I  
couldn't get it straight. Visited 3  
chapels & a lot of brethren, and accom-  
plished a lot of business, and got home  
to L just a little over a week from  
the time I left her.

Found she had made good  
progress in getting the house settled  
and the children well and happy.

in fact so happy that the inconvenience  
He next morning rather wore me out  
But a long nap after lunch made  
things all right

It's a little early to send X-mas  
Greetings, but maybe not so early  
after all. I wish you all a very  
joyful day, and all that goes with it  
Your loving son  
Elison