

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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**Folder label: LLH to Carrie and Everett Lane (parents), primarily from
Thalyong**

Dates: 1915 Jul-Sep

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New York (last one please and I don't
Boston
Holyoke
Northampton
etc.

Tring, China
July 2, 1915

Dear Ones, I am sitting in our big reclining chair, and on my bed is little Bless Giffin only two months old and she is just too dear and fat and round for words and as bright as can be. The Giffin family has just arrived and immediately we had a very heavy rainy shower. Weren't they lucky to escape it! I expected Mrs. Giffin to be all fagged but after her trip, but she was as bright as could be, altho she must have been more than a week on the way, and a large part of it in native boats.

Mr. Page will not come up again until July 15 and Mrs. Giffin will not come until the same time in August I believe, so that Ellison is man of the house for the present.

All his spare time this week, Ellison has been doing little carpenter jobs and he does enjoy it so much; also incidentally it makes things much more comfortable. We have spent quite a little time mending the things that accumulated in the past three weeks or so. Next week I hope to begin on important sewing. Each afternoon just after dinner, I do prepare some Chinese New Testament (Matthew) and read it with the teacher; after that we would ordinarily go out walking, but this time I go to his carpenter bench in the porch, and I write a little and then make calls or go in bathing or bath. Soon we shall begin our walking or our crequest games. Mrs. Schmorl.

Her houses here out of ~~the~~ are still empty, but three are full, and one more than half full, and the student family from Waking has in the chapel, so that we have quite a company in the valley. I shall be glad when Mrs. James gets up next week, for she is not feeling very well - and I know she needs the coolness.

This week we have had the boys scrubbing floors and making things neat. We have set up curtains in the dining room too, so that

things are more homelike.

I shall be interested to hear what Carol's May Festival was like. Was it in Gloucester or Rockport? I enjoy a nut! etc.

Glad to receive mother's letter of May 4. Did the Roman's Club have a Field Day, Mother?

Who is Program Hooper? He isn't the son of that carpenter, is he?

Wish I could see Lily in her pretty new hat.

How Stella must enjoy her new house!

Hope Carol got this year all right, and that you are

Elliott has just come in bringing a letter from Aunt Lili and two parcels from Mother.

Joy! I'll stop right now and read. So glad to hear about wintering and budding bushes around the house, and all about concert and walks and clubs.

Hope Della got down for Memorial Day. Glad Mother's Angel Cake brought a dollar!

Ah! find lovely letter from Marion, too. So glad to hear! How I wish she had my tailor to sew for her. It is so simple! I little dreamed that I should have it easier than you people at home. - about sewing - as well as house work - but it is so!

E - and I am going to investigate and plan for a code cablegram to be sent to Boston (to the rooms) - next November - and from there to the other homes. Have to send to Boston first on acct. of their code name. and consequent saving of 4 or 5 dollars gold. Hope we can arrange it all right. Shall investigate at once.

Was Tom at home to receive the May basket? Hope so!

Hope Alice is getting along all right now. Has she a boy or a girl?

You will know by letters already that I have plenty of suitable clothing for the summer - including three Princess patterns which please me immensely.

I'ddy would look dear in a Nile green coat! Wish I had an Eerie collar to send her, but have nothing on hand here.

Quint Let's silk dress must be very stunning. I like the silk and hope there is a little bright color somewhere to liven it.

No, my dream of home-coming was disturbed when the Babbys left. I was feeling rather miserable then and I knew the coat was probable at the time, and when they part - the last chance disappeared. Now I expect I shan't think of it again until the long for 1920 arrives - except in case of the unexpected.

I wonder what you mean by the awful Russian defeat, Aunt Let. Can't afford or live without Daily Paper then, and I am afraid or missed it - what day 20.

I have written George some comments on Chinese-Japanese situation - It may hasten China's development - but it means trouble ahead when China finally does get strong enough to shake under the hated Japanese rule. The Japanese seem treacherous, dishonest, grasping.

Your letter, Aunt Let, gives me my first news of Charlie's tennis Court. I am glad they have one. Just where is it. Well we'll have to plan a tournament for 1920.

About the sweater, Aunt Let, August will be a very good time to send it, I am sure. It is too rubbish for you to send, and I wish you would let me pay for the wool, and call the dear work birthday and Xmas presents.

No Harriet Allyn was the same old girl. She was a little disappointed in Miss's

conditioning expecting to find more
organization - and more preparation
for her highly specialized work in teaching
Biology. I don't know about her
expectation to go home.

Is Nathan all right now?

What do you mean about May Nathan,
of South Flamingham, and how did
Charlotte and Bradley fall?

Does Martha have to have a special nurse?

Carol's letter of April 30 - much appreciated.
How do Camp Fire girls progress?

John's letter of May 2 very good. I had to
laugh at his bathing in a tub again. We
had a tub set here and it seems very queer.
We usually put it on the porch and can
splash as much as he wish there.

Do you like York Beach, John?

I must stop writing and go out,
for I have been reading letters or
writing all the afternoon.

Much love to each and everyone.
I shall be thinking of you specially in
the coming at P. I.

Will Ruth be home at week-ends or
not?

Love
Lottie.

Thank you Aunt Lila, for Fashion
Sport. I did not fully realize how wide
the skirts were.

Rockford
Bradewater
H. C. Goble

Thaizong, China
July 25, 1915.

Dear Ones,

It is Sunday morning about 10:00 AM. It has been rather cloudy and now a soft rain is falling - the first after about two weeks of good weather - altho the last three days have been a little warm as well as beautiful. (Temperature about 85) - warm for Thaizong.

Elison is staying home as his ankle is a little swollen from a scratch - and he wants to be in good time to preach this afternoon. There are so few men in the valley that it is hard to find enough to preach. Only Mr. Pien is here - with Mr. Stewart has been up some weeks ago. Oh, I forgot Mr. Poy - He does not feel called to preach - and will not take his turn at relieving the situation here.

I had the nicest day yesterday in spite of the fact that I was disappointed because Elison could not go with me on a trip down the river as he had planned on account of his foot which began to be a little sore Friday P.M. when he had rubbed a bit of some kind - The skin was nearly off - and I rubbed it with antiseptic (camphor). This irritating it still and starting a little inflammation - which is practically gone now.

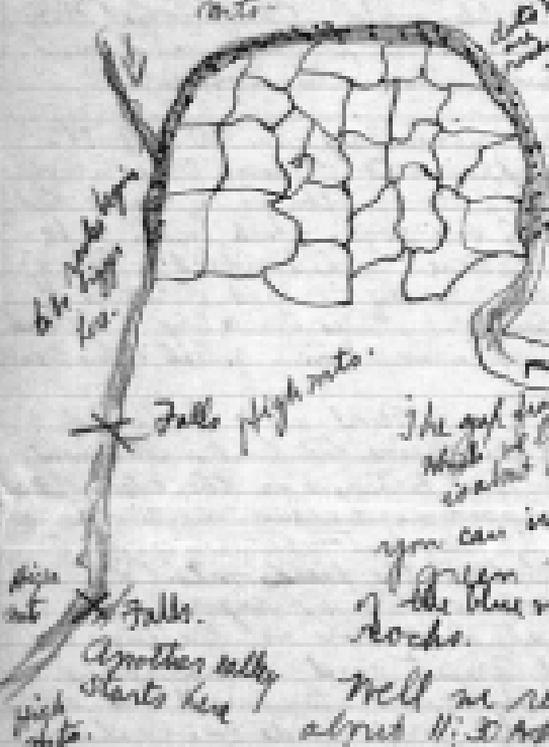
Well about my day. Dr. Mitchell and I started down the river at 6:00 AM. (having had first installment of breakfast) The sun was just peeping over the edge of the hills as we started but when we reached the river it had just outside the valley it rarely touched us - never in fact except as it slipped between the fields into the little after 7:00 he reached the spring where we were to have breakfast, and there we had water for coffee and had fruit and sandwiches. Upon we found a shady spot to spread out our blanket and cushions and made ourselves comfortable to await the other girls who were coming later - Miss Gisholm, Peter, Thompson and Wills. We had books, sewing and writing to while away the time until they came.

Of course our boys (Ching) had brought these things as well as our fatherly quite. About 10:00 they appeared - having been in the sun practically all the way - (Gave me the early morning trip) Then we jiddled on the water - rickled a little more - and then walked a mile or two farther over the hills to our place for lunch.

We get the most exquisite view - just before the final drop where the river makes an abrupt turn and enters a very rocky bed where there are several pretty falls about 20 feet high and where the sides of the two enclosing mountains are very rocky and steep almost like a gorge.

We come to a gap like this  and beautiful.

But in this valley is the prettiest sight. The river makes an almost complete circle



The irregular lines in the center of the enclosing river represent green rice fields, most picturesque chapel for the Chinese believe were making the sides curved - because bad spirits can walk only on straight paths and their fields will be safe if the paths are curved.

The gap here is about 100 yds. wide and you can imagine how pretty the green fields look in the midst of the blue water dotted with gray black rocks.

Well we reached the first reference about 11:30 AM. - immediately we got ready for a gay dip and then had luncheon followed by more naps and rest. All shaded from the sun by overhanging eaves - here and there little caves - and in the rocks themselves queer jet-holes. One in particular about two feet in diameter worked from the surface down and then worked out toward the center of the river, so that you come suddenly upon this tiny hole at the bottom of which you see the rocks reaching

My place for a nap was just beautiful. In front of me I could see the falls with a cloud of spray rising high above them; to one side was the opposite rocky bank over which sparkling spring water was trickling - down the valley. The green mountains came together leaving this blue triangle looking to the blue sky. Just above my head was a rock overhanging with exquisite tiny hanging ferns. I certainly enjoyed every minute of the day.

We had tea at 4:00 and started home about 5:00 arriving at 7:00 with pretty bunches of greens and flowers. - slowly day! My Social I - could have enjoyed it too, altho the girls were a little free. Without men of course. I was not nearly so tired at the end of day as I was after all day trips last year. Probably because I was very careful - and went slowly. Quite remarkable! The girls were all very kind to me too and always helped me at hard places, but I was quite shy!

I have not accomplished much sewing this week or last. I hardly know what prevents. Mending takes one morning - cleaning day breaks up another, and then things happen, such as the arrival of new people. (Mrs. Worley and Mrs. Loper this week) - or the planning of a picnic, which requires some morning attention, and so the time goes.

I think I told you that we all got together to sing last Monday afternoon, and I think that I shall do it every Monday. Jolly fun! We may give a concert at end of the summer.

Miss Bag loves to play games evenings, but we don't play very often.

My Bag entertained some of the Presbyterians at tea on Wednesday - Pleasant.

Wouldn't sometimes go on talking on these beautiful moonlight nights. Aren't they lovely - would like to see dear old Cyprian.

On Thursday evening we wandered out calling promiscuously, calling around, and eventually calling at the Ashmore's to hear Miss Calley sing. We spoke of bathing by moonlight and so on. Talked and Mrs. Ashmore (nearly 70 years old!) came down with us and went on!!! at 7:30 P.M. nearly church time - Ford by 7:40 now. Lots

This week came full envelope from Bk²,
and nice letter from Charles behind also
pocket from mother! written June 1.

Old Carol could go away for Memorial Day, and
old mother had company too. To the side around
the Cape just as lovely as ever!

(I am so very happy about Tom's raise and
hope it will make you able to save each week
a little toward the past burdens. What a relief it
must be! I just rejoiced over it - altho it is
hard to make these words show how glad I
was.)

Yes, Marion, the papers over here give the most
important news by city, so that you know at
once or very soon of big things. Isn't it awful
that they have been such floods! We have had
terrible floods at Canton - river rose 69 feet in one
place I think. In addition in Canton there was
a horrible fire that covered a square mile of
territory - and there are horrible tales of suffering
and death. I have not heard the details.

This is scarcely an answer to such a good letter
as yours, Marion, but I'll try to write you some
day. How will that do! All in the family!

I have just learned that letters must be ready
to night instead of to-morrow, and so I must hurry.
Thank you, Aunt Kate, for your very nice letter. So
glad to hear of definite dates for Mother's arrival think
of you. I am continuing to feel extra fine as
you can tell from this letter. I shall take no
dangerous walks and don't expect to take many
at any rate, but I enjoy them all the more
because they are few. My plans for the fall
will not be definite before Sept. (1st) or Oct.
You spoke of letters from Delta - but only one
from Charlie has come yet. I shall look forward to
it until its arrival, for I always enjoy. So
glad to hear about children.

I am afraid you tear your eyes writing to me
but I do enjoy letters immensely. They are
a great comfort.

I haven't done a thing about Christmas
yet. Don't hurry what I shall do.
Very much love to all.
Lottie

Rockford Kalyoke Melbourne
Bridgwater Meriden Enfield Thailand China
Price Melbourne
July 29, 1915

Dear Annie,
They were so just flying by with lovely weather - but warm - unusually warm for T.S. It was 87 on Dr. Schurer's porch the other day, and even the early part of the night have been warm too, but it always cools off before long. Today has been cooler - the afternoon particularly. We had a big mail - in fact to be accurate 7 1/2 lbs. which I spent the whole afternoon revelling in it. I was surprised and pleased to hear of Rachel's approaching wedding. Sorry that Ruth cannot get away to act as assistant. I suppose it will be in Meriden, will it not? The postal from Wengerschuk helped me to see you all vividly - and to enjoy the trip, too. I am so glad that you all could go, so glad that Gertrude could be there - and glad for every thing. Only wish Mother and Father could have had good, too. What a hard day Father must have had going that winter morning. If you lived here in China, you would let the coolies do that, Papa - but you would just look on and appreciate!! How would you like that?

The letters bring such a wealth of news that I can hardly remember without referring to them again. The letter started on the block is a great substitution; - if they are all as good as this one, it certainly will pay to keep it up.

Sat. Morn. July 31.

How lovely! And Miss Curtis's birthdays have gone by and I haven't written a word on that day. Hope they had a nice time. Sometime I'll get into the routine of remembering before hand, but I'm not quite on to the scheme yet. What is the date of Lucille's birthday? I don't seem to have that. How I should like to see her! She must have grown so much! And Gene, too! How old is he now? How they all will have grown up when I come home.

Sun. Morn. Aug. 1. Raining for a change - I am afraid our little Sunday School scholars will not feel like coming out to day.

Yesterday when we as yet at Mrs. Robinson's playing golf or croquet the clouds came up very heavily and there was a little shower, but we persisted in finishing two games. It is found to play when there is a shower and it is so far from tedious that all the old ladies enjoy it too. B. 3

Do you remember my speaking of the Mc Cleasans coming last November? They went to Indiana for the summer and their little girl was born July 21. They are very happy to have a girl as Mrs. Mc C. is not so old as I am. Had two little boys by her former marriage. We have hoped that they might come to the Baker House for the winter but I rather doubt it, as Mrs. Mc C. has been prime mover in arranging for a school for the missionary children at Swanton.

We have heard from the Bakers several times. Last time they wrote they had arrived at Mr. Baker's home in Versailles, Kentucky and were very glad to be back.

Ellicott's foot has been all well all the week. During the week I finished "The Maid of the Mist". Did you read it, Aunt Ab? Rather heavy but very interesting, I think.

Mrs. C. is keeping house now, and I do not begin until August 1st but I do not accomplish as much as I should. For instance yesterday it took all the morning to pay off the accounts, send money to Cape - to get working men, give directions to the cook about buying provisions to bring up Aug. 17. and arrange about the teacher's trip home. You see Ellicott is to take his vacation this month and so we shall not want the teacher for awhile. Last Monday morning I spent in making up accounts, estimating expenses for the first year and making a budget of expenses for the second.

Monday afternoons people come here to sing and we all enjoy that. As Dr. Beath was going to Swanton on Friday, we decided to give her a serenade party on Thursday evening so that she could hear some of the songs we intended to sing later.

14. Learning
on road
regarding

I should have been very

shall be comparing to that of the

in time. I really can't get hold of any thing as
dramatic situated now! before September and then it
will be six weeks in arriving. No.
Glad you got the Lushanese Ring safely. It must
be very hard - what time do they expect I to get
all in one day? It can't be!

How busy Papa must be paying out so much
money from the bank, selling houses etc. I
appreciate your letters so much. father. It
is really very good to hear! Allison thanks you
for clipping too.

I fear the relations to Germany are growing
more strained all the time. I hope that U.S. will
be firm and demand her rights and that Germany
will be forced to give in!!

Good to hear about those cherries, lozings, and your garden.
Would like to see that land.

Paul's purchase in Boston must be pretty hard
they are.

Did people go to Mingasahed on launch or by trolley?
Yes as noticed that June moon - Always!

You ask about our games, Mother. We have dominoes,
Rook, Riddle, Checkers, I believe.

Hakoma is a little like parakeet in that it has a head
and tail, but it takes more skill to play. You
do not have Laurel here; there are some leaves
that remind me of it, however.

Glad Jack Kendig is at left arm, and am delighted
if you believe that possibly Mrs. H. & Katharine may
come too.

What is the course in Practical Arts, Carol? Do
tell me all about it.

We hear that our dentist has you to Hankow to
fix. He wasn't awfully good - but we shall probably
have more of any - Oh! I'm bad!

Congratulations to Adeline!

Read Ab, if I think your questions about inoculation I have
answered. Knowing you would want to know. I grow rapidly
later after Changam of this - and am feeling better than usual even.
Everything abroad you know is my experience.

Rockport. - Enfield

Yellow Falls N.H.

Aug 6, 1915.

Dear One,

Last week there was a wedding in the village. The lady went off wearing a gown of tulle, whether it meant more or not. This week there was the funeral of an old lady, seventy, who, they say, becoming tired of life, hanged herself. There is a procession at either event, but the funeral procession is rather more to look at than the wedding crowd. I think you told me last year of the tall red banner, the coffin, the ribbons coming from sticks, the mourners in black cloth, the priests in square hats, and the descendants, accompanied by continual beating of tin pans and other orchestral music - and small children. It is well worth seeing. The members of this family upon return from the grave, assembled on the hill where four "Catholic" priests led them in some rites which we could not see.

Sunday August 8.

I have had such a lovely present this week from Mrs. Brooks Clark of Keating, who came out on the steamer with us. A little knitted white wool Basins shirt and a knitted band to go with it. They are so dear that I am almost tempted to send them to Aunt Lila as a favour - but I guess I won't risk them in the mail! They are so soft and nice and warm! ^{With} the same mail came three little cotton and wool shirts from (Jamson Bros) a piece of flannel for a pillow and a few odds and ends like safety pins, binders, etc. I was glad to get them. There also came a notice that the white wool knit blankets which I ordered from Wales had been sent, and so I expect them soon. I am glad the things I ordered are arriving so early, for one feels safer about them. The two little dresses partly finished that Marion gave me, I have completed, and I have made another pretty nainsook slip this week (I believe the hem is still to be finished) but we can at least get the finished picture. Mrs. Biggs gave me a little white jacket - very cheap material, but with some embroidery. And Mrs. Johnson has knitted a new little pair of socks. It is such fun to be gathering together so many pretty, dainty things. I must get to work on

scrappers, and righties, and little pads and pillow
slips now. It seems to me that I am very slow
indeed - but as I now notice that I gain a little skill
and speed.

Have no time to finish *Messengers*
going early - but will write again.

Jennie's letter & photo simply
grand. Entertained me all day while
on trip to Florence.

; heaps of love
Lottie.

Sunday

Beilgooder Meridian
Rockport.
87, VT
Enfield

Thompson's Choice
Aug 12, 1915.

Dear Ones, Did George have a nice birthday yesterday? We thought of him and shall think of the other birthdays coming so soon. I have rather neglected birthdays I fear since I came to China. I must send Carol something else if she decided not to go to Northfield this year.

She has had a little rain this week in heavy clumps but the weather has kept remarkably good on the whole.

Friday Aug. 13.

The men are going off to the canyon to-day to cut a path down the side so that a party can take the trip later. I am sewing or rather mending and having the weekly cleaning done. Ah! the cook is coming right now. I have been expecting him to-day or to-morrow.

Saturday Aug. 14.

Showers again to-day. Nearly Sunday-school time.

Well, I think I'll give you a brief resume of the week.

On Monday Eliza's went off carpentering - (they call him "the handy man" here in the valley) with I doubt of my the help to the bahmore to saw with Dr. Mildred for a little. Mrs. Bahmore was very nice and not only insisted on keeping me, but sending for them to share her roast duck dinner. We had a very pleasant time.

On Tuesday we had two guests for tea and then took a nice walk down the river. Mrs. James and I going not quite the entire distance, but sitting down and waiting for the others to return. Her feet are still tender from the trouble she had when she first came.

On Wednesday the girls came to practice a stunt for a concert that is to be given the last week in August, and we left Dr. Mildred for dinner here. Ed and I had tea at "Blinky-bonnie" with the James's and rest of household. Then the men went for a rather hard walk. We saved joining them later for an easier one.

On Thursday we had another tea-party here - the James's & Mrs. McGeorge being our guests.

Friday was the day I went to canyon.

Saturday I had another short walk, but was caught

on a shower.

I have saved a little, and mended, and got out household stores. I begin house-keeping to-morrow, but it will be only two weeks with a large family, and as I think it will be easier than last year.

We played Boston Rook Saturday evening. On Wednesday next there is to be a stult party, for which we are planning to prepare an orchestra, but only instruments being the organ and a set of horns which Mrs. Tiffin has.

Do you remember Aunt Let's, that two years ago let day, or made that long treesome trip from New Hampshire? That was about as bad as Chinese travelling.

We had good mail yesterday including a letter from Marshall Allen telling about the flood in Canton. They had exciting times, I take it.

Mrs. Wilderth wrote a most interesting letter telling of Mr. Wilderth's coming to this country forty years before the letter.

I will speak of the other good letters from home as I write on.

Dear Jennie, those pictures I was so delighted to see. That one of you and Marion at Wingham is so cute for anything. Please if you paid for all these, collect the damage from Ruth, for I had sent her some money for this purpose. I have gazed and gazed at them, and I don't see that all look about the same except from far and down. Then most marvellous changes have taken place. How the children have grown! I have looked at every square inch of the house and grass and trees and rocks. I think the grass needs attention about as much as anything I can see.

I did not recognise Bradly. I won't the bungalow pretty!

The Wingham pictures with their evidence that sometimes here acceptable were very enlightening too.

It was so good to receive your full letter, Jennie. I

enjoyed every word.

It was certainly good of Uncle George to play the chaperone on that Annonaticy Hill. Sorry the sunrise was no better.

Your aunt's trip must have been very beautiful.

Did you say that someone resorted to being carried? Oh, you must mean across the river. Did you come on the 25 launch trip from Gloucester I wonder, or by trolley?

Hope Bob's is not a dangerous position at Newport. Did he visit Helen at Norfolk? I should judge not.

I suppose Ruth's school closed this week. Hope she has enjoyed it much! And grand Cele is at the Cape how nice it will be even for this short time.

Aunt Cele's good letter of June 30th at hand.

I shall be glad to hear about Paul and all the family of course.

How nice that you should come to China and all Miss James in a dream! She certainly is a lovely woman.

Sorry Miss Curtis's appetite is no better. The blisters makes my mouth water, asparagus, spinach, ~~strawberries~~!

Did you ever try ~~scraping and peeling up~~ ~~benzene~~ for her? Deal with it fresh until light and flaky. ~~Cooper's~~

My cousin reports that there have been no other artists, and I am glad.

Glad to see Ruth's postal from Simmons and nice one and Papa's note was very welcome.

Such good letters, from Mother, George, and Ruth.

Dick must have been very funny in the "Horrids".

I was interested to see proof of Carol's feet and would have as light hair would destroy in no time. I think she looks a little thin. And Carol do you curl your hair all the time? Why? E.E.E.

Had the dean come on. Shall be anxious to hear more detailed plans of Miss Rachel's wedding. Wish I could be there.

Did Bob and Perry's get to Cape Ann?

Is Elizabeth Colby ^{at} Southwick this year?

Such a rain as George told about. It must have been like a Thaiyong rain!

How I should like to see that moving picture of reef and wreck. It must be wonderful!

No, Amy, today I have cherries in South China.
Some times we have canned cherries.

Sorry the screen door swelled so. Are they all right
now?

Ruth I certainly was awfully pleased to
get your full letter & things. How nice of Dr.
and Mrs. Emery to entertain you and Bob so
pleasantly.

Sorry about the swim. Was the boat near by? Were
you frightened at all - before you could rest with
the help of the boys?

You certainly had a nice visit with Bob.
Don't try to make me anything, Ruth. I have all I
need and you are too busy.

Hope Carol can enter Practical Arts.
" John is well.

Love to all. Lotta

Pop Della and Charlie and
children got to Cape Ann

Check for Ruth for Memorial House
Improvement Fund.

Brook
P. 10/10
P. 10/10
P. 10/10
P. 10/10
P. 10/10

Thurs. Evng
(Pres) Aug 24, 1915.

Dear Ones,

I am late with my letter this week. I don't know where the time goes to either, but I am housekeeping you know. The family is only ten. That would seem nothing at all to me but especially if she had a cook to do all the cooking!!! But I manage to spend an hour or two a day on planning, giving directions, giving out orders, and seeing that the pantry and food chest is neat and clean. The boys get careless about washing dishes and also wash clothes!! One has to push after them rather closely.

The cook has done unusually well with the cooking, really better than Mrs. Higgins or Mrs. Page's cooks I think and to keep the kitchen indefinitely cleaner. It is a great comfort to me. Ellison has made a campaign to keep the back yard clean and so we feel that a few improvements like this, may help to make up for my inexperience in housekeeping.

The cook made very good rice and cheese croquettes for supper last evening and had the feet back with graham bread to-day. We have to use canned goods or home supplies almost altogether up here and that makes living quite expensive! But it is hot enough here - (altho we had not suffered from heat) - and what must it be down on the plain. The report came here to-day that it was 117° in Suva!!! Only 53-55 here.

Most of our extra time these days is spent in concerts and practicing for concerts in Badminton (a game not at all something like tennis) - tournaments, air walks, and teas, and believe me, it keeps me busy - with sewing and housekeeping, to do besides. But in spite of the fact that housekeeping takes time, I am not troubled by it nearly as much as last year. In fact I rather enjoy it, for I have plenty of stores and my cloth is excellent. I am so glad that I have him who had such a nice supper to-night -

mosquitoes do not seem bad to-night. I will send order for letting next week when folks go down. The difference in price of two kinds is very little; one is 16¢ May and the other 15¢ I believe in price. It would not make a difference of more than a cent a yard.

I was getting a little nervous about sending things in letters when I stopped - and may send next a package. It is all right to send only on credit on account of difficulty of getting back but but to do it regularly may not be so hard as it seems. So Squaw Bill later. It may be a month or more very likely before I get letting. Only one old lady makes it I hear.

We have had a lovely concert this afternoon and I have done a flat of accompanying which I enjoyed immensely. There has been a good deal of talent in the valley this year.

And we have had many bright songs and a true Elison has figured largely in the original songs of the year and I must try to gather them together, for they are so funny. He is so tall, and he has helped so many people this year in carpentry or cobbling or long trips, that he has been our easy subject. All the hits have been good-natured, and we have been rather pleased even if somewhat notorious J.P.

It is about 9:00 and I must take this over to Miss Brander who goes down to-morrow.

Amazing E. and I travelling over the rice-fields to the next house by moonlight.

Well, I'll try to write better some time soon. I am very well - never better and so happy every day! Elison is my god to me always, couldn't be better. I don't know I was enjoying such a good husband - I think of each individual daily and pray for your health and comfort and happiness.

Very much love
Lottie.

(over)

Ruth in R. Oct 4 1916

Don't be frightened if you should receive a
Cablegram in November after all, for we may
not be able to resist the desire to send word.
Don't worry either way.

Keep the code - it is important - and
if anyone receives word - send letters or postals
to the members of immediate family also to Mrs.
Bartholomew and Mrs. Keady and Mrs. Powell
and others.

We should have two letters or telegrams sent
from Boston, ^{to} one to Holyoke and one
to Rockport, if we should do this.

Love again

Lettie.

Thank you Papa for papers and good little
note I feel to hear things. I do appreciate
your philosophy on
politics. He says he
always finds a bit of
philosophy.

To your parents please send love
from Lettie

Highgate Holyoke
Rockport Lowell
B. F. St. Vt. Marion
Enfield

Thaigong, China
Sept 4, 1915

Dear Ones,

September has come round again and the summer is nearly over. Ruth will soon be in Vermont and Aunt Lela and Marion and the kiddies back at their respective posts, but I expect we shall not go down until the 21st.

Mrs. Griffin and family depart this afternoon. How I shall miss the baby! She is lying on my bed now kicking and going:

Mrs. and Mr. Page go a week from yesterday night. On the 10th Mrs. James, I expect, will come to stay with us until our departure on the 21st. We hope to get back to Lela. by Saturday the 25th. And I guess the boys and the cows will be glad to see us even if nobody else is.

Sunday, September 5.

For the last two days I have been sewing quite constantly as I borrowed Mrs. Capon's little hand machine, and wanted to mend up all L's P.V.'s and run all my sewing for those two days. It has been just nice to have it, and a tiny little family, I could sit down at 7:00 AM and work most of the morning. Of course I did not forget my afternoon nap! But still there were a few minutes in the afternoon too.

Monday Sept 6.

The Pages are getting ready to depart to-morrow and so I have not had so much time as usual to write to-day - not that I have been helping any, but there are many interruptions to return little borrowed things or take account of kitchen stock - or such things.

It is a beautiful day. Ellison has been making frames for the Ladies' Home Journal cover for the cardings by your niece Smith. It is too long for words! Then he has been overhauling carpenters, and working on another set of shelves to be placed at the foot of our bed. I really think that we shall have plenty of shelf room next year and that is saying a good deal. And he is putting wire on a bed-spring. It is so nice to have a handy man!

This week has been uneventful. We had tea with the Stants on Thursday and have had one or two short walks, but otherwise things have gone on as usual. We played games one evening, but almost always in just sit around for a little after our late supper and then go to bed quite early.

I am so glad that Mrs. Jones is coming to stay with us for the last ten days. We can see together and plan together.

(Mrs.) Dr. Lecker has written that she can take care of me this fall and has invited me to come to her house for the "party," but I have just written her inviting her to come to my house, and I hope she will feel that she can, because it will be so much easier for me - and not awfully much harder for her I hope. There is also a Dr. Ross in the city permanently now on the Presbyterian compound less than a half hour away so that you can feel quite safe about us. Don't it good that Dr. Ross would come. It makes all the difference in the world about one's feeling safe.

Two weeks from to-day, I expect, we shall be going down again. We shall have had a very brief summer.

Elison is going on a long walk to-morrow with Tom Gibson, (Pachytender).

Did I tell you that the James's and some of the girls and Miss Tom Gibson are buying a plot of land and will build a new house here for four families? I am so glad because the place is overcrowded already, and building and buying is now expensive every year.

I must run get the kiddies some lunch and so good by for now.

Letter.

I am all excitement to see the packages when I go to Swanton two weeks from now.

About Sept 10. I expect Mrs James will come and stay with us until Mago down as her husband has to leave early, and we both want to escape the heat of Sept. down below last year or next down the first rail.

We shall delay in Kakchik several days, to arrange about a permanent mural for baby, to buy Xmas presents and draw work if possible, and to hem one more light wool maternity gown made for the last days when it will be cool. I don't know what pattern I shall use but Mrs James has a London model that is very pretty - a loose robe like this - but lines splendid. - to wear with gany or shirt waist.

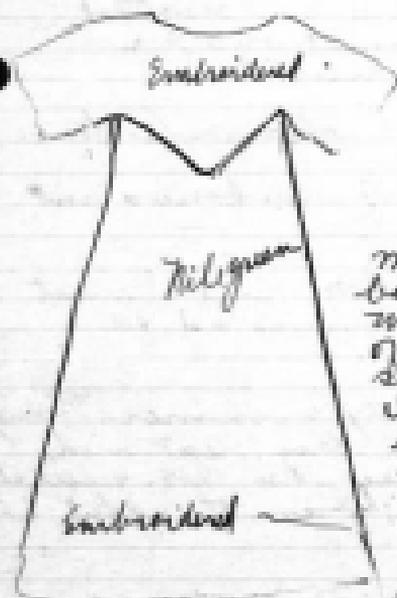
E- will answer your comment on his letter, Aunt Cele, some day, he says.

Will try to send just 1 lb or 2 if I have not already sent film

I do enjoy the Journal very much. (especially about food and babies you know). We get World's work sent to us by some friend of Missie's at home and have some things to edify our minds. If you care to send again - just let me order at Shanghai. I shall have to inquire about place and how to do it.

Hope you had nice time with Ruth at Simmons. I am sure both Della and you would enjoy it to full.

You are desirous to send a parcel. I shall look for it at Swatow.
Nice to see Della's letter to Jennie, and Jennie's to Aunt Cele.
I saw very good letters from Ruth & will receive attention some day. So she



making back to school to-day. I hope
she is not too tired - as I certainly did -
like to see the dresses she made.

Last night came one more good envelope
(July 23) from Papa and Mammas. The letters
are great!

Hope Papa will get money from Grandpa's
estate - He certainly deserves it without having to
take old furniture to sell.

I liked Billy's marks inside and Francis's note.

No, Ellison hasn't been on this summer,
and floods have left ~~the~~ untouched.

Whom is New Jan to marry?

Glad Mother went in bathing.

Mrs. Kendig sent me five more beautiful
dresses to go with my set. I must write her
immediately. Don't find much time.

Tell me about pageant when you have time.

Seems good to hear of blueberries and
peaches!

Now it is 5:55 in P.M. and I must
run to cross a banana salad for
supper.

We have had a lovely summer. Many
people go back to work this next week,
but several families stay thru Sept. usually
without the husbands tho'. I am thankful to
can study here.

We had a sacred concert Sunday ev.

Very very much love to all
Lottie.

Haiphong
Hanoi
Yunnan
Kweichow
Szechwan
Szechuan
Kiangsi
Kwangsi
Kwangtung
Yunnan
Kweichow
Szechwan
Szechuan
Kiangsi
Kwangsi
Kwangtung

Haiphong China
Sept. 13, 1915

Dear Alice,
One can hardly describe such beautiful weather as we have had and are having - long sun-shiny days one after another - with very little gloom from sunlight, perhaps on account of the beautiful green of the rice now growing for the second time this summer. The whole valley almost, is covered with it, and as the wind blows one gets the same effect as when the wind blows over a field of tall grass or wheat!

Mrs. James came to us on Friday morning and it is very pleasant to have some one else in the house! She is so thoughtful and pleasant that she is always present when you want her, but never anywhere to be found when for any reason one wishes to be alone. We haven't really seen any yet, but I hope to begin to-morrow and put in a pleasant week. I am so anxious to get my packages at Suatien, I hope they will be there when we arrive. There is to be quite a pile, for we are expecting groceries from Shanghai, stores from Chicago, as well as the packages. Only has written me that she is sending the little winter nighties, and I believe that that completes the list of necessities. This week came a dear little knitted jacket which Katherine kindly made herself, and she has a reputation as bad as mine when it comes to anything like sewing. I hate now to take a stitch for myself, but I spent quite a little time yesterday on letting out seams and raising the belt line on my white Japanese crepe, which should have been so arranged by the tailor that it did not need any more adjustments than a change of looks and eyes. But I have the lucky lot to have to do more than I have.

The carpenters are at least three with their work. They have made now about 13 feet of the porch, ^{of which} a shutter door, a table 3 ft 3 with removable top and folding legs, an ironing board. Then they have partially made a set of shelves, a porch table, a stand for a crib, a stool for my dressing table, and have mended a hole in the floor, the chicken coop door, and have made our wardrobe tight. Really quite a long list for about twelve or thirteen dollars gold, including all the work except what came from the old scrapbook folder. Also they have added two shelves to my dressing table.

Did I tell you that on Thursday E and I were
up at 5:30 ate fruit and cereal and then went
to a beautiful valley with a wide view of mountain
and plain, where we fried eggs and made coffee.
It was very pleasant, we were gone only two hours and
a half and yet we had a lovely time, and came
home not tired at all. I had a feeling that I have
told you this before, haven't I?

We had Mrs Stewart of the King Fu and her
three children here for dinner yesterday.

Druck soup - toast.
A oast duck with dressing, gravy.
Cranberry sauce
Peas / Native egg plant
Baked sweet potatoes
Raspberry shortcake with cream
Coffee after dinner mints

Lovely letters have come this week, for which
we are very grateful. You have all been so good
to write me so frequently.

And G's questions:

At the King Fu is an English Presbyterian Mission.
There are Mr and Mrs. Paton & 3 children in charge
of school.

I Dr. .. Mrs. Stewart " " " " of
hospital
II Mr. McKenzie Evangelical and school work
III Unmarried ladies
school. Miss Walker wonderful woman
" (just learning) " Starkey independent - says her own way
country work " Dubet very sweet
" " " Thomson " nice young
reminds me of Betty!

Miss Thompson is the youngest and newest and
she is a peach!

All the people are hospitable and cordial!
The King Fu is where Mrs. James was before she
was married. She is the daughter of missionaries.

Harriet Elyon was in the flooded district, but
their house did not tumble luckily. I think I have
arranged for part of her letter about it, to get to you.
I think I sent it to Tom. I am not sure.

Hope August weather at home has been better
than July weather. Too bad to have so much
rain and fog.

Did the bank vote to give Father an assistant?
They will never get another secretary and treasurer
at his salary I am thinking.

It is too bad that Mrs. Fairbanks had to be
sick on top of all Father cares Charles had!

I was astounded when I heard that Ruth had
accepted a new position and am very anxious
of course to hear details - how long she had to
consider - whether it was ^{to} arrange giving up at
Bakersfield - whether she had no chance to end
for 700 - which would seem a little more reasonable
Salary. (However the man is a step in advance
I believe) - the length of year, price of board,
number of teachers and pupils etc. - all of which
I probably shall have heard by the time this
letter reaches home.

About the box that is coming Aunt Cely, I am
only too certain that there is altogether too much
in it and that I shall feel mean and
selfish in accepting so much!!!

Not many people in So. China have baby carriages.
Mrs. Victor & W. King Fu. has a lovely (four-wheeler,
she calls it), which she uses on the porch and as
a crib. A few people have go-carts I believe - but
usually there are no roads on which one can use
anything of the kind. The appan, however, you
know, will be invaluable as a wrap.

Yes, I am impatient in one way for November,
and in another way - not, for I want time to
finish preparations, and make ready for Xmas. etc.
etc.

Thank you, Della, for your nice note. It was
so good to hear and I enjoyed Mary's letter from
Redfoot so much!

I am so glad that Paul is to have the care of
6 yrs. girl. It will probably be good for both.
Please don't mention sending any more aids
at present. You sent so many before that it is
at least for several years. He had some left, some
samples, and had sent for a little corn and beans
this year I believe. Perhaps I shall want a few

and I'll write you then as you ask.

~~real ones~~, but we haven't much garden space at
Lepo.

And for the little one, I'm afraid I have already
received all too much! Best in case, you should
feel badly. I might say - I could probably use a small
pillow slip - perfectly plain - about 12 inches by 8 or 10. Now
remember I don't need this and I should much
prefer you would put time or material on some
pretty thing for yourself.

I was just bemoaning the fact that I have to
destroy my nice letters when Ellison encourages me
a little by saying that you, quotation is from Fenimore
and that I can find it there - I am glad to be able
to have that much permanent, but if I can't
the letters I never find time to look at them again,
and the silver fish and cockroaches eat those that
the mold does not make unrecognizable.

Was our first book been "fixed" as Mary says?
Is this is another good letter from Delta written right
at Rockport.

It must be constant work to keep track
of Gene and Pally, if they run off to Pigeon Cove
and Great Hill - whenever they feel the compulsion! How
funny!

How jolly it must be to be all together at
Rockport; but I am sure Aunt Cele's arriving means
has to quiet her as usual and that Della must return
as soon.

Thank you, Marion for your new letter. You
have written me so many times this summer, and I
do appreciate it. So glad you write of Ruth's position for I can
hardly wait for her letter about it.

Carol's letter, too, was very welcome - talking me
about the Practical Arts course! Both Ellison and I
think it is a most interesting course and wish
we could take parts of it ourselves! Have you had
any cooking before this, Carol? Please do let
me know if you have been able to take it and
how you like it. I should very much like to see carefully.
Has John had any vacation yet? I do hope so. It
must be hard to work in hot Boston all summer.
Glad to see pictures Carol.

Carol do you remember Ruth's recipe for
steamed eggs. I tried to remember the other day but

couldn't. Mother's and Father's notes and the boys always appreciated too. Oh I see I have another envelope full here and a fat one from Jennie too, with a nice note from herself.

Glad to hear of George's work, his garden, and the hurried buying trip from his own pen.

When I go to Swanton, I will try to find something nice for Olga and will send it on. I wonder if you would want anything as nice as a tea cloth about a yard square, or a pin cushion cover, or a small daily nosegay of more acceptable. I may be able to find a pretty crepe de chine bag which I think would be very suitable. Well, I'll do my best.

What is date of Rachel's wedding?
Mother's letter telling of pagant very welcome.

Later.

Have just had a church service ^{5-6:15} 7-8 PM. Pentecost and a mission to the north preached to us. Supper bell is ringing - Good by for now.

What did Marion mean by "John's little boy" was that the one that John accidentally hit with his motorcycle's wash he hurt?

Pats speaks of the Pratt instructor. Does girls learn that method from Pratt itself I believe, for from Miss B's reports they are all worked mercifully in their courses!

Does food from cooking courses come on table at the Simmons, Pats?

Carol, did you say that Camp Fire girls were up every day from 4.00 until 2:00 A.M. again. Those are a fairly camp fire ideals I think - write me about it when you have time.

Take all the literature you can at school and learn French if you get a chance.

Where is Rose now?

8:50 P.M. Sunday. How you seem the little new

noon.

We are hoping to send our letters
down by a ship, who leaves at 7:00 tomorrow
morning, so the sea is good to get.

With hugs of love to everybody
whom I mentioned in this letter or note
Love.

Keokuk
Washington

Thaiyong, China

Sept. 17, 1915.

Dear Cousin,

Since I wrote last week we have changed our plans about our route home, choosing what we think is an easier way. The only difference is that at Kitzing instead of bringing to a steam launch and then going to Swatow, from where we take train and chair for home, we stay on the same river boat in which we leave Waking on and are taken to a little place called Pa-ky less than six miles from home without change of ourselves or baggage. From there we go by chair to our homes. Then I shall have time to settle myself and thoughts and plans a little before I take myself to Swatow for the final shopping etc. It seems much easier to me and if only the weather is decent, and the chairmen our kind to meet us etc etc I think we shall be very glad we changed.

I have been picking up a little in preparation for packing, but really have done very little and expect to do very little; in fact I have been saving most of my spare time yesterday and to-day.

Tom James has been with us a while to-day, and he do enjoy her immensely. She is absolutely no trouble and is as gentle and thoughtful of others as well as entertaining in herself.

Elliott is studying daily (except news of course when he will peek) and during his odd minutes he does a few last carpentering jobs such as making pigeon holes for our correspondences, and making head shelves in the store-room.

It has been raining to-day, the first heavy rain for many many days, and so the weather is cool enough to make us want to have on our full supply of summer clothing.

By the way - whenever you are in doubt about our address - or anyone who about a permanent address, use
Mrs. E. S. H.

Swatow - China

It will always reach us (unless we should go far away north - 100's of miles) - and will be quicker and safer than other addresses whether we be at Thaiyong or any of our stations here.

Of course while we are permanently at Chet-chang, it is better for you people to address us there virtually.

Sunday Ev. Sept 19, 1775.

Well, we are practically all packed, and not very tired. We worked quite steadily yesterday, altho I rested for a little while every hour I believe, beside taking rest in P.M. and stopping for a cup of Tea at 11.00 AM and 4.00 P.M. Religion is becoming quite addicted to the habit of having a cup of Tea at 11.00 while he studies. A good many of the English-men have it. Now he only requires one before he gets up in AM, and another at night; he would be a full-fledged Englishman.

To-day of course, we have done practically nothing. I sat and read most of afternoon until tea-time, and in the morning I worked on my correspondence.

As we do not go down until afternoon to-morrow, everything will be quite easy.

By the way, when Miss Babner was out in the country one day lately - one of the old women, not yet a Christian but interested, asked her in all good faith if an old friend who had recently died & risen, was sitting in a golden chair in heaven.

What a power! Miss Babner answered that she had no doubt, if the woman desired to be sitting in a golden chair, she was.

Must say Good Night

Love by the moon-full (almost)
Lett.

P.S. to last letter written at Cape.

So glad to hear of little Charlton's arrival; I wish to see him (do you let him?) and if possible stay to lend a hand.

Hope Aunt Lett and Mother ^{did} will not work too hard when both pull and bend you away.
Blueberries would be good.

Will give you list later of what I have made and what I have.

Water in prison at Charing cannot be cleaned or made sweet, but still it is very good. Love by ^{the} ^{stars} Father.

Indragya
Mudra

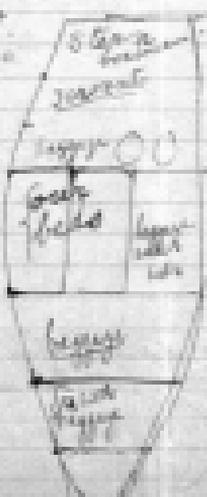
Cheongchowfa, China.
Thursday, Sept 23, 1915.

Dear Cass, Here we are at home again all safe and sound, and glad to be here too, in spite of the fact that it is very hot, so hot that the perspiration stands out on our faces very often during the day and even the early night - and such now with a good breeze here, my skin is sticking uncomfortably to the paper under it.

We left Thaiyong very comfortably Monday P.M. having about 15 men along with burdens earlier in the day. I had a wicker chair with a reclining back (which belonged to Miss Starkey, and four men to carry me to prevent jarring and for safety. Mrs. James had only three men. We stayed on the boat at Watong's and started off at daybreak the next morning with me very stiff in bed. It had been very hot the night before (which I really forgotten what the night was like in my three months at Thaiyong) - but during the day on the river and the following night we had a good breeze and were very comfortable. I have buttonholes worked all day, and all night until 5:00 AM on Wednesday - with a few stops to eat rice - I don't see how they could endure it. The scenery was beautiful, the water a rippling blue, and at night the moonlight was perfect. You remember the boats.

Looking down into it.

Boatmen talked all night besides so that Mrs. James could not sleep, but E and I slept very well until 5:00 AM.



These places are yellow when the beds are there than they appear on this plan.

Then E. and Mrs. James wrangled with the Carriers and finally about 5:30 Mrs. James and I started off in chains and the Carriers and E. soon followed. It was a beautiful day and there was a nice wind, and really I never remember having a prettier or more comfortably ride than that six or eight miles from the boat into the city. We stopped with Mrs. James for a very welcome hot bath and a good dinner.

The cook was to have gone by way of Swatow and picked up our packages and mail, but he had an attack of malaria which has delayed him. I am expecting him at any time now and am anxious to see him with the things.

I shall go to Swatow soon for a few days. Have not yet seen Mrs. Baker.

I know you will be glad to hear that we had such a pleasant journey and that I stood it so well - (without any effort so far as I can see) (Thanks very much due to my good husband.)

I found Aunt Lettie's pretty letter beginning the story of events at Rockport. I found my note and Mother's postal of August 13 at Mr. King's and enjoyed reading them on the boat.

I have been sitting a little to-day, but am not working hard or fast. The boys have washed our room and the bath room and have cleaned the medicine closet outwards as well as their regular work.

The piano is great about as it may have left in Yloa and is very happy that it shows so little effect from heat and damp. Three cheers! It seems good to play again. Now must see why the coolie has not come to make a table I told him to. Then it will be tea time
shape of an ball

Rockport

Commonwealth
Massachusetts

Burlington

Chas Chowry, Sept 10, 1875

Dear Ones, I am having such a happy birthday, altho I know you will be disappointed to hear that the package from home has not yet arrived. They are certainly slow - for that has sent in plenty of love. But I still have it to look forward to, and you may be sure I am anxious to see it.

Luckily Mrs. Kilduff's package arrived yesterday and that furnished a good deal of excitement and pleasure. Such pretty things for baby - 2 beautiful dresses, and such a warm padded coat of kimono, a little outing flannel jacket and two nighties which Mrs. H. herself made by hand putting in feather stitching and little dainty buttons and lace. Then there is an Hibernian - Ellison's grandmother included a petticoat for her children and altho it was worn and later Mrs. H. and Aunt Sam. have mended the bottom part so that I can use it for a little wrap. Won't that be nice!

Monday

We have had coolness Saturday, Sunday - and today thanks to a north wind and a few showers, it has seemed so good! Storms blow on, I hope there will be no more intense heat.

The boys are washing; the cook is re-heating flour which has been attacked by insects, making graham bread - cake - and pudding for dinner!

Ellison is helping a conference with the preacher on his study billow.

The cow is out in the yard feeding on the grass as it has grown quite a little during the summer and I have just been doing odds and ends, inspecting food supplies, putting things away and straightening out a little. Of course I have not sewed at all since I came back. But some day I'll send you a list of all the things I have made - not very many.

The cook stayed over at Ketyang on his way home - presumably to take care of a load of ~~beds~~ beds for Dr. Baker's hospital, but he was taken down with malaria and so stayed at his home near Ketyang until Saturday. We were very glad to see him for may be silent for altho the boy does very well, still we had to look mostly on eggs and should not have the help of the boys to settle the house as much as I wanted to.

You will laugh of course to hear me
complaining of lack of help when I had two
servants - but, you know, each has his particular
duties, and they are not very anxious to turn
to and do anything - nor do they fit this or
large amount of work as a woman, hired for
the day might do.

I must get the coolie right to work on the
garden, for it is high time we planted something
before the ants and birds will make it very
difficult to raise anything.

My flowers seem to be in pretty good
condition but they all need new earth.

The leafy plants along the front walk are
in a wretched condition and it is so pretty to
all them.

Well - I'll stop for now - and do a little
more settling in the big bed room - where the
olds and birds have been put.

Thaps of love.
Lottie.

Has tuition been raised at Glouceter High?
It is not to affect those who began at
\$30.00 a year. but should be applied to entering
pupils only.

Glad to see Uncle Georg's letter. Hope all
as well.

For you see, I find the snapshots a constant
pleasure. I keep them in my diary and look almost
every day.

Newspapers from Mother received Sat.