

Foster Family Papers

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Tuesday - May - 14th - 60

still hot - Chinese in the forenoon - in the afternoon I spent some time preparing a Bible reading for prayer-meeting -

At 3 we went to Double Island as the tide will not be right in a few days for going down. Bathing & getting back in the evening - We have had a good sail, a fine bath, pleasant evening with all the mission together - & at the Island we had some good opportunities to talk with a crowd of people from Phou-ling district (Puning on map) who came to worship A-Ma' at the temple. Going to the water & returning Clara & I had very good chances to talk. One or two of the men were

excellent listeners & Clara 61
says some of the women were
as well. Wednesday. May 15/89

Hot. I went to Swatow in the
forenoon at Po-heng's request -
so we might all thro be
there & some one be talking all
the time. A great many came
& some were good listeners -
others were inclined to talk &
a few to argue. I was much
interested in some of them - one
young man who had been sitting
at one side reading a leaflet, he
came & said - "Teacher, my father
says not to worship that God, it
is not good, shall I ought to
to listen to him?" I asked
him who was the father of his
spirit. He was the high one
& to be obeyed. Just then I was
called away by a young

man of the Customs out-door⁶²
staff who had been in before
to get directed to the abode of
a European who he said was
near by & said to be dying etc.
I got a guide for him. He came
back to tell me the man was
better. He seemed to need medical
aid & anything we could do for
him in a missionary way would
be acceptable etc. I went to call &
learned from the boys that the man
had been a hard drinker -
I found him up one flight in
a neat room with tiled floor.
Off a central room fitted as a
school room, where he teaches
English. He is a slight, pale
man short with a wonderful
growth of subson hair - neat
in appearance - but evidently a
man whose strength is wasted.
We talked a little time & he

told me of a sudden, severe ⁶³
illness & that he was saved by
prayer. He thought his last
hour was come & he prayed with
all his strength & the Lord
heard & saved him. He speaks
most sincerely - has evidently led
a wild dissipated life, but says
this sickness has "brought him
to his bearings." He has some
cranky notions, but seems to have
the root of the matter in him.
He is a friend of Mr. Sage in
K.C. whom I shall interview.
We had prayer together before I
left & I shut him over a book
of Moody's in the afternoon.
We had prayer meeting in
the evening: 5 of our mission
Mrs. Urquhart, Mrs. Sidford
& daughter about 12 - & guests
a Miss Stevenson. I led
reading Isaiah XXXII 20-29.
cf Gen. IX: 27 - XII: 8 - Ps. XXIX: 4-6

Jus. I: 14. Rev. XVI: 2-3. 64

The figures of the tent. The promise of Noah - Abraham called forth a dweller in tent, the easy & beautiful patriarchal life - then God dwelling among the Israelites in the Tent of the Congregation as the Patriarch among his people - then Christ in the tent of the flesh - finally the tent that shall not be removed in the future when "the tent of God shall be among men". I was glad to hear Mrs. Urquhart say that my sermon Sunday was of special interest to her because at home they always sang the 118th Psalm at Communion & it brought up before her eyes all the old church memories faces of those who used to meet there many of them were gone. In the forenoon Mr. C.

messap from S. Del. Saw the Barons⁵
about his house up country. He
lived for one year. The people there
are wild & threaten dire vengeance on
the men who rented the house.

He is also in trouble about the
Howell's teacher who turns out to
be an opium smoker as I at first
thought him to be. & they think
he stole \$15.00 from the Campbell's
cook Tuesday night.

Thursday May 16 - 8 P.M.

Notes. 86° in Mr P.'s study

at noon. the sun pouring down
tremendously. shadow all under
your umbrella - almost under your
sun-hat. I am putting out ~~strong~~
reading Acts with L. H. finished
8 chapters - to-day - He told me to-
day that my speech is "plain" -
hope it may increase - Po. Heng
had good audience to-day in
Swatow. Yesterday I omitted
to write that our mail came.

A good letter from Father & 66
a paper fell to me. glad to hear
from the Watchman.

Made an interesting discovery to-day
in language. the common expression
for anything that is profittless or
"No count" is "bô ia" - which
means literally "No shadow" - i.e.,
not enough substance to cast a
shadow -

It is warm
I am very thickly dressed though
my sleeves rolled up to my el-
bow - but the little fine drops
of perspiration on my hand make
it glisten as if sprinkled with
silver-dust.

Friday - May 17th

"Cher/ fugues" &c - it seems
but a day or two since Friday
last - Clara has been writing
home to mother & I have been fir-
ishing a letter to The Spring
Lake Mich. Ch. & S. School
who sent me a contribution.

I am getting quite fast in ⁶⁷
Reading Acts - and am putting in
most all my time in that way.
Prayer-meeting led by Mr. P.
who read Ps. 23 -

Saturday May 18th

Reading in the forenoon. Mr. Norvell
Came up unexpectedly at noon
& dined with us. They are still
in trouble about the thief -
He has also rec'd word from
Boston that he has been as-
signed to this work instead of
to the Hak-Kas as Dr. M. first
noted - quite a complication.
We all went back with him
to the Is. in 2 hours going.
I read papers most of the way.
We had a fine both and
a pleasant social evening but
could not get home till very

late on acct of the tide. 68

Sunday, May 19th

Cooler. After A.M. service
Clara & I accompanied the Elder
& L.H. to Swatow. I have never
seen as large a crowd nor
heard two of the preachers speak
with so much force. L.H. spoke
first being the younger man, taking
the foolish-rich man. P. San took
Rom I: 18 - I talked to quite
a no. after service, but
was obliged to leave as rain
threatened - our boat was away
up at the E. P. Mission so we
had a long walk in the driv-
ing rain. Fortunately we had
shawls so did not mind the
wet after we got into the boat,
but it was a rough passage.
The Elder did not come too
rough for him. After dinner
we both slept to make up for
late hours the night before. I

did not go to P. M. service.
At 5-30 I called upon
Miss Falso with the P.S. to
consult on mission matters.

Miss F. is not well. But
we hope the Island & good
care will help her get through
the summer comfortably ~~we~~
hope. We had a quiet even-
ing reading papers.

Monday May 20th

Air mail was brought in before
breakfast - A ship came in
late but bringing an unusual re-
sponse. Two nice home
letters - one from Mother telling of
Mrs. Tallaise & the Italian -
& other interesting news. & one
from Father stating that my
articles had been published - I
rec'd 2 copies of the Golden
Rule direct & was just about
leaving our home when one
arrived there which Clara has

sent home as it has 70
nearly traveled as far as around
the earth. The Watchman
has not yet appeared - April 4
is the last rec'd. To-day
had a call from the Elder who
is to get me a new block cut
for the Acts XVII & Jos. III:16
leaflet in H's City - He has
a copy of the new Imperato-
rial proclamation. L. H. is
to translate it to me thro' P. M.
I shall write it here. part
of it may not be suitable for
public reading at home, but
I want a copy & will put it
into shape for printing. if I can
get up an article on an Oriental reform
er or something of the sort.

8 P. M. I spent between
2 1/2 & 3 hours over the proclama-
tion this P. M. it is quite interesting.
I am about writing a letter to Dr. Johnson.

Tuesday - May 21st - 71

Cloudy & comfortable. I rec'd
a letter from Mr. Campbell
very early & Mr. P. Clark & I went
down to the Island to see Mr.
Morrell & ascertain definitely if
they are coming to this work ac-
cording to the last letter from
Boston or intend to stay with
the Hak-Ka-Mission - The folks

in Boston overlooked writing
them definitely for some time, &
after writing that they should go to
the H. work afterwards changed and
appointed them to Tin. Chin.

But they had decided to get another
teacher and continue until more
definite reports come - as this
change was probably made in view
of the prospect of Mr. P.'s early
return. Now he is so much better
he feels like staying till '91.

Wednesday May 22nd,
a heavy rain in the forenoon. I

note & had a farewell con. 72
service with Lung Heng.

We had a good meeting in the
evening at Miss Fielder's. The Lid-
ford's & Mrs. Wigham were up.
Mr. P. led speaking of the first
prayer-meeting in Jerusalem after
our Lord's death. Mr. Howell
was present. They have come
up from the Island. The Campbells
come next week. The N.'s took
supper with us. We had a pleasant
social time - Thursday - May 23rd -

A comfortable but uneventful day -
Writing in the forenoon - & Chinese with
Mrs. Partridge teaches in the afternoon.
I took a short nap after that, then
Sca. Chuan's man came over to
get some books - I sent to
Shanghai for scientific & other books
for him. this time \$12.00 worth -
He has ordered about \$25.00 worth this
year - which would mean at least
\$200.00 for a home dealer. Miss F.

73

had charge of this & asked me to
take it this year. I took a
short pull in the little boat
which is still here. Clara
went to Go-Chian to-day with
Chin-Pò. But did not have very
good listeners: a theater was in
progress and all the people were
very indifferant. The mosqui-
toes are so bad this evening I
have put my feet in a pillow
case to protect my ankles.

Friday - May 24th -

Rainy again - did some work in
my study in the forenoon & had
Mrs. P.'s teacher in the P.M. had
a long talk with him about our
Baptist affairs at home and after
reading Acts XX - talked with him
about his preaching in Swatow
Sunday. His subject was prayer -
but had not 'sought' a text.

I suggested that he expound⁷⁴⁻
the Lord's Prayer. & referred
him also to Solomon's prayer
II Chron. VI. Mr. Howell came
in at about 5 o'clock & we had
a game of "bean-bags" on the
front veranda. Miss Field
came in to read us an article
on Confucius she has written.
Very good - only I was a tri-
fle disappointed in her con-
clusion. where she gave her opin-
ions as to the failure of Confucian-
ism as a system to produce moral
men. It is a valuable arti-
cle - the fruit of much gleaming.
We had good prayer-meetings
in the evening.

Siau-Shing (father of Ling-Hung &
Ling Kiam.) was sent for during
the day to go & pray with a man
in Swatow who was troubled with
evil spirits. He had called in

75

Charters but they failed to
exercise the trullers. S. J. was
sent for. But when he arrived
he found the man had set up a
shrine & was worshipping - "Mad
upon his idols." He offered
to pull down the temple in
the Commissioner's yard, which
was built, I was told (but others
say only put in repair) by
Woodruff the last incumbent -
the New-Jerseyman - for the
Cantonese woman who claims
to have a marriage-certificate from
H. Mr. Sidford told me Thues-
day evening he would look it
up & seems to find it to be
government property so he would
not like to remove it without con-
sulting the Inspector Genl (the "I. G."
as he is called) Sir. Robt. Hart.
But Mr. S. is going to close
up the temple so he says.

Saturday - May 25th - 76

Still rainy - Hong An surprised me by appearing to-day. He reports good opportunities to preach in the villages they have visited.

A remarkable story comes from Khau-Khau - The wife of Chin-Sian - first grandson of Hainan - was supposed to be dead - but after an hour or two she rose up & began to upbraid her father & mother & brothers for opposing her going to Chapel & accepting the doctrine - also begged the Christians to pray for her that her soul might not be lost.

A Thang brought this account from there, ^{to King-Sai} last Sunday. The Christians were much rejoiced at this proof of the genuineness of the faith. - We had a call from Mr. Wingate former Consul here - late of Foochow - a graduate of Bowdoin - very affable.

A very rapid talker is Mr. 77
Wingate - he is retiring to live
on his farm in New Hampshire
near Exeter. I have been quietly
in the house to-day - the foliage
is beautiful after the rains -

Sunday - May 26 -

Cold. I wore a light overcoat
in church. rainy - thermometer at
68°. We hope the Chinese will
not suffer - but if heat comes
on suddenly there is danger
they will - Mr. Partridge preach-
ed in the morning - on the sin
of lying - & its punishment in the
Scripture. He took the subject in a
wide sense so as to use Adam
Belshazzar, Ananias as an alliteration
answered aptly applying - as, all
run out of case -

In the afternoon H. J. J.
preached from Mark III: 35.
Trainer toward night. Mrs. P.
had a bad cold - not out.

Monday May 27th

78

Not quite so cool, a pleasant day mostly given to Chinese. Mrs. P.'s cold seems to be better. We spent the evening with them. Tuesday - May 28th -

A trifle warmer. In the forenoon I dictated a letter to Hong An to be sent to the Churches to have a contribution made for the famine - sufferers in the North - rather late - I have been waiting to see if something would not be done in regard to the matter but finally proposed to Mr. P. that on the 4th Sunday of next month a collection be taken - Even at that time there will be doubtless some who will welcome aid, & it will do the church good to give -