

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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B. 4. 0

Swatow
July 11

Swatow, China
June 11, 1917.

Dear Ones, Yesterday and to-day have been lovely and clear and comfortable. The temperature is about 81°, but it is dry so that we don't feel it so much.

I certainly have had nice mail this week, and that has been so good! I was glad to hear that Marion liked the new house, and that Father had 100% on his Cold Storage Stock this year - and both Ellison and I were very much interested in Carol's account sheet. I have a system quite similar but a little more compact.

The parcel containing the shirt waist and pattern and other dear things came from Ruth this week - all beautifully done up. I hate to do up parcels and so I especially advise those who do things up neatly and daintily. I will write Ruth.

I had written the Oakland Church (which pays me salary) about some things we wanted and this week along came a new volleyball ball from a Mr. Honeychurch, one of the members I suppose. To use in the school work at Chiochowfu. That made me very happy. He wrote a lovely letter, too, and told us to let our needs be known. It was very encouraging!

To-day Ellison went to the city to work at the school and go to the house. I wish them had attempted to get in once since our abodes, although we have an old man caretaker in each house.

Finally, foreign shutters and doors puzzled them and they could not get on. They tried the kitchen roof but to no avail, according to the tale of the cooler. They contented themselves with stapling the great big iron dish in which we boil our clothes and a similar dish which native use as a tray, as well as a box and rake. All these things were in the corner

It took

hitchcock which cannot be locked very
securely.

They coolly saw the head of the thorn
among these things, and Ellison saw the
police. I hope that there will be no
more trouble.

I was much interested to hear that
Ruth and Aunt Ale had seen Dr. Greenback.
He usually is very pleasant, and may have been
tired out. Then again, he couldn't have very
much to say about us for we haven't done
very much. He may have been a little provoked
at me, for I was innocently the cause
of his having to give a public apology.
It happened thus only.

At conference there was a debate as to
who should be the second man to rep-
resent us at the conference in America.
Ellison with the support of half a dozen
people voted a resolution that Mr. Baker
should represent us - since it would save
money and time if one of our important
members here. This resolution was
passed to the supreme committee. The
question came up for discussion on
the floor of conference. No mention was
made of his resolution. The matter
was discussed with no mention of any
candidate except Dr. Greenback.

I was hit - that a resolution should
be so slighted by the Ref. Com. (I thought
the men had said to themselves - Oh that is
just one of the young men's ideas - there is
no use discussing it.)

Well in my usual fighting mood I rose
up and said that that it was a
scheme that a resolution should be
passed in to the Ref Com. and that the
entire question should be discussed on
the floor without a single mention of
the matter. I was speaking entirely on my
own responsibility, but I think that in

justice, a resolution whether lacking wisdom or not, should have a fair reading before the people.

I well - Dr. Ingraham - had to apologize, for he said he had entirely forgotten the matter and the fact abolition had not been even mentioned to Prof. Com. course it was a bad album look rather had to go to Dr. B. who was the only other candidate for the office. Mr. Lewis and Ellison & my other sprang up to say that Mr. Baker was the grand goal had run away from the field too long and my Dr. G. - was felled - and as the matter passed over, but I could not help feeling that Dr. G. - must have wished that I hadn't let his carelessness, receive such prominence. That probably however, had nothing to do with his talent turning - He probably had nothing to say.

He has just now received a blow, I expect, in the news that the new addition to his school at Cheong-yang which he was very proud of - because the business gave so much money for it, has collapsed. The cable was sent some June 5 - with ours. We thought it best to cable, thought the blow would be less severe if anything - especially as we could wait a few days before cabling and make the interval between letters and cable a little shorter. Hope it went all right. We could not use code on account of war.

I am enclosing a snap shot of the Capens who were so helpful to us on May 28.

There is also a picture of Dr. Mildred Miss Astor, and a sketch of a pagoda.

I am sitting up some to-day - and have been fully grooving around and sitting up wherever I wanted to

reach things for two or three days.

Right in front of my bed the French doors open on to a glass enclosed porch which perfectly frames a hill something like Bob's hill in miniature - pine trees and rocks. I have air from four directions, such care, the advantage of every up-stairs room in the Ashmore House.

The view at my left is of that odd high morning rock which I used to enjoy from the Page House.

The Chinese have kept me supplied with delicious peipeyas, and they have sent corn and tomatoes -

We are writing the doctors to look up medical material about your situation and we'll hope to get the latest medical advice from Pennsylvania and John Hopkins.

Now I wonder if there is more you want to know. We are that entirely crushed. We still have courage and faith - so ~~but~~ since most of your sorrow will be for us, don't grieve.

Tru has come.

Love

Lottie.

Rockford -
Beigunacii
Halvaka
Woonahampton

7th C

Suataw June 19, 1917-

Dear Ones all,
The day after our anniversary
Four year - and I am glad for them even
with the sorrows they have brought. The
only thing I worry about, is that Aunt Lila
will be too lonely, or someone will feel
something I might be doing if I were home,
and that is very egoistical, isn't it?

Think, it will be only two and a half years
from this fall before our furla is due!

What will the war do before then? - How I
shudder before its awfulness! - And yet what
wonderful courage and bravery it brings out too!

Evening -

Please looking for letters any day now,
for it has been quite a long while since we
heard, ten days or more at least - I had a
postal from Miss Solomon. She said:

"It was a real pleasure to me to meet your
sister last Sgt. She is such a pretty
delightful girl!"

So now! Miss Solomon is all right!

My nurse left me for good last week,
Wednesday I think. I still have the a sin,
and Ellison has been around morning and
night - and noon and tea time for that matter.
Some Sunday I have combed my hair and taken
my own bath - and have walked around on this
upper floor. It is a pleasure to see the
water of the bay again.

Mr. and Mrs. Mc Gleshan have to go home
to America, Sgt. that an awful blow!
Both of them being enthusiastic workers
have gone beyond their strength - Mr. Mc G
came home from his last country left
with malaria and stomach trouble and
Mrs. Mc G had a nervous breakdown
last week that has made the doctors

order her home at once.

I am sending in this envelope one or two letters of sympathy. You will see what mischance befalls Douglas James and Dr. Ross are. But I send them for their sentiments and in spite of the writing!

Maybe I'll enclose Dr. Whyte's. We know him and Mrs. Whyte only a little, but they have been very sympathetic. They have one little daughter Jean, the idol of their hearts. She is about six or seven now, I think.

What is there to tell you?

People come in to call. The children come in and bring me their books, or a flower, or some cookies they have made, or some sewing they have done.

I do not accomplish anything of course. My time will be short until we go to Thaiyong. We have ordered a boat for July 3.

Elison was home most of yesterday, and we had a nice day together. He helps me a lot. He brought down the organ and is going to take it to Thaiyong as my wedding present. (I decided we could not afford it.) (Little Japanese *flower* *organ*)

We had vanilla ice-cream with choc. sauce to celebrate, and it was good. We invited Dr. Leach and Miss Northcott over to lick the plates clean, and they stayed and chatted with us until nearly 9:00.

It is 8:15 pretty near my bed-time, so I'll say Good-night with love to each one.
Lottie.

Holyoke
W. Northampton

#101
no C

Swataw, June 25, 1917

Dear Ones, We have had very comfortable days for the last three or four days. We have really needed a sheet at night, and the temperature had run from 71° to 83° but has stayed mostly round 80° and 81°.

It is a long time since we received mail, but to-day we had some from Holyoke, Nema, Agatha, and an envelope from May, Cattie, all of which were very welcome, and perhaps to-morrow there will be some more from Sid, C, Rochford, Madford Hillsides, Kingham etc.

I am growing stronger every day altho I have not yet been down stairs. This is certainly a comfortable house, and the upper floor is roomy and the wide porch is very pleasant. The view from the front porch the other evening as we sat it thro the pine branches was exquisite beyond words. It was a new moon of fire or all days - showing the rim of the full moon. The reflection above a bank of dark black clouds, it had the cloud were reflected on the water of the bay below us. I can think only of the water of Venice (as I have read about them) as it looks. I wish you could all see it. Of course I thought of you all.

Ellison has gone to the city to-day, but altho I miss him I have not been lonely, for there has been plenty to do between my long rests. I invited Miss Helen Capen in to have tea with me. Another of her playmates happened in and we had a nice time. They Helen and Carl Capen came up to say good night to me. I am glad I sent you ~~the~~ pictures. Helen has been in every day for the last two weeks I think -

Did I write you that Mrs. McGlashan has had a break-down, and that the Mr. Glashans will have to go home. It will be an awful loss to the mission, for they are such splendid workers. We seem to have depleted numbers at present.

I sent to Ruth to-day 3 pounds of Ningschow
tea - and a small tin box of dried roses. At Ningschow
they drop a dried rose in the cup and then pour
the tea upon it. This Ningschow tea, we rather
like. Sometimes we mix it with Sipton's Ceylon.
One day only .45 Max, a lb for it, but I'd had
it. Would be worth a great deal more, of course.

Elison had a rather hard day yesterday preaching,
baptizing, and holding communion at Kia-lat ja
slightly of Sun-tow. He is standing things
pretty well, however. Everybody will be glad to get
away to the hills, altho Bro. A. could ask for
more comfortable days than we have had to-day
and yesterday.

What a nice surprise party Marion had!
I am so glad - How lovely for Ruth to be there.

How Aunt Celia must miss them! - It is
like not being able to spare one son out of
a big family, for it leaves a large number
but still there is the emptiness where the
others were.

Now I'll say Good Night -

Wish you could be here, and hear the boys
of the school nearby all studying out loud -

His Study-time is the noisiest part of the
day!

Friday 6:00 P. M.

I feel so strong to-day - just like going
out - but I don't want to climb stairs
yet, so I'll stay in.

I have done a number of odd jobs to-day
that have been on my mind for a long time - have
mended a few things, and done up some parcels,
and prepared some sewing - and read,
and written a little -

Nothing exciting to write about however.

Much love to all

Letter.

we found that we should have to wait till 9 P.M. to start up the river. (L) But of course it was nice to spend the day with Mr. Scott, and stay indoors during the heat. It was a very very hot day, and the west wind, which is enervating has blown all day. If the men can get us to Washington tomorrow night, as they guarantee they can, it will be cooler than if we had started at noon. But I don't feel as sanguine as I wish I did about arriving. Will see. The men are very confident.

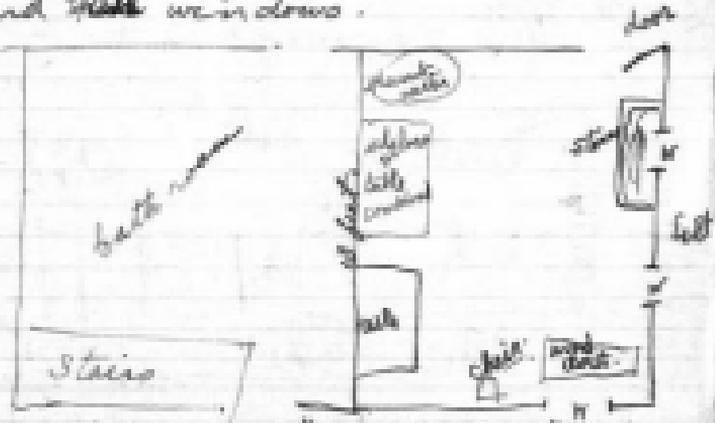
Rochester

Haigong, ^(Sunday) July 5, 1917.

Dear One, Can this be Mason's fifteenth anniversary. I can hardly believe it! I am wondering if she is in the hospital and having a happy time. I hope so.

We are at last at Haigong, arrived last Friday and it seems good to be here. We are hardly settled yet, for Ellison will let me do next to nothing, and there are so many things he must do in the way of carpentering to make us comfortable, that neither of us has had much time for personal things.

We had decided to "open our own kitchen" as the Chinese say, - this year, and that too is a comfort. You remember perhaps that we had two little rooms down stairs - they are not so little after all - about 10 x 13 feet. The one at the end has a door and ~~two~~ windows.



We brought up three earthen "huang lei" - a native stove, round, about 5 inches in diameter and about 10 inches high. It is what you might call an individual stove. The cook and the care takes with a few pieces of lumber, some stones and fourteen cents made a fire place in which they inserted these stoves.  It is very clever, and it

was so amazed that it cost so little that I nearly gasped!!! and let the men see my astonishment - a very un-wise thing to do in China!

Then we brought in from the next room a combination set of shelves and table shelves.

I'd be glad to know if the Season record has
 been checked all right - and Charlie and Tom received handbooks
 or not?

which Ellison had made two years ago. It
 was just what we needed. The dumb waiter is
 not yet made but I expect it will be begun to-morrow
 and then all will be fine. Mrs. Bell (servants
 included) go proud of our kitchen that we hardly
 know what to do!

This year we brought up two cots from the kitchen,
 and that is a great improvement upon what we
 had had before, and is not all only more
 comfortable, but gives us more room and is
 better to look at.

Happy birthday to Grand - Mrs. also arriving at night

Monday AM 10:25

I am ready to sit down and write a little.
 Ellison is working on the dumb waiter.
 It has been raining and temperature is
 only about 77°. Mr. Page is repairing the
 verandah. The boy is washing - because
 the rain has held up. Up here he washed in
 the river.

Here I promised Fatta to tie down
 so I will make a diagram of up-stairs



The dotted
 line is
 taken to
 pieces in
 the day and
 is to be
 hung from
 the roof
 when I
 get round
 to it

Verandah
 (a) where the basket for dirty
 clothes is hung from the roof on
 a pulley. (b) where the ladder
 chair is hung when we don't need
 it. (c) is where the shower
 bath outfit is hung on the
 verandah, with screen protection, somewhat
 crude as yet but can do
 good. Bye with lots of love
 Ellison

Spent some time on up-stairs in last letter, and have read letter to
 both F & Mrs. with confidence.

July 6.

Did Carol have a nice birthday? By the time the
reaches you the rush of August birthdays will be
upon you. The further they fall the more happy. A
little gift for George I sent in with Ruth's box. Wish
I had sent that bit of drawn work too. George's gift
was a pair of Chinese scissors. I had laid out
something else for him, but found I had duplicated
something I had already given him, and we cannot be
lazy shopping out there.

Don't you ever call yourself a member of
the earth Aunt Bob? You never could be this
even if you could not drive hand or foot.

Am sorry the Medford House is not all it ap-
peared to be. Can it be pruned? Is the default
paralytic like Scarlet fever or diphtheria in contagion?
I have two balls of the cotton to Mrs. James,
and probably shall not use very much for some
a long mortal and certainly blighted with my
output.

Supper has come - { Brown Potato soup
+ little chicken + potato left hand
fruit + cake.

Goodby for now

After supper.

I found we had chicken soup thickened in a little potato
Some nice cold sliced chicken.
Some small boiled potatoes dropped into deep fat + fried.
" hot biscuit
" best salad.
a little peach sauce and a large piece of lemon pie left
from dinner.

That sounds quite different from what I told you before
hand.

Marion dear, will you please date your letters!

Date those to other people as well as the ones to me. Has
the drafting taken place yet?

How nice for John to take Mother to Medford! Do John
with Marion or not?

Have you a large garden in Rockport?

So glad of George's letter of May 15, telling a little
more of his plans. I'd write him some day.

It was good of him to pay Carol's tuition to date.
So Carol a Senior next year?

It is Sunday Aug July? and we are going down
to spend the day with Tom James.

When the water came up on the beach water
this AM there was a note purporting to be from
"Mr Miller" James a dear note, then I found
Tom May the hit in front of the door - and being
four sticks of candy palm butter tallowine I probably
found the other being a glass of jam from Tracy.
He had been complaining that the jam supply
was low this year!

Then Miss Griffin had sent some pictures
of the ~~beach~~ M. Jim -

The cook is making a mocha cake and I
have spent packed the box of brownies -
The typhoon is still on but it does not rain all
the time only intermittently and we hope to
go down between the drops

Now much love to all -
Lotta

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting follows, possibly including a postscript or additional notes.]

B-7-120
Rockport

Haiphong via Suatow
July 16, 1917

Dear ones,

It is a rainy, blowy day, and it has been rainy and blowy for several days; there has been a typhoon somewhere near Saigone. We had two beautiful days this week. One was Thursday when a great many people took a trip to the Phung. Roba this morn'g Mrs. Crossland and the two children, and Ellison went. The next day came on cloudless and beautiful, but by noon the sky had clouded over and the sunset was something like a typhoon sunset in the richness of its coloring. A very high wind came up in the night, and fresh that time or in have been in the midst of rain clouds. They drive in one by one, and sometimes there is only the mist, but at other times there is the very heavy rain. (that is what it is like)

The little stream was so full but that we had chukleh in the dining room of the James house. Ellison had previously preached a sermon in Chinese at the chapel, then he read the rim, came home for tea, and preached a children's sermon to us at the James house.

Almost every body was there in spite of the rain.

Our dumb waiter is temporarily finished and we all enjoy it. Later during the meeting with Ellison will probably board it in and make it look better.

When the people went to the Home last week, they brought me some beautiful Easter lilies which you had out here. They have a beautiful perfume. Those that were in full bloom were somewhat battered from the trip, but the buds here come out into most perfect bloom later in the day.

The folks has made British Biscuits & Cakes and cookies. Robert, Bob, and I together have made Mission Biscuits for Ellison's birthday tomorrow. We will also make a table layer for the table. It has been invited to Mrs. Jabala's for dinner and tea, and here for supper.

We are going to have a Stunt Party on Saturday evening on the James's porch.

These letters arrived on Wednesday and these
and they were most appreciated. Aunt Letty's
L. arrived July 11. Carol's birthday. (Did the letter
reach you, Carol?) Also Aunt Letty's May 24 came on same
mail. Mother's (sent June) arrived and also one
from Beth Kells, and one from the Bartholomews.
Your brother B. could not write herself. She is not at all
well, and I feel so badly about it. There was also a
nice fat envelope from Jennie with some nice
notes from her.

Now I'll turn to the letters and see what there is to
comment on.

I have not addressed any of the general letters
to Rockport, for I did not know when Aunt Letty
planned to go. This letter indicates the last of July.
It certainly would be nice to go to Maine and
see Stella. How lovely it must be there in the
summer. I shall never forget my visit to Grand
at Fairfield. I just revelled in the fresh air and
beauty.

It was nice for Aunt Letty to visit Maria and Polly
and get all her shopping done. You say you thought
hard for chess-wallah's Ban you give me a real example?
I should like to know what kind.

I'm glad to hear of Aunt Letty's gratifying
things. I think that they must be very pretty.

John has not done any knitting since the doctor
wrote us, and so I am afraid he will not make his
next winter's socks. I have done about three lines
on one sock cloth and that is all!

Wouldn't it be nice if John could drive Mother down
to Maine?

Stella is getting a minister's father, what it is to
get over and meet her in China. (D) But her
condition is really harder in some ways, for she does
not expect to have to wait so long, and I don't doubt
always.

I was so glad that Jennie added a note to the letters
she sent. Well, it was June 2 when she wrote, and
she had heard no word, she wrote with an understand-
ing sympathy that made me wish if some thought
had passed to her across the water.

I am sorry that Mother did so much suffering
at Bear's hole Neck. It was too hard.

Thaiyong

July 15, 1917.

Dear Dad,

Here are a few HongKong stamps for you, but I am afraid that they are not what you want.

10:55 July 17. We are waiting for the rain to stop so that we can go off to have dinner with Mrs. James. It almost stops and then a great gust of wind and a heavy shower comes back. So suddenly so this it has stopped - so Good by

July 25. It has been raining ever since and is pouring just at present! Thank you for your good letter of May 31. I was glad to hear that George and you had made money on motorcycles and houses. I guess you'll use all you can make these days.

Do Miss Day letter? What kind of fever did she have? I am so sorry!

You never tell me things twice over, and I am always so glad - to read all you write.

Have you sold your watch crystals yet? Did you say you had 3,557 of them? Good.

Much love to you

Letter

Thaingong in Canton

Jan. 1. 1917.

Dear Family, It is raining some more. It really has rained nearly every day for a month, and one almost despairs of clear weather again.

August 3.

My days have been rather full. How do I manage it? Well I have started tutoring a bright Chinese boy in algebra. He has already studied by himself three fractions and has done very well indeed. How he could ever do it, I cannot see! He goes to the university where Mr. Smart (with whom we lived last summer at Pedanum) teaches.

Then we entertain at tea once in a while, and go on bathings, and have Red Cross meetings to knit and sew. I am beginning to knit a scarf and like it much. I have also made one wash cloth, - my first piece of knitting. Then there is tending, and writing, and accounts, and reading when one can find the time!

So Ruth dear, you will see that I have found something to occupy my mind. Last summer I found that my only way to be happy was to do things and as I grow stronger, I longed as can be to be busy. I notice each week that I can do more. I was so sorry to hear of Alice Browne's frame. I didn't even know that she had two children; but I had heard that her oldest child died. I am so glad that she has another little one now. She was married a few ~~years~~ after we were but I suppose that she must be older than I am by a year or two at least.

M. had had good weather for the last two days, and we hardly know what to make of it. The Chinese are busy from daylight to dawn working the rice and sweet potato fields.

Elison went in swimming with us yesterday and I do believe he will learn to swim after his back-castle - and then of course it will not be much trouble for him to try the breast stroke.

I must take my nap - and then I'll try to write

a little more before tea. Good mail came yesterday. Magazines, papers, some Holywell copy for L (my? I was thankful to receive them). Ruth's good letter, one from Etta, and envelopes from Mary Kelley, also a large budget from Mrs. Merrill. (Extract interesting news of Marjorie, Kay, and Edward) - and a nice one from Nelly with a ten dollar check for E's birthday.

It gave me quite a shock of surprise to receive a letter from America from one of the girls who came out on the boat with us ^{in 1913}. She went to the Philippines where they have shorter furloughs! Well, two years going next spring, if all is well, you will find us home! Of course I'd like to see you all beforehand, but I do not need to come home. It is a very serious proposition to leave one's work, and even now I do not know that they will have a substitute for us in 1920. We are just getting to the point where we can begin to do effective work.

I just realize that I may have lost the mail for to-day, and so I'll close this suddenly and hand so.

I believe I have put some of the G. Pidge letters in the envelope.

How much love. very much
to each and every one.

Letter.

We are consulting with doctors and sending letters around, and hope to get out some cause for my trouble before too long.

This fall will bring better opportunities.

Rockford

Chicago -

Waukegan

Therion.

August 13, 1917.

Dear One, I have persuaded Ellison to take Mrs. Groebich and Katharine for a Sunday evening sing, the first of the season, while it stayed with Tracy, for it is threatening to rain again and I did not want to run any risk of getting my feet wet. So I have read Tracy a chapter or two from "Old-Time Negroes" a book he had for his birthday, and I think that he is asleep now. He is a dear loving little chap. Husband and I do enjoy being with them so much, even tho' it brings prangs, to our hearts to think of how much we have lost. Ellison does not say much, but this afternoon he let me know (as he does not very often) - that it wrongs his heart to see so many of the dear children at church. He love them and would not be deprived of seeing them and being with them for worlds, but he can't help its reminding us!

I think I hear him now coming back and it is only 8:25.

No, it's false alarm. I didn't think they could possibly be back yet.

The first part of the week was very rainy but by Thursday we were able to wash. We almost forgot which day is which when wash day gets moved around so. The wind is blivified almost as if a new typhoon were beginning.

Dr. Newman may advise us to take a trip to Hong Kong to see a physician there in September or October, so I tell you of the possibility beforehand.

On Sundays every week now Mr. Capon comes here to sing. His songs are beautiful and it has been worth having the organ here, just to hear him. There is one song "The Lily" to which Mrs. Small has written the accompaniment and it has the most beautiful chords! The words, however, are very heavy!

It seems as if summer is hardly begun and yet we are already making plans for the home-going.

At early 5:15

A nice Boston Evening Transcript from Father and a Boston Post arrived yesterday. We were very glad to see them.

I am on my third ball of yarn in making
the scarf for Red Cross.

My Algebra pupil must stop this
year and I am disappointed, for I
have thoroughly enjoyed teaching him.

Ellison is going to join in a badminton
tournament. Has the game been introduced
at home at all yet? It is a good one.
Thursday eve. Aug. 13.

The typhoon is on and the rain is beating
down and the wind is blowing at a terrific rate. I
thought that some of the windows would fly in
last night, but they didn't. The river is very high.

Before the season is over, there will probably
be a children's concert and a grown-up concert.
That will be nice.

The carpenter is not thro work yet, but
he will not be much longer. It is so hard to
get hold of him that Ellison feels that he must
get as much done as possible, and so
has been had a number of things done,
which we would rather have waited for until
next year from a financial point of view.

I haven't much to write about, and so
I'd better not keep on so stupidly, - so
Goodby for now with much love!
Sara

Bridgewater
Bradford St.
Rockport -

Haldipole

Thuyong August 29, 1917.

Dear Mrs, Such beautiful clear days we have had for the last few days! Had such nice letters come a few days ago - two from Bridgewater and two from Rockport.

We have had some nice trips. Yesterday we started off at 6:30 and followed the bed of the river to Craiyellachie - a place three miles away perhaps - I can't tell distances in China.

The scenery is rugged and very wonderful. There are deep hot holes in slots of the rocks, and in one place the river goes right under a hill coming out on the other side by beautiful falls at least a hundred feet long I should say. These were not the only falls we saw yesterday, for there are several of them as the river drops about 1500 feet in just a few miles.

We stayed all day and so avoided walking in the heat. Then we started for home about 5:00 as a thunder storm seemed to be approaching with most wonderful cloud effects, but luckily the rain did not come.

On Monday, we had the best concert of the season. It was to have been in the afternoon, but a cable came saying that the mother of one of the Presbyterian Doctors had died, and so we postponed until evening. We had it on the porch of the new house where Mr. and Mrs. James live. The screens of the porch were all pulled half way down and decorated with by ferns and flags. We had a little organ in accompaniment except for the piece where Elmore accompanied Miss Astor on her auto trip, and one very piece which was accompanied by Chinese instruments.

Dr. Rice has come up and brought his Victoria so that we heard Lieut. "Hungarian Rhapsody" Tchaikovsky (1812), and the Overture to William Tell, as well as a Slave March. The records are exceptionally good.

On Saturday last we had a trip to a village not far away - and it proved to be a place where

Ellicson and I went by mistake three years ago. I was very glad to see it again. We also found a perfect stream and waterfalls that we had not seen before. That was an all-day trip and Ellicson and I lingered behind the others coming home as that we had a lovely time. For we found a grassy spot such as we seldom find in China and near by was a little group of five trees that looked like Acacia. Every one remarked on the homelike-ness of the place and we all enjoyed thereby the fact that we could sit down on Mother Earth. We don't very often find spots where we can do that with any comfort out here either the sun is too hot, or there are snakes, or insects, or too much water is in the earth.

Another morning I had a trip of the valley to a place I had never seen before and we found a beautiful spring, and pretty valleys and nice waterfalls.

You would think the scenery magnificent, I am sure and I wish that you could see those hundreds of green hills crowding one another and sometimes framing the blue valley in the distance.

The James's have been with us for supper and when the ~~James~~ came on for eating, it smelled old, so that I did not dare give it to guests. So, to our humiliation, we had to send for a ton of real leaf - (Glad I had it) - and eat that.

The cook prepared it last night but should have cooked it a little this Morn. Too bad!

Now it is bed-time. I am sending this letter by Mrs. Swatub who starts at day-break to Morrow Morn. With heaps of love
Lottie.

I have not begun to answer the letters yet & hope can finish them to day.

Birdy woman
Rockport.
H. J. ...
Kuljaka

Thaigong, Sept. 9, 1917

Dear Ones,
I believe in last letter I said that we were starting down the hill about 5, but it was a very rainy week, and I still had that bad cold, so that the doctor said for me to stay here another week. I hated to do it, for I felt that we ought to be back, but it would have been very bad to go down in the rain, and the boy was taken sick with malaria, just when it was time to be packing, so we feel that it is better all around especially as Ellison has had time to do a lot of constructive thinking and planning.

We have had beautiful quiet days with more ease in the house since last Thursday when the boys went, but I know it has been hot down below.

Monday Sept. 11

Well, we have been packing to-day, and have also had luncheon with Mrs. Adams, so you see we have not worked very hard. We can finish with ease and comfort to-morrow, I think, and then go on Tuesday. It was quite cool last night and this morning I needed a sweater until 9:15 AM. It seemed good to get a breath of such air before we go down, for it is different from what we get down below even in the day. We have invited Mr. James and Marie Thompson for supper to-night.

Thurs. Sept 13- On the boat. There was a great commotion a minute ago and the two front boat men jumped into the water. I thought that some child was drowning, or at least that a chicken had escaped from the boat, but it was only a big fish which they saw and wanted to catch by striking it with a pole.

Ellison and I are in the middle stomach of the boat, I sitting in my comfortable travelling chair and he in a camp chair. I am writing in my lap. We have put a turkey red cloth up to keep out some of the glare of the water.

It is warm! One can not remember the heat while in Thaigong, but it becomes very vivid when we come down into it.

Tuesday we packed quite steadily and had every

Things ready by night, except the bundle of bedding and little silver and cooking utensils. Clever hundred pounds more on legs went off triumphantly after breakfast and we must have had at least twelve hundred in all - carried by thirty men and women.

E. & I had lunch with Mrs. James after spending a busy morning packing away the things in the house and listing them. It is so much more comfortable to have that last meal with somebody else of course Mrs. James would think of that.

E. walked down the mountain, but I had a chair. The trip takes about four hours but the sun was clouded yesterday, and it was very comfortable. It is not so nice to sleep on the boat, for it is warm and breathless and little tiny insects attracted by the lights swarm the boat & even get inside the net. Got to be thankful, for last night I feared something worse was inside the net!!!

I have mother's postal of July 26 and ^{very} delighted to hear that Aunt Cagle had reached Cape Horn and that Ruth had had a good day at the "sign of the Green Kettle."

I do hope that George and Inga can go to house-keeping. They will be so much more comfortable that way.

I take it from the post that George and John have not been called out on this first draft. We are anxious to hear all developments.

Cepole & Mother's letters of July 19 were so good too.

It is hard for me to picture the change that the sea breeze makes in the summer at Cape Horn. It must be quite different. I sure would like to see it.

What color is your pinceter, hand and what style? Don't you want to be able to knit one? I am making a pair of socks and they are very interesting indeed. What do you want me to make him some
Mabel

Beijing
Wuyi
Kookport.
Hingabun
Hingabun

Chaochofu.
(Sun) Sept. 30, 1917.

Dear Ones All,
I came home from Suatow on Tuesday afternoon and shall be here until to-morrow morning when we start out for Ning Kong where there is to be a convention. We are going by a new route so as to avoid the ocean route, and I rather dread the trip. To-morrow about 10:00 we take a small boat and go down the river to Tang Ling - a stop. There we hire a larger boat, sleep in it over night I think, and then travel all the next day arriving at the So. Gate. Ning Kong about evening. Then we walk to the Mission Compound where Dr. and Mrs. Newman are now living. (The services used to be there.)

You can imagine that these few days at home have been very busy, with unpacking, "settling to rights," making out the accounts for the financial year, and seeing to things in general. Ellison has had to be in session with his preachers one whole day, and has had committee meetings about the school and the fall campaign, aside the primary work.

Mrs. James did not come home from Tsiyang until Friday, and we went over to see her a few minutes yesterday about tea-time.

Did I tell you that Dr. Mildred announced her engagement about two weeks ago? She is engaged to Mr. Gorman, who is out here on short term service. Dr. Mildred will complete her term of service and go home in 1918 I think - and be married at home. She will be a great loss to the mission. Dr. Bacon who was also formerly at Tsiyang is not going to return, and so the staff is very thin. It is very hard to keep up the staff to any where near the full numbers.
We have lost a great many.

Sunday evening
Things are nearly packed for the trip.

The weather looks cloudy and threatening. This is an important feast day with the heathen. The women worship the moon to night. But the clouds are too thick to see a sign of it. I can hear fire-crackers, rockets, gongs and many voices, for the night is very still.

I am anxious to get the next mail.

Oh, my birthday came this week, didn't it? It never seems like my birthday until my box from home comes! It is just awfully good of you to send it, and it surely is appreciated! Alton was trying to get me a new kimono, but he was afraid that it might not quite suit, and so he has entrusted me with the commission of getting it. As I was going to Hong Kong so soon, I thought that I would wait until then. Gannie sent me a pretty little blue pin. And I had a very happy day. It is not dependent on things coming, because I have a second good time when they come. Yesterday we received notice of the parcels and one of them may be the one from home!!! We invited the people from the other side to have supper with us, not telling them the occasion. I had a very busy day, for you remember I was home only 14 or 15 days before, when I went to Swatow, and now there was only one full day to get partly settled and prepare for company. We did it very nicely this.

We had got up fresh fruit in tall glass dishes

Pork & beef.

Potatoes

Buns

Great Charlotte

Lemon soufflé

Coffee & ginger

Had a wonderful meal, but really enjoyed it.

Miss Wells

Mr. Ho

Mr. Japer

& c.

The boys & all in fact, worked like Trojans!

It seems to me the boys have done nothing but wash and iron from noon till night since we have been home. It has been very good indeed! We had melons which were a treat.

My thoughts have been much with you all, and I long for letters to come. I want to write Ruth, but suppose I must wait until I can gather up her letters and get down with a composed mind to answer them.

We have received very nice letters from the church that supports us in California and they are going to send us a few things for the work, probably sewing things. I don't yet know.

Have panoramic pictures of the church reached any of you yet?

We are rejoiced to find that the board will make good our losses in exchange since Jan. 1917, and it helps us out wonderfully then. I want to make ill on the big expense of my trip to Hong Kong.

I am anxious to hear what each one of you is, and what he or she is doing. Also let me know any plans for the future when you have them so that I can know at a certain time what you are doing.

Two years from next spring is not very long.

Heaps and heaps of love to you

Lottie.

Have not had time to think of Christmas yet! No.

There was Dr. Grosbeck who saw Ruth & Aunt Cele.

Of course he could not remember exactly what they looked like, but he said especially that Ruth was pretty and that she looked as if she could get most anything she set her mind on.

3 I love Chas for Ruth!