

**Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers**

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

**Dates: 1917 Jan-Feb**

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515063

Jan. 1. 1917

Pang K'hai Ch'ang Jan. 1. 1917

Happy New Year, dear ones

I imagine that you would be very much interested if you could look into this place this minute. There are about 6 Chinese girls ranging from 8 to 16 yrs. and they are standing, or sitting on benches, each one reading in a loud tone of voice from something they have been studying in this class with Miss Traver. The youngest girl about 8 yrs. has a baby tied on her back. One girl teased her parents (who are heathen) so long and so hard, that they finally allowed the girl to study, but they do not want us to come hear their house to call!!! Their feeling is very bitter.

I am sitting in this Chapel on the end of a low country cot, my feet on a cold tile floor, doors and windows are open so that one needs warm clothing to keep from taking cold. The gray weather is my constant companion.

Later we have just been into the chapel for a little service, now we are here studying or reciting. There are 12 of us. A Bible woman sits here to help and 2 women and 2 children have come in to listen.

Pang Khoo is a large village (10 or 12000) about 4 miles from Khasochong. We had a chapel here and a number of men have belonged to the church but no woman has ever been baptized here till yesterday, when 2 women and 1 bright child were baptized by Ellison - also 3 young fellows.

Miss Travel said that the other evening they had the best prayer meeting she had ever had in China with one exception.

The whole church is given to prayer and of course that is the secret of the interest and awaking that they are now having.

The village is given over to the making of pottery. Some very coarse, but some quite pretty although none of it is very fine. The coarse to brownish ware which one can subject to heat, but there is a large amount of blue and white ware made here.

I came over here by chair last Friday afternoon Dec. 29. On Sat. we called on families all day long; we also had made a few calls on Furdy P. M. and we went out again on Sunday after communion. Ellison came over on his bicycle Sun. 4. M. and stayed for baptism, dinner and communion. I am going home late today and Miss Travel goes tomorrow from here she goes to an island on the coast where she will do just about the same kind of work. She has a splendid Bible woman with her.

One very interesting place which we visited at Pang Khai was a prosperous school started by an unmarried Chinese girl of mature age. She is a vegetarian which I suppose means Buddhist. The building seemed new and was freshly painted. Things were very neat and attractive in comparison with the dirty, smoked up houses which are usually called, and the girl herself seemed the most intelligent woman I met in the whole place. Although she had been very cordial to Miss Traver on a previous visit, this time she seemed a little distant, and somewhat incredulous and sneering as she asked intelligent questions. Very few people ask questions. It would be better if they did.

The Christian people were very grateful to Miss Traver and the Bible woman and also for the shorter time that William and I spent there. They insisted on a short service and a feast today to show their feeling. So I had my first entirely Chinese feast. Our boys did insist upon our boiled water on the table, but in other respects everything was very Chinese. I cannot remember all the dishes we had but some were as follows.

- 1 Shrimp
  - 2 Noodles or vermicelli
  - 3 Sweet boiled fruit of some kind I did not know
  - 4 Duck - and boiled blood
  - 5 Pork, diced and peas
  - 6 Dried fish & shrimp
  - 7 A very little lobster with macaroni
  - 8 Fat pork jellied on sweetened rice
  - 9 Pork & vegetable (much like Swiss chard)
  - 10 Rice
- Poncho, Orange, Pumpkin seeds (fresh - hard) /  
Tea

Of course there was only a very little of each except the rice.

We had individual chop sticks, and a china soup spoon each, as well as a tin dish of a sorty relish. Each one had to dip from the central bowl and ask some one else to eat, before keeping herself. The other people threw their bowls and refuse on the tile floor and let the dogs come in to eat it. But I could not bring myself to do that.

The women ate alone in one room - and the men in another.

Poor Miss Tjanov is not supposed to eat anything hardy or anything fishy, and so she did not have much to eat especially as we do not ordinarily touch Chinese pork in these regions.

One of the new members of the

P. Khai said during the middle of the week "We prayed for rain, last Sunday, but it has not yet rained." His workmen ridiculed him. but he said "Let us pray again for rain" and he not only proceeded to pray, but ordered his men to bring in all the uncovered pottery in the yard.

One of his workmen refused to keep him and said "If it rains, you may drag me out into it, and if your prayers are answered this way, I'll enter the church too."

That night for the first time for more than 3 months, there fell at least two showers that I was conscious of and they lasted at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr. each I should say; as I slept most of the night there may have been more. At any rate the judges seemed to be definitely answered. I think the Christian (who is very droll) did drag the workman into the rain, and I do not yet know whether he will become a Christian or not.



Later. We have just been into the chapel for a little service now all are here studying or reciting. There are 12 studying or reciting all out loud. Also a Bible woman sits here ready to help and ten women and ten children had come in to listen.

Now about the place. Pany Kwei is a large village (1000 or 2000) about four miles from Chavchafu. We there had a chapel here and a number of men have belonged to the church, but no woman has ever been baptized here until yesterday when ten women and one bright child were baptized by Ellison - also three young fellows.

Miss Traver said that the night evening they had the best prayer meeting ~~they~~ had ever had in China with one exception. The whole church is given to prayer and of course that is the secret of the interest and awakening that they are now having.

(One little girl has just come to me to hear her say the Lord's Prayer which she has just been learning.)

The village is given over to the making of pottery - some very coarse, but some quite pretty - although none of it is very fine. The soil is brownish mar which one can expect to heat, but there is a large amount of blue and white mar made here.

Then bought a pretty jardiner de a tray, five little stonoid dishes with covers, 2 mugs and a colored jar similar to a small crockery jar.

Please excuse the lack of coherence as a note. It is quite a task to keep any definite line of thought definite in such a babel.

I came over here by chair last Friday afternoon (Dec. 27) - On Saturday we called on families all day long; we also had made a few calls on Friday P. M. - and again we went out on Sunday P. M. after communion. Ellison came out on his bicycle Sunday Morn and stayed for baptism, dinner, and communion. Samghing back late this P. M. and Miss Traver

goes to morning. From here she goes to an island on the coast where she will go just about the same kind of work. She has a splendid Bible woman with her.

In the evening - at home again.

One very interesting place which we visited at Pong Khei was a prosperous school started by an unmarried Chinese girl of mature age. She is a vegetarian - which I suppose means Buddhist. The building seemed new and was freshly painted. Things were very neat and attractive in comparison with the dirty, smoked-up hookey where we usually called, and the girl herself seemed the most intelligent woman I met in the whole place. Altho she had been very cordial to Miss T. even on a previous visit, this time she seemed a little distant and somewhat incredulous and sneering as she asked intelligent questions. Very few people ask questions. It would be better if they did.

The people - (Christians) were very grateful for the services of Miss T. even doubt the Bible women - and also for the shorter time that I and I spent there. They insisted on a short service and a feast to-day to show their feeling. So I had my first entirely Chinese feast. The boys did insist upon putting out boiled water on the table, but in other respects every thing was very Chinese. I cannot remember all the dishes we had - but some were as follows: -

7. Shrimp

1. Broiled Pork or venison-like
2. Sweet boiled fruit of some kind I did not know.
3. Duck - and boiled blood.
4. Pork sliced & peas.
5. Dried fish & shrimp.
6. Army little eatables - with some tough macaroni and tomato.
7. Hot pork jellied on sweetened rice.
8. Fish & vegetable (something like Swiss Chard).
9. Rice.

Beans, string, Pumpkin seeds, <sup>potatoes</sup> ~~potatoes~~ <sup>and a bowl</sup> ~~blow~~

Tea.

Of course, there was only a very little of each except the rice

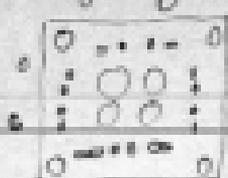


Table about 4x4 feet for 8 people.

Four benches - which are only saw-horses.

We had individual chop-sticks, and a china soup spoon each, as well as a big dish of a salty relish.

Each one had to dig from the central bowl, asking some one else to eat, before helping herself.

After people threw their bones and refuse on the tile floor and let the dogs come in to eat it, but I could not bring myself to do that.

The women eat alone in one room - and the men in another!

Poor Miss Craver is not supposed to eat anything starch or anything fried, and so she did not have much to eat especially, as she does not ordinarily touch the Chinese food in these regions!!

It seemed good to get home to-day. I want to go to some other country station, honey, and hope that I can.

One of the new members of the church at Pang Khai said during the middle of the week, "We prayed for rain, last Sunday, but it has not yet rained."

His workmen ridiculed him.

But he said, "Let us pray again for rain," and he not only proceeded to pray, but ordered his workmen to bring in all the pottery that was uncovered in the week.

One of his workmen refused to help him, and he said, "If it rains, you may drag me out into it, and if your prayers are answered this way, I'll enter the Church too."

That night (Friday) for the first time for more than three months, there fell at least two showers that I was conscious of, and they lasted at least half an hour each I should say; so I slept most of the night, there may have been more. At any rate the prayer seemed to be definitely answered. I think the Christian (who is very dull) did drag the workman out into the rain, and I do not yet know whether he will become a Christian or not.

Bull  
Rockfort  
Hingham -  
Hollywood

Rec'd in letter Feb 10, '17

Chaochow  
January 8, 1917

Dear Cous Al,

Monday evening and as cold as  
can be, after you would probably think it  
warm. It is about 57° in this room with a  
fire in the grate.

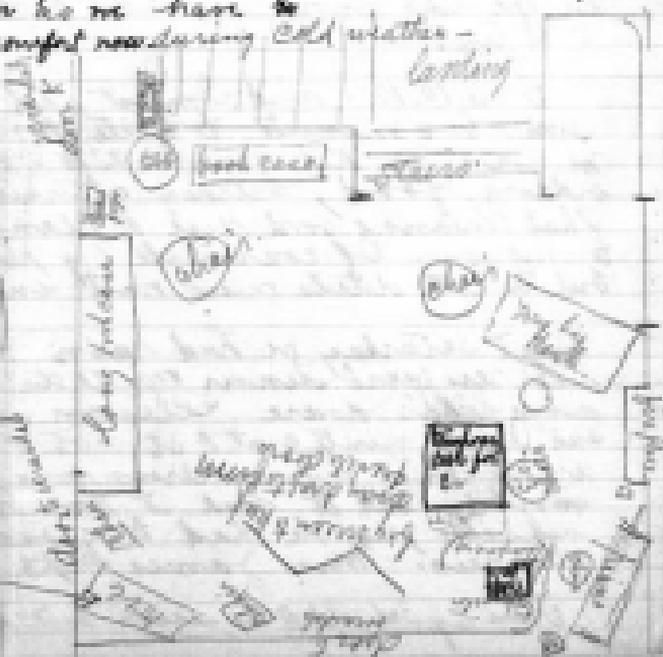
Reached evening - Still cold. Temperature 56° beside  
the fire! We were always clothing the and means to  
keep quite comfortable. I can accomplish much  
extra work in this cold weather than in the heat, for  
then by evening, I just want to go to bed, but now I  
want to sit up to write or work. I let my cook go  
home a week ago Tuesday or Wednesday (I guess it  
was) - and since that time I have been very  
busy in the kitchen. It takes me twice as long to do  
things here, as it would at home in America, for  
here I am not used to the fire, and things are not  
placed for convenience, as the cook has only the  
cooking to do, and does not have to save time  
as we do.

Wednesday evening - A little warmer. Temp. 58° by  
the grate-fire.

C. and I are home after a day spent in the city  
and it is as cozy as can be. I'll make a rough  
sketch of room we have  
arranged it for comfort now during cold weather -

The table and  
type-stands are  
here only for  
reference, however,  
as I - ordinarily  
write on his  
study.

My machine is  
hid out in the  
top and it is fine to  
have it in that out of the  
own house.  
My desk used to be  
like  
but now it is placed  
more comfortably and  
near.



I had the boy bring in a bunch for us of hot soup, peanut butter sandwiches, stuffed eggs, jelly sandwiches, Graham cookies and oranges with fresh coconut. I cut up on them. When he went by he gave me .50 (chicken) - and told him to spend it for oysters and 40 for oranges. The oysters made a most delicious supper for our supper, and he bought 11 nice big juicy oranges for that 40. Don't it give me the chills to get these things?

I have just taken the quickest bath I ever took in my life. I have a little cold but thought I would risk a bath in the bath-room. (Heat not in brought the bath tub out by the fire). But it was awfully cold and the water was not very warm, and so I simply rushed thru it. Ellison did the same with his, and I think we'll bring the tub out here next time. This is none too warm at 56°-58°. My hands are chapped with the cold. They give me aches at home! They are not bad, but I have just glycerine and cold cream on them.

Tell Miss Sallman goes home the first of March and I am to have charge of the girls' schools in the city from that time on. It is a big undertaking for me who knows so little of the language, but I'll try.

It is 10:10 - and I must stop - but there won't be 5 minutes to write to - tomorrow we leave for Kip's at 2:15 P.M. with beds, bedding, food, kitchen utensils, and clothing. I had means a good deal of planning to be done to-morrow. Of course all big plans are complete but the little details must wait until the end.

Last Saturday we had rain, we also had a nice new year dinner over at the Presbyterian single lady's house. Ellison was absent and I felt quite out of it not to be in evening dress! But my new dress was pretty and everybody liked it and it was much more sensible, as he had to cross the river in cold and rain. Mrs. James kept us over night.

Then my 3rd cold of the season but doctor is breaking it

up. (Dr. Rice is back for a few months) and he  
advises me to take a vaccine for it next fall.  
I am taking a cold sponge and aspirin  
every day cold that helps a lot, but I tried to  
wash my hair last week, and in spite of staying  
it before the rice open fire - I caught cold.

In a way as I am expecting a lot of company  
to be with me over quite a length of time,  
hope I can write better than.

Thanks your letters have arrived and I was  
so glad to hear from you all. I wanted to write  
you immediately, but have no time as yet.

Very much love to all  
Lester.

Chaoshowfu, via Swatow,  
January 16, 1917.

Dear Ones All:-

Tuesday morning and already the middle of January. I can hardly believe it. The cold weather of last week has abated somewhat and we can manage to keep very comfortable. Temperature is nearly 60° now in this room where I have a grate fire.

When I wrote last, I believe we were about to start on a country trip-our first together without older missionaries. We had the boys roll up the big bundle of bedding holding two thin mattresses, two pillows, mat, and several blankets in our big piece of oiled cloth with a rough mat for an outside covering; we prepared a large basket of kitchen utensils including an oven, and tea kettle, as well as pots and pans and knives, etc. Then we prepared a basket of food-putting little portions of baking powder corn starch, salt, coconos, sugar, cereal, rice, etc. in small tins, as well as carrying dishes for the table, oranges, a papaya, a boiled tomato, some canned fruit, some fresh shredded cocconut, tinned milk, butter, tea, fat for frying, etc-etc-vegetables. I mention these things so that you can see how many details there are to think of and how easy it is to forget some little important thing. Then our personal clothing and toilet articles and necessary medicines had to be packed, a lamp and a lantern made ready-the bed poles tied together, and we were about ready for the start- We put in a small rug which was a great comfort in the cold, dirty chapel floor.

When we arrived at about 5.00 P. M. we found that that they had made very little preparation for us, the preacher being away, and such a dirty chapel.

The floor of cement was so badly worn and pitted that it was almost impossible to sweep it-dirty-black, dirty schoolbags almost filled the big room. The kitchen behind (about 8x16) was worse than the chapel-dirty pots and dishes all around-charcoal stoves, hardly fit to cook on; the preacher's small room was just as bad-and one other tiny room with an old bed in it used for toilet was unspeakably bad.

Well it did not take us long to clear out a great many things from the kitchen- so that we could arrange our things neatly- and then we did the same by the chapel-but altho' we could wash several sink tops clean for our own use, there was no hope for the floor.

The preacher returned that night with the new preacher and so had to go thru the big room where we were to sleep in order to reach or so from his room. That was not convenient at all, especially as he walked in twice without knocking. The Chinese have no idea of privacy you know. I scolded him and it did not happen again.

We also talked to the brethren about the condition of the floor and the dirt. They want to repair the floor, but it will cost \$40.00 Mex. to do it right, and so we advised them to mend it this year, and begin authorizing their money together for a permanent tile floor later.

On Friday we began calling-and calls which took us to scattering villages far apart-so that the time spent in walking was equal to, if not more than the time spent in calling. It was a long day and I was so-tired that when we came back, I almost refused to go to one place near by-but I soon relented and made that call, but I went straight to bed in the evening after supper, altho' I had barely time to undress before the brethren assembled for proper meeting (in the same room.) In spite of their singing and talking, I went sound to sleep.

In one place what do you think they called Ellison in speaking of him to me-"the old and honorable grandfather". I had a good laugh on that.

We saw many, many places where men were gathering the tall sugar cane, crushing it with the help of buffaloes, and then boiling it down into a form of dark blackish sugar. We saw others hulling the rice by primitive methods-two women working a long bar that turned on (stone?) or piece of wood upon another. We saw other women weaving the cloth by hand, and so everywhere there were interesting things to see.

E. and I took a lunch, but also partook of the Chinese dinner, which the others had. E. ate of more things than I did. I contented myself with rice and eggs.

The next day, we took a two hour boat ride to Lone bus- and there we visited among small villages, but not so far apart as those of Friday.

One heathen woman hauled her child in very quickly and shut the door tight, probably frightened to death for fear of our evil influence. On the other hand one other woman gathered her three children around her and came up to us where we were sitting. I was just about to pat the child's head when the Bible woman made the women stand quickly saying, "Don't do that; these are men, not God," and then I realized that woman had got down to worship at our feet instead of to show me her baby. So there are the two extremes all showing ignorance. Just think in all these villages where we visited (at least ten I think) there was no place where a girl could go to school. Isn't it awful?

Some of them are so nice. One little wife who already believes but does not yet wish to enter the church, said that she was so glad we had come. "And these are true words," she said with such a tone of sincerity that you could not help believing it. She wants to come to a two or three weeks school which we hope to open later somewhere in this region.

At Lone bus where we went on Saturday, ten women want a short class to study the Bible. There is no Chapel there, but one very warm-hearted family offers its room for a place of prayer.

Miss Soliman goes home on furlough this spring. That leaves Miss Craver tied to the school, and so there is not a single foreigner able to take charge of this class, which is so much wanted. I wish I could, but I am not competent to do more than help a little as yet. That shows how much we are in need of single women workers. We need a woman to develop the school work in this City very much too. It is thru the schools that we are able to teach the most lasting lessons.

Well we did not get home until 7.30 Sunday eve. Ellison had baptized four people in the morning, as well as spoken quite at length, and he also spoke again in the afternoon and held communion. The baptism was in the river and you would have enjoyed it, I am sure.

Yesterday was a busy day for us getting our things settled. I had a slight attack of malaria in the afternoon, but Dr. Rose got hold of it at once and I hope for no further trouble.

My cook is not yet back and it is a great temptation for me to spend a good deal of time in the kitchen, especially when I find how much nicer things taste and realize what has been the matter with his scolloped oysters, or scrambled eggs or baked custard.

Ellison has gone to another station to-day to make arrangements for an old man to be taken into the old folks home.



to sleep in order to reach or go from his room. This was not convenient at all, especially as he walked in town without knocking. The Chinese have no idea of privacy you know. I scolded him and it did not happen again!!

We also talked to the brethren about the condition of the floor and the dirt. They want to repair the floor but it will cost 4000 Mex. to do it right, and so we advised them to mend it this year, and begin getting their money together for a permanent tile floor later.

On Friday we began calling - and calls which took us to scattering villages far apart - so that the time spent in walking was equal to if not more than the time spent in calling. It was a long day and I was so tired that when we came back I reluctantly refused to go to one place near by - but I soon relented and made that call, but I went straight to bed in the evening after supper altho I had hardly time to undress before the brethren assembled for prayer meeting (in the class room). In spite of staying hungry and talking I went sound asleep!!!

It is very hard to remember their last names and to distinguish the faces which at first seem very similar.

How would you like to remember these names?

Tai sui so,  
Tai Kim so,  
Hap Sing so  
Li Ngai so,  
Tahong-gi so,  
Kim-bun sin,  
Pang-hok m.  
Saidy hai' che'.  
Tat Lam so.

This last syllable so, sin, or means wife, or aunt (as distinct from younger brother's sin). The Chinese do not use names very much but they distinguish every degree of relationship.

I now place - what do you think they called Ellison in speaking of him to me - "the old and honorable grandfather!!!" - "Lai a hong" I had a good laugh over that.

We saw many more places where men were gathering the tall sugar cane, crushing it with the help of cows and buffaloes, and then boiling

it down into a form of dark blackish anger. We saw others pulling the rice by primitive methods - two women working a long log that turned on (stern) a piece of wood upon another. We saw other women weaving the cloth by hand, and so long when there were interesting things to see.

L and I took a lunch but also partook of the Chinese dinner which the others had. L ate of more things than I did. I contented myself with rice and egg.

The next day we took a two hour boat ride to Long bui - and then we visited among small villages but not so far apart as those of today.

One heathen woman hauled her child in very quickly and shut the door tight probably frightened to death for fear of our evil influence. On the other hand one other woman gathered her three children around her and came up to us when we were sitting. I was just about to pat the child's head when the little woman made the woman stand quickly saying - "Don't do that, these are men, not God," and then I realized that woman had got down to worship at our feet instead of to show me her baby. So there are the two extremes all showing ignorance. Just think in all these valleys which we visited (at least ten I think) there was no place where a girl could go to school! Isn't it awful!

Some of them are so nice! One little wife who already believes but does not yet wish to enter the church, said that she was agreed on her cow.

and there are true words, all said with such a tone of sincerity that you could not help believing it. She wants to come to a town or three miles and work there or help to open later somewhere in this region.

At Long bui where we went on Saturday two women want a short class to study the Bible. There is no chapel there, but one very warm-hearted family offers its room for a place of prayer.

Miss Soltman goes home on Friday this spring. That leaves Miss Trean tied to the school and so there is not a single foreigner able to take charge of this class which is as much wanted. I wish I could, but I am not competent to do more than help a little as yet. That shows how much we are in

need of single woman workers! We need a woman to develop the school work in this city very much too. It is there the schools that we are able to teach the most lasting lessons.

Well we did not get home until 7:30 Sunday eve. Ellice had baptised four people in the morning as well as a job in church at length - and he also spoke again in the afternoon and held communion. The baptism was on the river and you would have enjoyed seeing it, I am sure.

Yesterday was a busy day getting our things settled. I had a slight attack of malaria in the afternoon but Dr. Rice got hold of it at once and I hope for no further trouble.

My cook is not yet back and it is a great temptation for me to spend a good deal of time in the kitchen especially when I find how much nicer things taste and realize what has been the matter with his scalloped oysters or a creamed egg or baked custard.

Ellice has gone to another station 3 days to make arrangements for an old man to be taken into the old folks home.

We found a nice mail awaiting us yesterday in which was a good parcel from Mother (box 2) (the letter of Dec 4 had arrived the week before) and a letter from Mother II.

I have just opened an orange from our own orange tree - (I had three oranges which were arranged to can to ripen) It is good too, but a little sour. Guess it should have stayed on the tree a little longer but I was afraid it would be rotten.

It was nice to hear all about Thanksgiving. The days must have been nice in all the places.

What a lot of pies you had Mother. Your cooks never will make pie crust for more than one or two pies at most.

I am anxious to hear from John at Milwaukee. Hope it is nice there.

Another big fat pile of magazines & presents has just this morn'g come from my mother from South Dan, a book from my father & a calendar from the Random blocks which is just the nicest thing I have seen.

Postage  
Present  
Hingham  
Halibut  
undelivered

Farmingham from Maria  
Wanderer

Cha-chow-fee <sup>Wednesday</sup> Jan. 23, 1917

Dear Ones, There is just a little time before bath-water will arrive, but I want to write a few lines to-night. Yesterday came a nice full envelope via Jennie with a little note from herself which I was glad to see. Christmas gifts keep coming along too, so that each mail is a surprise and pleasure. Today, ten ago came three pieces of music from Aunt Fan, Edginty, pretty modern things that Ellison and I have enjoyed daily since their arrival. Then there was a pretty handkerchief from Katherina Kendig, and a pretty crocheted necktie from Helen Bartholomew-Papley; to-day came a little parcel from Aunt Cele containing not only some ribbons which I think I asked her to get, but two more pretty handkerchiefs, and the dearest pink ribbon tie with black crocheted ends. I really have been showered with beautiful collars and pretty neckties and I got to send some home for you people to wear. This pink one is the prettiest one yet! So delicate!

There is the water, so I must run, but maybe I'll be back again to write some more.

Here I am - one has to be quick about bathing in these cold rooms. Had now I am all ready for bath in my extra flannel nightg, Ella's big nightg, which pinkish, doll-like warm bed dress; some hot and cold shoes that I gave me and the warm bath robe that Mother & Annie helped me make when she was coming down with arthritis, help to keep me a little warmer so I sit at my desk, but all the others I shall never be kept. Such is life in the tropics! We have not needed a fire for more than an hour or two to-day either, for it was quite warm in the sun-out-door. The house is usually colder than out-door these days.

Shall I tell you how I spent yesterday as a sample day for the week? I have taken full use of having 3 boys in the house for a short time, and have made them clean with a will, moving all furniture except the biggest heaviest pieces. The boy who is acting as cook's wife is now had with such details working for anybody else! I & P. I told Ellison I thought he should suffer for such these cleaning, between this it me none too there.

Well, yesterday eve. I alternated from kitchen, where the  
cobbler substitute was working, to bedroom where the  
other boys were sleeping. I made a bread pudding for dinner,  
as the home boys having the boy make dinner butter and  
start preparing for dinner. I was not out of the kitchen  
when Mr. Ross called to see how Ellison was getting on.  
Mr. Ellison returned from a day in the country, <sup>feeling like</sup> like  
Griffe - On that day luckily the cook sent a sub - He had  
brought away nearly two weeks without one. Ellison compared  
the griffe, but was attacked with diarrhoea - perhaps due  
to the very nice scalloped oysters and oyster oysters  
on toast that we had - (the <sup>best</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>year</sup>) - ③

Had a slight attack - but <sup>hasn't</sup> lasted two days I guess  
and made him feel mean.

Well to go back to Friday, Dr. Ross called as usual. There I  
had no loaves of good sup - stains than our old cook  
the one who had malaria so long, came to call.  
By that time it was dinner hour.

Immediately after dinner the Bible woman and her  
nice plus what to be teacher here, called on us.  
They wrote 3 letters, one on mission work, one to Mrs.  
Oliver who wrote me that she would not arrive  
to-day as expected but next week Thursday. (I had  
sent the boy to Swanton especially to buy vegetables  
for my cooking!) and one letter about church work.

Then I mended 3 pairs socks and it was tea time.  
We were just about to go out to the garden to  
begin preparations for planting, when Ellison  
announced that the boy had brought home a  
fine live lobster. I had told him, weeks ago, if he  
ever saw a live one in the city to buy it for us  
but I did not think he would choose such  
a time when we had been on a diet - for flays! ③  
Well the lobster was not quite like a harbor one,  
and as the boy had never opened one, I did  
that work after he had boiled it. It had delicious  
meat in the body and in two small claws, but  
the part where the small claw are had practically  
nothing fit to eat - and instead of <sup>being</sup> <sup>so</sup> <sup>small</sup> <sup>as</sup> <sup>usual</sup>!  
It had a yellowish substance quite better to the  
taste.

I saved much to my surprise and dis-  
appointment that Ellison did not care for lobster  
altho he dealt with pleasure of the scalloped lobster  
which he had for supper 5 - night.

Had a short time for daily worship - with candles  
in AM, by myself at noon, & with E. in evening - and  
an evening with E. - spent in trying to prepare the  
lettering for the little stones or slabs placed on the  
grave - and the day has gone - with so little  
accomplished! They are not all like that - but  
if it is not one thing it is another!

That one day gives up many hints as to the rest of  
the week that it is hardly worth while to go into  
details. I have welcomed the time to settle down  
after our numerous flittings and all the house  
in order and get my desk a little more systematized,  
to try to renovate my wardrobe a little for immediate  
wear, and begin to attack the Christmas correspondence.  
Perhaps it is just as well that Mrs Leach is  
coming a few days later. She says the new doctor  
(Dr Leach) is a woman, seemingly of ability and  
experience. She has had over 50 obstetrical cases  
some quite complicated - so now it rather  
looks as if we would go to Mack church by the middle  
& may send her. There will be a good nurse there  
and plenty of other doctors.

Now I must say Good Night - with kisses  
of love for each one!  
Want to write John, where is he at?

Sunday

I believe I wrote last, last Tuesday. I did have  
malaria that afternoon but Ellen went to see the  
doctor that very afternoon and I took quinine that night  
so that I have not had a touch since. I am very  
glad, and sincerely hope that it will not return.

On Wednesday I sent the boy to Sauters for vegetables.  
Of course that he do the cooking in that case.

On Thursday I had the boy cleaning again, and I helped &  
gave directions about cooking. He had some cookies made by  
Mrs Knowlton's recipe - and they were delicious! We make  
our own molasses from dark brown sugar. I read some  
with accounts with the boy, a long process.

On Saturday - cleaning, cooking, sewing, writing  
so near. After tea the two girls from the other side  
Miss Schickel of Swanton called. He had some nice  
music - and chatted till dark when they hurried home.

This morning (Sunday) Ellison preached here, as his  
teacher has sore throat. I walked into the City and  
played the organ there, and walked back. I certainly  
was ready for dinner when I returned at 12:30.  
I hes. for the City this PM. and I am at home  
so that all these servants may go to bed. Two of  
them have not yet joined the Church.

Much interested in Ruth's letter via Jennie in  
which she tells of Billy Sunday's sermon and the visit  
of the Maine Superintendent.

Also very glad to hear a note from Jennie. There  
are much prized. I am surprised at your request  
for an Xmas present from Mrs. Lee! How could you choose  
such a thing as that!

That letter about Ruth's financial condition was  
rather sad - probably long, but other as far as I  
know has come - and I am very grateful for them.

Much love to all.  
Lottie.

I have some dragon work for Ruth but have  
not yet sent. I expect Ellison will go to Swanton  
about Feb. 20. and I'll send a package or two  
then. He do not lose quite so much in Hong Kong  
checks now, and so that will help in buying a little.

You gave me a list of things cooking you did in one  
evening, Ruth, and I don't see how you could do so  
much. It takes me about a whole morning to make ten or  
there things. What is your recipe for a peanut loaf  
please! Also Pampflover pudding.

From Lottie Lee

Has Father a copy of our ancestry? If so - I wish  
I could see it at about time.

Well, Ruth, I didn't know you were such a good  
palm reader!

Did you hear Mr. Holyoke lecture, and heard it  
now \$50.00 per year! Isn't that awful.

I think Carol might like Framingham if it is  
so good as formerly. Have her write for catalog.

Finished Jan. 22 - 1907

Much Love Lottie

How you will all miss Little. And she surely will miss Rockport, please tell me the name of the place where she is going.

Are the new neighbors good? The name hardly sounds propitious!

I am very glad Ruth has been invited to V. M. That is great!

Whether, if you mean by the Caesarian Method the taking of the child thro' the abdominal wall, I have heard that there are grave reasons against using it unless it is absolutely necessary. I don't think any doctor would believe it; if a natural birth could be obtained with safety. Of course it is a very old method and dates back to the times of Christ.

Father's good letter as you are fully glad to see. I shall be glad to hear of the Chinaman about the Washington types. I can't remember where it is? Hope George sold his dog for that good sum. Hope Aunt George is well and strong and at home again.

I believe from Leo, John, Ruth, Carol and Ropley girls all gave us different glimpses of hours! It is great to hear from each one.

We saw bold geese on our trip down the river. The other day but they were too far away for a good shot with with the mounds of shot that Ellison had.

I think that John ought to have a vacation this next year, don't you? Are the English putters in strip-splines? Ellison bought some but found them difficult to wind neatly.

Yes John, your seal has a character which might be used for stamps if you came out here. There is no exact translation, of course.

Will Ruth please tell the Ropley girls that I enjoyed their Thanksgiving letter too. It was awfully nice of them to write.

I was glad to see Rachel's letter enclosed by Aunt Lett. Her baby must be very bright. Thinking of holding its head up so young.

Aunt Letti's letter of Dec. 1, came last week and I was so glad to hear of Bridget's Thanksgiving. I had to think of Mexican money, but it causes me all want what is best. I am so glad that you spoke so fully of the children. It helps me to realize what day and side. I am anxious to hear of Della's trip and suppose a letter will be coming before very long.

I am anxious to hear, too, how you all liked your Xmas things. I was particularly pleased with your Christmas, and hope it will prove useful as well as ornamented and that the ivory needles are of a suitably size to you.

I had a lot of knitting, you said. My father just to check a box and was as nice especially of convenience. I did not open all the parcels then. I just could not resist the dress & materials, for I wanted to use them, but the other things were not opened until Xmas day. Ellison enjoys his land muddy!

I think if Dr. Warren knew more of ~~the~~ taking of quinine he might have approved. Almost every doctor differs however. Did he disapprove of taking it in the sea - when we wanted to start labor pains - or the next day during labor when the pains stopped for a while? There was a good reason for both.

Doctor differs so much. As Barber says that he would have let me suffer more, and not have given chloroform or any other thing - but each might have acted differently if he had been on the spot.

I hope that all the help around O. K. If any child was omitted, please let me know. I am afraid I shall have to let birthdays (children's) slip this year, for I have so many things to plan and they keep so rather apart. But I expect I shall think of them all - I thought of each Jan. 11.

Chinese women do act as servants in the Hakka Country, but not here among the Hakkas except as nurses or amahs as we call them.

I don't know what to do about taking some journal. I feel that we have more magazines here than you people do at home, and it doesn't seem right for me to let it. Besides you have done so much for both Ellison and me!!!  
 I will write Shanghai & get details of arrangements & my rate.  
 Much love - Letti

Rubyfort Farmington from Union

Ruby O  
Highgate  
Hills  
Farmington

Chaochowfu  
Thursday - February 1 - 1917

Dear Ones All,

This is the week of visiting and a visitor, - and hence much to do and enjoy and little time to write so far and already a whole month of the New Year gone! Time does fly faster than it used to.

I was just about to go on writing when just arrived - Mr. Weims from up country - about 9:30 P.M. so we had to rush around to get supper and prepare the room for him. He has come down to get two calves from Hong Kong and take them back to his mission station where some day he hopes to have plenty of milk and butter as well as plenty of cows.

Feb. 3. Saturday. Mr. Weims stayed only over night - and he has promised to get half a ton of coal for us from Suatso so that we shall be very glad of his coming.

Last month the cook was here only five days and so I had to spend practically every morning cooking in the kitchen. I told you, I think, that he went home on account of a bad cold which settled on his lungs. I don't suppose it was bad enough to keep him home all that time, but he was afraid - and he has been as faithful to us, that we did not feel like finding fault. I paid him for the work of the 25 days he was away and made him pay his brother for the rest of the time for substituting. As a matter of fact I did the most important part of his work. But he made very very nice bread.

When I last wrote, I was just getting ready for the dishes. Well, I was busy preparing the room, and bedding and making some candy, etc., getting the boys to clean thoroughly.

Those dishes and table arrived on Thursday. Now I wished doubly for my cook, for I had to spend so much of my morning in the kitchen that I couldn't visit very much.

We went in to the city shopping one afternoon and later called on Mrs. James at the So. Gate. On Saturday I had the people from over there come

Here for tea - and before we were they Dr. Lecher and Miss Traver arrived. Dr. Lecher was all worn out. He had had 42 cases during the week which is supposed to be the lightest in the year. And he had allowed his Chinese Dr. to work up here away and Mrs. Lecher had been away 2 days. They had no nurse. His case were hard cases. One obstinate case which had been going on ten days before they called him - a case of taking out an eye (caused by stone throwing - a village custom at this season of the year near there) (2) - an abdominal wound which had caused the intestines to protrude it - that no Chinese could hope to succeed in treating the case - etc. etc.

On Sunday we had reunion service at Rockytown Compound and the people there insisted on our taking dinner with them altho there were six in our family and we had prepared a goose. Well they insisted so strongly that we had to stay 3 at each house - altho of course we enjoyed it - and still had our very delicious goose for Monday dinner.

This week Monday began our week of visiting. The Lechers went Tuesday. Miss Traver - "c" - and I had deliveries as early as 11:00 some days 11:30 others, and then I spent the rest of the day calling. I was for days in the city, but the rest of the time on this side of the river and in his pass & neighboring villages. It has been most interesting and I wish I had time to write - but it is already time to prepare to start to-day. I have a good letter from Mr. Rockport & also from Aunt Jels. But will not try to answer until I have time to read carefully. I wrote 49 letters in January!!

Much love to each one -

Lottie

Will try to write again by Tuesday. Mamma both very well.

Dear Dad, This is to wish you a very happy birthday on March 21. I have here your letter of Dec. 19. and I was very glad to see it and also <sup>the</sup> the enclosure about your brother George and the Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine. It also tells of the diary and shirt buttons which I am expecting to arrive any day now. Thank you very much indeed! I had a letter the other day saying that at Christmas time, there was over two feet of snow on the mountain where we spent our summer vacation. I should like to have seen it.

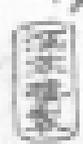
This is Japanese paper. do you like it. I am enclosing a silk handkerchief which I have had made for you. When you have a cold you will find it soft and nice I hope.

There's lots and lots of love to you. Tell me some things you want - books or clothes or anything and I should love to try to get it for my very dear father.

With much  
 much love to  
 you and Mother  
 Lottie.

E. Ellison sends  
 much love, too.

Jan 5/12



Robert Sammlen for Miss  
Helen  
Ball  
Holzner

Blue-chips via Sister  
Friday - February 6, 1917.

Dear ones -

Ellison has been working on mission accounts and on our household account nearly all day long - and it is now 7:40. I certainly was surprised as I looked at my watch just now - to see the hour, for I thought it forecast to a little after 5:00! I am disappointed, too, for I wanted to write a little more than these few lines. But I'll be good and say "Good Night" - with lots of love to each dear one.

I must wait to say that to-day came the long parcel from Father mailed in Nov. (Nov. 22). Wasn't it a long time coming? But it came beautifully and brought just what we needed. My fire-year diary will just be finished up this way, and how could you know that I needed another one? That is very remarkable!! I am very grateful. It is a much nicer one than I had had before. Many thanks, Dad. And I shall love it all the more because you gave it to me. Had Ellison was just making the Allen buttons and clean buttons, but he would never have had such nice ones if you had not sent them. Thank you again for him too.

Saturday P. M. 6:45.

The next day came such a pretty calendar from your Bliss of Glen Ridge, and yesterday came a most attractive bag from Miss Nellie, and a box from Ruth. Ruth dear, you simply must not send so much to me. It is too much. There were not only those delicious nut bars - (but my mouth has been watering for candy and I have not lashed it lately, for I made some chocolate dates and peppermints for Mrs. Decker's visit, and not only did she bring some candy which her cook had made but Miss Travis brought a tin box with <sup>some</sup> Christmas candy oh so delicious, chocolates down in the bottom. Oh, how good they did taste! Luckily the other day when every last piece was gone I made some butter taffy which is fairly good - and then when that is almost gone comes Ruth's nut bars. You may think or eat too much, but

just take a piece or two after each meal.)

To continue my sentence, "there were not only those nut bars" - but there was that lovely piece of light pink lavender ribbon, and the pretty hand embroidered apron. I cannot believe that you had time to make it. It certainly is pretty. Please realize that I appreciate all this love and thoughtfulness more than words can express, but don't do so much another year. Please!

Day before yesterday came also some nice mail from home so that all in all this has been a banner week. It has been a busy one, too, and I have much appreciated the chance - to come to my desk and straighten out our accounts for last year, as well as write some delayed business letters, a few Christmas notes, and straighten out my drawn work business, as well as clean out my desk, air and re-arrange all our books - (a small number) - mend a little, take the day how - to clean windows - etc. etc. mostly odds and ends of work, but things that have been on my mind since Dec. 31! if not before. I still have a good many important letters to write.

During the week we have received calls from, and have visited the two new teachers of girls' schools in the city and here, and have received calls from several other Chinese as well as a visit from Mr. Weiss who is on his way back to his inland station. He comes at such queer times, first arriving about 8:30 PM - without supper, and coming again about 6:20 AM. before he goes up!

We have also planted some more garden especially that delicious corn that Charlie sent us. I needn't taste nicer! We have also planted papaya seeds and coconuts. Hope they will grow.

I have tried to teach the boy to iron and to be careful of furniture and heat and tidy with the food. That is a long process, and just now he merely thinks we are strange, fastidious creatures who are altogether too particular about our food, and dishes and white paint etc.! He

goes off and laughs almost always just after I show him how to do things in a particular way. It is most exasperating!

Thanks be we had a slight rain on Wed. and more dampness on Thursday, but as yet the heavens drop very sparingly and we have no water in our cistern! Ho. The cooler has to carry a great deal of water, but as he is exceedingly lazy, we do not mind that very much!

I put out Claire's picture on my desk the other day (a very cheap one). Ellison picked it up and said "who is this Carl?" - It does look like Carl, as we left her. But how hard it is to picture the change!

Ellison has done something for me this week that I am very proud of, and it is the greatest convenience. He has partitioned off the top right hand drawer of my big desk into eleven compartments, so that I can separate my letters and keep them in order. It is the greatest help imaginable and I am so glad to have them out of sight and yet handy and near. I then written only sixty four letters so far this year with quite a host of postals, and I have heaps to write. I do not write regularly to anyone except our family - with an attempted letter at two or three weeks interval to Mother B. It is often longer - and a longer and more irregular interval when I write to some one of my Glen Ridge girls. I cannot understand how I can write so many and yet feel that I write to so few! How often have you seen but face one day so far! Thank you father, for the Boston Transcript which came day before yesterday. The National Geographic came the same day, and so we had plenty of good reading with wonderful pictures. Alas! the study of peace, so that we had music too.

Mother dear, I am sorry I have not written more fully about how well I have been for I am

afraid you have worried. I have hardly had an uncomfortable day, and not only that, but I have been in good spirits so that I can not help hoping for the best. If I am sick the least bit, I always write about it. even that touch of malaria which lasted only a few hours. I wrote you about it. I have a varicose vein now (left). But it is not bad, and Mrs. Baker does not even advise me to find it, unless it gets worse.

Dr. Milledge is coming to visit sometime not far off, and then we are going to talk about why going to Kityang for help, were provided she can have second doctor on hand. You see Kityang is on the direct route to Thaisyong, and so the teachers think it would be much better than Kakabruk for me, and for all. There is also a foreign (American) nurse at Kityang.

I suppose Stella has gone by now. How you must miss her! I am so glad that John got home for Christmas. Saw evidence to this about his boy. David sent me a letter after John's visit, and he enclosed Stella's Norfolk letters which I was most interested to see.

We hear that America has broken off diplomatic relations with Germany, and wonder what it all means! Hope for the best!

I am glad Uncle George is at home. So he much better? I certainly hope so. I wish I could find time to write him and Uncle Charley. Please give them both my love. Some day I'll think in time to get them something for Christmas or birthdays. I always think too late.

Uncle Dr. Ross is English Presbyterian. He himself comes from Scotland. So I doubt if he is a relative of the Dr. Ross nurse whom you mentioned, Mother. But he is fine!

Letters from Mary, Esther, and Luella were very nice indeed, and much appreciated. I shall think of them on their birthday. Love's every one, Sattie.



It is good Chinese custom to throw remains of food or tea on the floor, also to spit on the floor. etc. etc. - and the strains in the court yard and on the streets are the public toilets, so that you can see that we have a good deal to teach.

Miss Sallman and the new woman doctor (Dr. Leach) came up on Wednesday and stayed until Thursday, etc. Miss Sallman is to start for home in about two weeks and will be at that big conference with missionaries (they say) in Adair. We like Dr. Leach very much - but plans are not yet definite.

Mrs. James had us all over for tea that day. She is a dear! Here have been great celebrations in the city and among all the people for nearly two weeks now in connection with their New Year! At night one could hear fire crackers and see rockets all over the city. The streets have been crowded with people in their new clothes, for almost everyone has a new outfit at this time of year (at least). There have been processions of all kinds.

The day (Wed) that we went to Mrs. James's, we saw a very interesting collection of miniature floats for a parade. Was on painted wood figures of high class people in beautiful silk and embroidered robes were placed on very large sedan chairs without tops. Sometimes the front middle replaced by steps with figures on each level. Paper flowers in which candles were placed decorated each group. and withal it was a most interesting thing to see. Maybe I have written of it before.

Perhaps I wrote you that the custom of having these floats & figures was discouraged, in fact forbidden, at the time of the Revolution, largely on account of the expense and also somewhat on account of the unpopularity of old heathen religion at that time. But the custom is being revived by big firms partly as a means of advertisement.

I have now taken charge of the ten schools

for girls here, but I tremble at the responsibility  
I should always have of serious women's letters  
to come up. I have written my Glen Ridge girls and  
asked them to hunt around and see if they can  
not find some responsible girl (well trained  
and capable and knowing about kindergarten  
and primary work) who will find her own salary  
and come out here for four years to organize  
and start the kindergarten and primary work  
for girls on a firm basis. I wish they could  
find some one. We need some one very much  
indeed.

Mrs. James came over on Friday to  
spend the day with me and we enjoyed her  
and her baby very much, altho we had a scene  
with the boy's house-boy.

Mr. (the house-boy) wanted to resign and we  
told him he must give us two weeks notice.  
In a truly Chinese manner, he tried to make  
it as unpleasant for us that we could not  
stand it. He began with several minor offences  
but when he finally told me I did, we dismissed  
him upon the spot! - not realizing fully until  
afterwards that he was merely playing a game  
to get away!

Aunt Cele dear, would it be too much trouble  
for you to forward money (probably \$50) to Ruth  
to order a brown shirt waist for me? One that  
opens in front of course. Also, I should like  
a pattern for a dress - medium style - not voluminous  
but some every-day serviceable thing. I should  
like these to reach me by the end of June and  
to be addressed to London. All mail which  
will arrive after May 25 should be addressed  
London if you do not already address my  
letters that way. The pattern should be one that  
could be used for a street or afternoon dress.

Good letter from Ruth (sent Jan 10) arrived  
this week. I shall answer soon, especially  
as I send a package of drawn work to her by  
Ellison this week. I hope it will reach her all  
right at Rockport.

Glad to get postals from mother with news of

Family  
news

vestry, Susie P., and the family.  
I am sorry you are troubling to buy  
candy. I just thought that if Carol had no  
many admirers, they might some times be a  
surplus - and Ben I certainly would appreciate  
some, but I am probably better off without it. @

Hope Stelle had a comfortable journey to Maine.

We have been having mild weather too, for  
two weeks or more now - very comfortable indeed.

Glad to hear of Hazel's singing in Gloucester and  
you could have heard her, too.

Three letters from Gawn. I am sorry to hear  
but the beads are not pure ivory - that would be  
awfully expensive and turn yellow. There are  
carved bone; it may be elephant's tusk for all  
I know. At any rate, they are nice and come from  
wantons.

What kind is your watch? Has it black  
figures on it? What kind of case?  
What color is your crepe waist?

Can't you get on the right side of the Miss  
O'Brien who seems so expensive? Do your best.  
I shall be glad to hear of her resignation.

Mr. Holyoke's lecture and board here gone up  
again. - to \$500 I think.

I guess there are more in Senator Bell's railway  
very good in China - rather disreputable still I guess.

Give me a copy of your address of family  
and personal accounts for December, will you?  
I should very much like to see them.

It takes me about 30 minutes to dress properly  
7/20

Much love to all  
Lottie.

I am making three little silk shirts - hoping I shall  
have a chance to use them.

Rockport  
Hingham  
B.R.O.

Worcester  
Mass  
etc

Chocomaque via Newtow  
February 24, 1917.

Dear Ones All, It is Saturday night. Ellison  
came home about 2:30 P.M. and you may be  
sure I was glad. He has been gone since  
Monday, I think I wrote you from Mrs. James's  
where I was spending some of the days while he  
was away. Mrs. James is so nice, and her  
baby William born in early January 1916 is as  
beautiful as a picture doll, very active and  
lively. He was amusing himself with a big  
catalog one day; and coming to a page of  
pipes he was asked by his mother: "What  
do Daddy do?"  
He immediately began - to puff as if he were blowing  
away the smoke!

Sunday -

This letter came from Daddy and Mother B. yesterday.  
Mother B. has been quite sick - had to go to hospital  
for a week - and I guess she is very delicate. It  
worries me. I think she has been in bed three  
weeks.

Alice's little girl Dorothea who weighed only 9 1/2 lbs  
at birth is gaining nicely - and Alice seems quite  
to be recovering nicely.

The whole family had a lovely Christmas  
gathering with all at home except the concave-law  
Alice of course, was at the hospital, but all could  
see her.

Love

Well Dad, we have sent our French clock home  
by the Leathers to be repaired. When they reach  
Worcester, they will mail it to you at Rockport.  
Please have it repaired. (At first I had intended to  
have it sent back by Leathers but as there will be only  
1 1/2 wks. for us after their return, it may be better to  
have it at home and let Aunt Cele see it until  
our furlo. In a fall need a clock then I think  
it may decide to have Babes bring it back this fall. (Did at this point)

Please let me know expense. also expense of  
repairing wrist watch.

Will Mother have enough rope to have one or two more  
rag rugs made for me. I think I am about the time  
when I shall need one or two more, for I do not dare

Plants have expanded  
length in this on my and Babes thing  
to be done that of mine

are the matting on account of white ants.

I have engaged Mrs. Decker's coach for the long while Mrs. Decker is at home. (in case I need her!).

It looks now as if I should go to Kityang Hospital in May - possibly or later - faced with Mr. Mildred and Miss Eaton, the nurse, would I have to go to the hospital, and then have the best room there which has been especially endowed and has nice furniture. Convalescing - I should be at the house again.

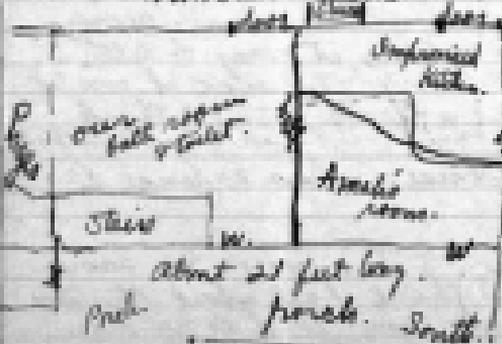
Dr. Decker would be with Dr. Mildred on the occasion. This is not entirely definite, but I write as that you will know plans as early as possible. Unless you hear something different, you can be quite sure that this will be the plan.

Kityang is on the direct route to Tsaiyong, and so it is to make that trip much easier. We had to keep house by ourselves at Tsaiyong this summer. I'm sure we hope to add a porch on East and South of house so that we can have a little establishment by ourselves - but financial situation is too unstable at present for us - to do anything more than perhaps to lay the foundation pillars for a back porch.

Esteban Ellison will go to Tsaiyong first with as much of the baggage as possible and get the house opened and cleared.

Then, if all is well, he will make arrangements to divide one of the down stairs rooms so that we can use it for a kitchen.

Down stairs is like this! -



Proposed division for this summer

East

you see, if we could add the porch on East & half of back, we should have a private portion to ourselves.

My ideas are rather vague about the division of the room - for I can't quite remember space.

After dinner! (cont.)  
Ellison just brought home such a nice letter from Aunt Cele. I was awfully glad to hear, and to know that the arm was better, and the rest of the family quite well. I was also interested in enclosure.

We read the letter as we ate our dinner of

- Soup -
- Calmed beef, cooked in Victor Cooker
- Mashed potatoes
- Fried cabbage.
- Onions creamed.
- Banana Toast.

You see Ellison brought back some vegetables from Suator, and we all enjoy those. Last night we had ten tomatoes from our own garden, and they were delicious.

There has been a nice bit of rain to-day. The Chinese are looking anxiously for it, for they need it before planting their rice.

We have a most delicious cereal in our mountains. Take natural wheat. Wash it a little - Grind it in coarse knife of grinder - It makes very nice breakfast food and most wholesome. Wonder if anybody has introduced it at home. There's a hint for the business man.

I have read a little while Ellison has been away - looks to take up my attention mostly -

- "Green Mantle" - an exciting story by J. Baskin.
- "The House of the Wolf" by Stanley Meyerson.
- "A Student in Arms" - Series of very fine essays by Donald Hamby.

I have also spent some time on drawn work - and on sewing. I have sewed a little for Mrs. James. Her baby wears a "jumpsuit" - over a little white cashmere or wool dress. I finished one of those velvet ones <sup>with fur</sup>.

By the way I should like sometimes a pattern for Robinson.

We had wonderful Victrola music over Mrs. James's. Dr. Ross had some papers, Schubert, Grieg records come up on Wednesday of last week.

Yesterday I made a few paperweights to send to  
the people who have for quilts this week. Hope  
they will have a good trip. Then 4 more years!!!

Well, I'll close this up so that Ellison can take  
to the city this AM. He has to go in town today.

Are there some kinds of yarn that will fit  
those knitting needles, Round 14's? I thought I  
had a memory that they were about the size  
you need.

Sorry my letters are so long in coming!

No, I have had no success at all, this trip. Don't  
it find!

Dr. Griffith's book on "The Care of the Picky" - we have  
in the house. It belongs to Mr. Johnson. I also have  
Holt's book "The Care & Feeding of Children".

Yes, I think we have plenty of reading  
matter. I have written the Methodist Publishing  
Company to see about their magazine office. Exchange  
is so bad however, that it will not make much  
difference now as before. We hope the Board will  
adjust the difficulties about exchange, but it will  
take it pretty hard for them, and can't be done  
for months probably, altho they probably are  
willing and want to do all they can.

The well educated women are not so curious  
as those we call on, but their ideas of cigarettes  
are quite different from ours. ~~Many~~ Many of the  
Chinese one could enjoy socially if only one  
could talk freely.

Of course they have very  
little in common with us in the realms  
of literature, music, nature etc.

You have seen this new little moon. Skoon.

Very much love,  
Lottie.