

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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**From: Harriette Wetherby, Elia Whitman, Fanny Wickes, Prudence Worley,
regarding YMCA in Russia**

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Jan 7, 1940

[Harricette
Witherby]

Dear Cousin Lottie,

I am sitting in my sunny window this very cold day listening to "Rings over Jordan" and writing to thank you for the very nice little braided seat it is very wonderfully done, so fine and even - I can't decide whether to have it on the back of my rocking chair or in the seat - it looks well in both places - you were very kind to think of me with your multitude of friends and duties at Christmas.

Mrs. Parker & I were invited to the home of a friend to

Christmas dinner - They
came for us at eleven &
brought us home about
three - There were two very
lively little girls whose
constant activity tired
me very much - We were
shown over the greenhouses
where thousands of sweet
peas were blossoming - There
were eleven at dinner - it
was a very delicious dinner
and we enjoyed going
into a family to eat our
Christmas dinner for Mrs.
B. & I very rarely go out
to meals and there are only
the two of us here -

With all the happiness

of the Christmas Season
there has been much
anxiety and sorrow -

My very dear friend
of more than forty years
had a stroke while visiting
her daughter in Philadelphia
and has lain in a hospital
there - her left side paralyzed
for many weeks - She has
two beautiful homes in N. J.
and at the beach - a hus-
band and five children,
all married but one - and
she has to be separated
from them all - She is
one of the most lovable

and gracious of women
has been very prominent
in Women's Clubs and many
social organizations. Always
thinking of others and
doing generous & kind deeds.

Then Marion's trouble
has been a sorrow to us
all - Poor Marion she is
so long suffering and
forgiving and so ready
to do for every body.

Now Louis folks have
a chance to help their
brother and show a
little kindness, also
their children -

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Two days ago my niece
wrote from California
that my sister-in-law
has had a stroke and
her right side is paralyzed.
Her heart has been bad
for some time and is
very weak now - Just
nine years ago at this
time I sat by my
beloved sister's bedside
in Keen hospital for
many weeks - she was
paralyzed and suffered
terribly - How can it
be that such great

afflictions must come
at the closing time of
life?

My brother George
passed on in 1914 and
his widow, son, and
three daughters moved
to Calif. all are
married but the two
oldest daughters are
separated from their
husbands. The mother
has made her home
with Vera and her
two children a daughter
now twenty and one

in High School. The
second daughter Georgie
has been manager of
a Hotel for some years
and has helped in
the support of the mother's
home & her mother.

The son, Roy Sykes
& wife live in Los
Angeles, they have a
boy of thirteen Roy
Sykes, Jr, the only
member boy of that
generation of all the
descendants of Grand
father Michael. His

Nancy Conant - The
youngest daughter here,
lives near San Fran-
cisco, has two children
same age as their
cousins - The daughter
Remedy, is a Soph in
College - I have seen
this last niece & her
family twice since
their father's death
in 1819 -

I received cards from
your brother Mrs &
John & your mother
and Betty Lane - at
Christmas - I wrote

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telling her of the many
friends & relatives who
trained at the Newlin
Hospital - one Agnes
Dobson is a missionary
in Africa - she visited
me when on a four
month eight years
ago, and I have received
word that a letter from
her is on the way & on -
She is in a hospital
in Central Africa and
says she some times
is on duty right
round the clock - I

expect she will wear
herself completely
out -

I expect the senior
missionary, who was
with my Hazel in
Lura, Assam, will
return & return to
America this year -
She was to have
retired last year
but stayed on to
do some writing -
Her name is Lizzie
Hulbrook - a very
remarkable person -

Mrs. Ruth ^{Cherry} ~~Mansfield~~
who was with me when
I boarded at ~~Merrill~~
was married in Dec.
^{on her wedding tour}
and visited La. Royall
She said Mrs. Whitcomb
expected a baby any
day -

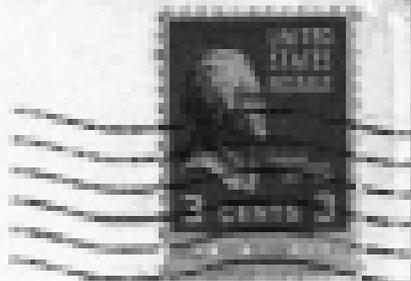
Mrs. Mansfield, now
Mrs. Smith, has taken
her husband & her
mother's home in
Methuen - the father
is an invalid - Ruth
is a nurse - but she

are well & happy - Constance

and Miss Leavitt have
been very kind to me,
since we were at
So R., have visited
me & brought fruit
and jelly and flowers
and sent many cards
during my illness -

I have not seen out
since the severe cold
it affects my breathing.
I am getting very tired
of our house & my
room - Keep busy knitting
crocheting, hem stitching
and making small
things - Again thanking
you & hoping you

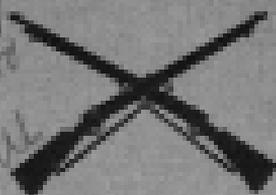
Cousin
Harrill



Mrs. Allison Hildreth

So. Royalton
Vermont

H. A. Matherlee
56 Bancroft Ave.
Reading, Mass.



Ka-yang, China.
Jan. 21, 1919.

My dear Mrs. Hildreth-

It was very thoughtful
part of you to send those Christ-
mas greetings. Thank you very
much. I should have answered
sooner but thought I'd wait un-
til I could write you a letter of con-
gratulations! I cannot tell you
how happy I was when Mrs. Giffin
showed me that little announce-
ment card. In your former disapp.

pointments, I sympathized very deeply but hardly felt well enough acquainted to speak of it. When we were having that delightful visit with you over a year ago, I more than once wanted to tell you how my heart ached for you, but your nerves seemed not very strong, I thought it would probably be unwise to open a question on which your feelings must be very painful. Enough of that for now a man child is born into the world and is no doubt filling your heart with joy and a new happiness. I do rejoice with you, and trust the little one may be spared to a long life of usefulness and honor.

How you must have been missing your dear Harbord! We hear he is coming back to Swanton soon, but have not heard anything concerning his further plans.

The Burkets have been with us about two months - They and Miss Withers were with us at some time, as we had a merry party. Of course my heart was yearning unutterably for my precious children so far away in the dear home lands, but I have very much for which to be thankful even tho' I am separated from my children for a time.

I hope that sciatica did not long trouble you. Your letter gave me a twinge of homesickness for a fall at home

in the beautiful Auburn woods.
That is one thing we miss at home.
No! out here, I mean.

We are so hoping Mrs. Beath
can get off soon. Mrs. Beath is
brave, but I am sure it is hard
for her.

Anna Foster is doing wonder-
fully well with the language &
we enjoy her so very much.

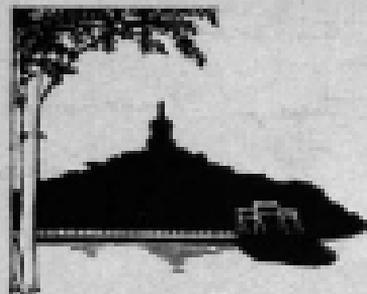
Everything is very quiet here, but
poor old China doesn't seem to
settle down very well. We are
praying God will raise up some
one to help her in her time of need.

I closed the Girls' School on Friday
for the month's winter vacation.

I enjoy that work immensely. It
has been a good send to me.

With much love,

Eliza C. Whitman



American Board Mission

Lintsing, Shantung

Feb 10th 1927

My dear Mrs. Wilderth.

I was glad to get your letter, and Alice was rejoiced to hear again from John. She sat right down and wrote to him, so I may as well write to you a few lines now instead of waiting a while. It is to her that you are indebted for this tremendous promptness.

Alice has talked much of John Wilderth to her other friends. One of the best of these, last year was John Whitaker. The Juliet tied for first place in her Lintsing friendship and Louis was also a good friend. This year the Whitakers are on furlough, and we plan to go in June.

Mr. Whitaker received a letter from Mr. Wilderth
last year telling of trouble in the school. I did
not know whether you were still there in Chocoma
or not. I have thought of you often and wondered
how you were. I am sorry that you had not
been well, so many of you.

Except for various attacks for flu & grippe
we had kept well enough. And there is now
another member of our family, Eleanor, who was
born on October 13th, and who is now making
herself heard from upstairs.

Alice is muddling along in school work in
about the third grade. I seem to have very little
time & energy to give to her at present, but a little
every day is better than none.

So far, we have been very undisturbed in
this region & the schools & church work go on
quietly enough. Bandits & soldiers trouble the people
in some places not far away. Cordially,
This is a scribbly note, but show I think of you, Fanny Swink.

Feb. 9th

1927



*"You shall sit by a window
And see a fair scene."*

My Dear John
and Alice, I shall
write about things
that happend later
than that, I mean
than when you

wrote your letter
and things that
happened earlier.

April 18th I bought
two dear little kittens
white with blue eyes,

we taught them to drink
milk out of a medicine
dropper because they
were too young to lap
it.

After they grew bigger
I had fun watching
them. Once one went
and hid in a box
in our back yard
and the other ~~two~~

hunted and hunted
and finally found
him; and then
the one who

looked for the other
one went and hid
behind the scrub
board and then
the other went
and found him.

We are all well
and I hope you
are the same.
With love
Alice

Evans, Clara

July 20/30.

Dear Lattie:-

If you had a letter
from me for every thought of
you during the year you
would have to set aside a pigeon-
hole for them.

I have just
said thank you
my little

Mr. Aldrich

Christmas

too late

for I

had

quite

thought

I have it even
for the con-

ding you and
sent one for

I hope it will
to say it yet
dit - old do.

appre-

your

and good

wishes. I am so glad I could have
the Lewis family with me that evening
for Christmas dinner. I was the first
time to be sent out of the house (the

Page Louisa) since they had moved there in October. He walked from the front door to the dining-room, and back again after dinner, and said he thought it had done him good. It was indeed a shock when the word came that he was gone - and so soon. Mrs. Lewis's letter giving us the details of his last days came two or three days after we had laid Mr. Episcopus away. We are still, I say as you can imagine, the doctor believed up to within a few days of his death that his trouble was dengue though I do not suppose it would have made any difference in the issue had she known otherwise. Pneumonia set in and at his age and with a constitution now too strong to be not able to combat both. Mrs. Episcopus is brave but of course it is terribly hard on her. She has gone to the quiet place where they both intended going for the summer - with Kay Baber. Mr. and Mrs. Copan and Misses Cullen and Northcott are already there. Never in the summer has the Mission had so much illness it seems to me. The Hobarts are with me and for several days Beata, Eleanor, and I were down and up and down with some fever, probably cold & malaria.

Now George Keith, the two year old, has developed
anemic dysentery and Mrs. Water has just gone to
Bethesda Hospital with the same trouble. Their out-
line is now as school closed - she has to be very
careful of her heart you know. Dr. Water has
gone to Stoughton for medical treatment and
Mrs. Giffin is down with typhoid - though he seems
to be getting on well - for which fact we are most
grateful. We have a nurse from Stoughton in the
case and the Water family - who should be at the
Island - are keeping house for themselves, the sick
man and the nurse, Mrs. Water also talking with
the nursing. Mrs. Giffin had gone to Stoughton
early in June and Mr. Rose to follow after their
convalescence in July. An one has Mrs. - the doctor is
having the lands full! We just hope and pray her
health may be spared. Marguerite has left for her
four month and so only Helen Thomas is here. Dr. Bee-
field is studying in Stoughton.

How you heard of the Wrights new arrival - another
boy - same July 2nd? They are at the Post House, Georgetown
some better now. Mrs. Hollman, goes Long Island with
Dr. and Mrs. Hayes to August and the rest - we have not
seen them in August at the Island. Helen will go to Virginia
later probably. I am teaching in summer school - as in
Miss Hollman. Edwin was well when he wrote - is work-
ing this summer for the San Angeles Beer & Light Co. -
expects to study again in the fall - could not take all
his senior course this last year because I expected. He
is quite a tall, good shoudered fellow. How are Helen
and Alice and yourself? I shall be so glad to hear
from you.

Best love -

Rudman C. Leach.

July 27 - I did not get this at once. Mrs. Giffin continues

Copy for E.S.Hildreth Esq.

October 26th 1918.

Mr. Earnest Moses,
Vladivostok.

Dear Sir,

A few words in regard to your assignment at Habarovsk.

In undertaking your assignment I wish to make clear the following responsibilities which we will expect you to assume as a representative of the Supply Department.

1st. You are to have responsibility over all goods taken over by you in the warehouse at Habarovsk, and over all goods sent to you from future shipments made from the Vladivostok warehouse, and for all goods purchased by you in Habarovsk as a representative of the Supply Department. In keeping with this responsibility you are instructed:

1st. To make a complete inventory of all the goods in the Habarovsk warehouse prior to your taking over responsibility of the same, and to give a signed receipt for these goods, and these only, to whomsoever you supplant.

2nd. You are instructed to give out goods from the Habarovsk warehouse only upon the presentation of the proper requisition blanks, and you or your representative, should file, in accordance with these blanks, proper delivery orders, in order to keep your warehouse records complete. These instructions you are to understand to be full and complete, and in no case are they to be modified or departed from. You will frequently find pressure upon you to modify this rule, but such modifications not only lead to demoralization in your work and records, but also that of the staff whom you are serving. You will have the complete support of the Vladivostok headquarters in enforcing this rule.

3rd. You will understand that in case of requisitions being made upon you for supplies, and these goods not being in your warehouse, you have authority to purchase them, if such purchase can be made advantageously in the local market, otherwise you will be expected to requisition such supplies from Vladivostok. You are hereby authorized to concentrate in your hands the entire matter of purchase, except for petty administrative requirements of the Habarovsk district. I am writing Mr. Simmons to this effect.

Going with you to Habarovsk is a gentleman who is to act as your assistant or helper in any capacity for which you may find him fitted.

3rd. You have secured from Mr. Fleschner the information and data which is necessary for you to correlate the books and records of the Habarovsk district with those of the Vladivostok office. I am instructing Mr. Simmons that all records and accounts are to be placed under your administration. It is not expected that you become responsible for anything prior to the date which you arrange for taking over the records. You will, therefore, please give a receipt to Mr. Simmons for the cash received, and institute your accounts as per your instructions from Mr. Fleschner. In the matter of accounting and bookkeeping, and in the handling of cash, you are instructed and authorized to adopt such office hours and practices as may be necessary to safeguard the interests of the Association.

4th. I am asking Mr. Simmons that you have such opportunities for personal work with the troops as your other duties and desires permit.

You will, of course, appreciate the necessity of keeping the canteen capital flowing in this direction. Secretaries have an operating budget for their work, and are not to exceed that through drafts upon the canteen supplies or the proceeds of sales for any augmentation of the amounts assigned them. Rapid turnovers are essential to a steady stream of supplies from the Vladivostok end.

It is, of course, understood that our whole enterprise is based upon the spirit of mutual service and cooperation, and your department, while necessarily following good business principles, is none the less to be thoroughly imbued with this spirit of service and cooperation.

With every good wish for your successful and effective sojourn in the northern wilds, I am

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Story

Copy for E.S.Hildreth Esq.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
IN RUSSIA.

November 4th 1918.

Earnest Moses Esq.
Habarovak.

Dear Mr. Moses,

I have your letter of the 2nd, and have made enquiries of the consul with respect to the extension of your passport. I will let you know as to the possibilities of having it done without your presence.

Mr. F.W.Heckleman is being placed in charge of the administrative work of the Army Department in the Habarovak district; you will continue as the representative of the Supply Department. I feel sure that the administrative relations between the two of you can be happily worked out in the interests of the work which we are seeking to do.

In view of the assignment of Mr. Heckleman as the administrative secretary for the army work in the Habarovak district, there will be some modification of the duties imposed upon you in my letter of October 26th.

Paragraphs one and two remain as originally arranged. With respect to paragraph three, the following modification is made:

The books and accounts of the Army Department, including the operating budget of the department, are to be placed in the hands of Mr. Heckleman, and the money which is transferred to his hands for the maintenance and conduct of the Association activities, he will have to account for.

For the supply and purchasing capital for the stock, records and accounts, you will continue to have full responsibility.

Mr. Heckleman will account for all funds received from the sale of campaign receipts, for all funds committed to his care for operating services, including

exchange.

In addition I am going to ask you to fill requisitions upon your warehouse supplies, only when they have been approved by Mr. Hecklesman. This does not imply that you are necessarily to fill these orders as approved by him. For, as elsewhere, the responsibility for the distribution of the supplies will rest with yourself as the representative of the Supply Department, but it does mean that no requisitions which have not been approved by him are to be filled either in whole or in part. This division of responsibility follows the lines of responsibility already worked out in the central office.

I am asking Mr. Hecklesman to take up the matter of providing you with such invoices as you may need.

May I suggest that if Mr. Hildreth feels it is necessary for his records that he have the records of goods consigned to him, that he in turn invoice to you what prices are invoiced to him.

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Story

RMS/HJM

Copy for E.S.Hildreth Esq.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
IN RUSSIA.

November 4th 1918.

A.A.Simmons Esq.
Vladivostok.

My dear Simmons,

At your suggestion we are asking Mr. Heckle-
man to proceed to Habarovsk, and take over the adminis-
tration of the work in the Habarovsk district. With
some persuading, Mr. Heckleman has consented to do this,
being assured that he can count on your cooperation and
support.

Such an arrangement naturally involves some-
thing of a reorganization of the work at Habarovsk, and
the details of this reorganization will be left to Mr.
Iglehart and Mr. Heckleman, but I thought it well to ac-
quaint you with the general outlines, inasmuch as you
have the burden of the administration up to this time.

It is my understanding that you are put in
charge of the Cossack Club already established, and will
give that work the good attention which it deserves.
It is the policy of the Siberian Organization, fully ap-
proved by Mr. Phelps, as well as myself, that a first-
class piece of work must be done among the Russians.
Your genius for making friends will enable you to con-
tinue the work that has already been commenced..

One word of caution, however, just at this time.
Until after my visit to New York we will not know here
to what extent it is possible to inaugurate permanent
work in Siberia, and it is quite possible that the New
York Office would not approve the establishment of a per-
manent work at Habarovsk, as such a development would in-
volve an after war liability. I am, therefore, asking
Mr. Heckleman, as representative of the Army Department,
in cooperation with yourself, to go no further than to
make a survey of the community, getting together the in-
formation which would be necessary to a decision to es-
tablish permanent work, should New York approve the open-
ing up of permanent work in a number of Siberian cities.
But until such approval comes, our activities cannot be o

of a promoting or a promissory character in the local field.

I hope, however, you will make the Russian Club work an intense piece of work, and leave the mark of the Association so deeply impressed that there can be no question of the message which the Association, as an American and as a Christian organization brings to them.

Allow me to express the hearty satisfaction and pleasure that I personally have had in the privileges which have been yours on the Ussuri line and in Habarovsk, and my appreciation of the faithful and devoted service you have given. We are more than pleased over the work that has been done, and are quite happy in the knowledge that you will be with the Russian work in that district.

With cordial and personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

R. M. Story

RMS/EJH