Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

Yale Divinity School Library Record Group No. 15

Finding aid for collection available at:
http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.015

Series: I. Correspondence

Box / folder: 3 / 33

Folder label: ESH to John and Kate Hildreth (parents), primarily from Thaiyong, Chaoyang

Dates: 1915 Aug-Dec

For copyright information see: http://www.library.yale.edu/div/permissions.html

Originals of collection held at:

Yale Divinity School Library, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511
(divinity.library@yale.edu)

Scanning and computer output microfilm prepared by Conversion Service Associates LLC, Shelton, CT with financial support from The Center for Christian Studies, Shantou University, 243 Da Xue Road, Shantou, Guangdong, China 515063
Dear Mother,

I have been reading over some old letters and I was interested in Fannie's account of a recital. I wish I could have heard it. By the way, she is the Margaret Buffum to whom you gave lessons. She taught at the Buffum School. I wrote to like him very much. Indeed! We are still friends. Being the first sheep of the family musically, I fell quite proud to have a little sister who could make the family proud of her. Wish I could come out and give her singing lessons.

I was interested in the conflict between Reception and Sugar Creek. Personally I would prefer the Sugar Creek. Either of the other schemes, the Seleahville or the Union, near Woodstock. If Thamesport publishes some of this sermon I would be glad to see it. I don't know whether he is orthodox.

At the Nashua festival we quite a try. I would rather read about it than take it, though it would be nice to hear some fine music again.

We had a hard shower just a few minutes before I commenced this note, maybe it will go into the river in full force. Normally it is a quiet creek, some thirty feet wide! Three deep at the ford, but deep over ones head at the swimming pool and just below our house, we can cross by a bridge made of fir trees clamped together (perhaps 50 feet long) leading one onto a gravel bar on the other side. From which one can usually walk all the way, but the bridge has to be stalked out. In anticipation of such times as these hard showers, keep the fields dry. It all drains suddenly into the river, and it rises 2 or 3 feet with corresponding increase of width, speed, and excitement. A rise of about a foot leaves it still fordable. With a rise of two feet it...
Leaves the narrow round about channel where the bridge is, and goes straight across the narrows both as the river flows. He's over bank again of X and goes up there and then falls off to the right into a small waterfall. The reservoir height has House looked about as long as the reservoir.

The water has gone down several inches already, and if I were going to cross I wouldn't be afraid to walk in a flowing suit. But a few minutes ago I wouldn't even to walk. Yesterday morning we had high water. Just at time of family worship it was one node were when the river began. I said in prayer, in Chinese, as you could imagine it wasn't long. And when we got by the river was booming. In the afternoon we had the bridge up. Today is the high water. We didn't usually have them close together. But one can't foretell about that: you can be sure if this is a heavy shower on the reservoir will be followed by a flood of high water on the river about as long as the shower. Gradually subsiding of flood stage more showers come. 11.45, and if it showed stop running — all over the watershed — I am sure we could have the bridge up again before supper. At present it is floating only in a part of backwater.

Yesterday morning the water was the highest we have seen except last year the night flood down to try to save the bridge. It was
about a foot higher than nearly bank full. There was a tremendous thunderstorm lasting a long while. That time we couldn't see anything in the stream was by lightning flashes. and it looked pretty wicked then. I hope it has gone down almost to normal now.

17/18 certainly is the great track class. Hooyay! Seeing Miss Skinner's collection sounds interesting. Does she live at Wistariahurst alone.

You certainly had a busy May and June. How did you spend it?

I hope F's efforts to get a Music Major will have some success. By the way, when I was at Amherst I was very anxious to take a Music course but they were all too far advanced for me. Do they have anything fairly elementary at Mt. Holy? I think they have some simpler courses at Amherst now.

You certainly had a great time getting a Forest Park can. They are all the time doing new things in sport but that is the most radical change I have heard. I'm the old days no Forest Park can was done deep down in the Worthington. Cross-town that went past Forest P. to the X and then thru the Meadows. past the Water-shops & State St. After that intersecating Maple, Walnut Mill, and State St. Lines I wonder if that line is more important than it used to be? I used to give a very feeble service. I was glad to hear from the Amherst folks. Mrs. Max I don't remember Lawrence at all.

A chance has come to send this letter so I must stop. With love.

Ellis
Dear Mother;

This is the first of August, and August is the month of vacations, so here we are. The weather also decided that vacation time has arrived, for after giving us beautiful sunshine most of the time since about the twentieth of June, (when sunshine meant glare in the eyes to one who was studying on the verandah) it has decided to appear "kerchiefed in a comely cloud, while rocking winds are piping loud," as Milton says. But we have had no reason to complain of the weather, either this year or last. This year, except for one week, it has been sunny. Now it is perfectly true that sunshine means glare, and it also means heat, and we have had plenty of both. But it also means that the children can play out of doors and don't need to tear the house down for amusement; it also means that the boys can wash the clothes on a convenient day, whereas a two weeks spell of rain means a large accumulation of dirty clothes, all of which are in danger of mildew, which even great care docs not always succeeding in averting; it also means that our room can be cleaned once a week, and that we can have the use of the verandah, which counts for a lot here.

On the other hand, a spell of rain means that the river gets thoroly cleansed from the traces of the innumerable water buffaloes that daily bathe in it, thereby making it less desirable for human bathing (that is one reason why we like to bathe at bedtime, to give the river a chance to flow clean after the cows go home to bed); and it means that by putting on bathing suits or something equally fearless we can go out for a walk any time we want to instead of trying to get an enuf exercise between the time the sun begins to slant coolly, say five or a little after, and the time of darkness and food, say seven; even then one doesn't like to exercise too vigorously, but when you get for a walk in the rain you can run and jump as much as you please without fear of over heating; that is something to appreciate; and it means that you can rest your eyes from amber or
smoked glasses, which do get awfully tiresome, even tho their protection from
the glare of the sun is invaluable; and it gives you a chance to listen to
the rain on the roof, and think how glad you are that you are not out in this
for when a Chinese rain starts in to rain (not merely to shower, but to rain
down handsomely) it certainly can rain down as hard as anything I ever saw,
as hard as the hardest thunderstorms I have ever seen at home, I am sure, and
to hear the sound of it on a tile roof about five feet above your head, a
specially is a comfortable sensation, provided, and this is important, provided
never that the roof doesn't leak, that you don't have to go out
into that rain unless you want to do it for fun, and provided that neither
and of your loved ones or any of your property is out in the storm, and finally
provided that said rain is not in connection with a typhoon. Rain is rain,
but a typhoon is a typhoon, as the Chinese say; the two things belong in
absolutely different categories. To-day's rain seems to be merely a rain
so I can be philosophical and say with the poet, "It ain't no use to grumble
and complain; It's just as cheap and easy to rejoice; When God sorts out
the weather and sends rain, Why, rain's my choice".

But a typhoon is a different matter, and we are thankful that we haven't
had any of them yet. When the typhoon comes it blows and blows and then it
blows some more, and then it blows harder, and then it blows still harder,
and it rains in at the doors and windows unless they are absolutely water-
tight (which ours are not) and dirt from the inside of the roof is shaken
down on to you, and the wind drives the rain up under the tiles, so that it
leaks down on you in various places, and you get up out of bed, and light a
candle with difficulty (altho all the doors and windows are shut, and go
around the room moving things from leaky places to places where the roof has
not yet leaked thru and you hope it won't, and then you lie awake, (if you are
fortunate enough to have dry space enough for you bed to be spread in)
for you can't go to sleep in that racket, and you realize that up here in the
hills the storm is only a baby fraction of what they have having down in port and you wonder how your house down there is getting on, and maybe you have visions of the roof leaking thro on to your best matteress or causing the ceiling to fall down on your parlor carpet, or maybe you imagine the wind tearing the trees in the yard to pieces, or taking the roof off a bathroom and scattering ruin among the medicines and towels. You don't sleep very well during the night, but you really haven't much cause to complain if you are here at Taaiyong in a typhoon. For down at Kakchieh, and even more so at Double Island which is the only resort available to some people, right at the mouth of Swatow Bay, if you were down there you would probably be expecting any gust to lift of the roof, and scatter tiles down on your unoffending head and while a tile isn't very heavy, if it fell ten or twenty feet it might make quite a dent. I say you would be expecting this; but I never have known it to happen; I don't think there is any reasonable expectation of its happening; but I think a man who was down in a typhoon at Double Island would very likely be in a nervous state which would predispose him to expect it. Some of the people up here last year hardly slept at all, in fact didn't go to bed for most of the night at typhoon times. Lottie and I managed to get part of a night's rest. Morning comes, and you look out and see the creek, which normally is a placid stream hardly more than ankle deep at the fords, and spanned by a bridge at only about 15 or 20 feet long at one place, has become a mighty stream perhaps waist deep at the fords, and not to be crossed except for urgent reasons. That is a little piece of evidence that it has been raining not merely on your own roof, but on all the watershed of this river. You become very anxious to find out whether the people who live on the other side of the river had peaceful slumbers during the night; you put on your bathing suit and go to the other houses on your own side, to find out if they lost some roof or merely some sleep; then you watch the river and when it goes down enuf, you pursue your investigations on the other side of the water. It rains more or less intermittently for a day or so, then the sun
comes out, and you bid the boy wash in haste the most valuable articles, and
dry them with even more haste, lest mildew overtake you, or another rainstorm
which would put an end to the washing.

Why does it rain in Thaïyong? For the same reason that it rains in
Seattle, and Manchester, and Glasgow. The moisture laden clouds come up from
the ocean, strike the mountains and condense in accordance with certain laws
of physics which I once studied. In America and Great Britain they come from
the west ordinarily. Here I have not yet found whether they come from the
south, south-east, or east. But from either direction these mountains are
the first they strike, so it rains. They are the first mountains that we
strike, too, and that is why we come here; it is practically the only good
place that is accessible, in the mountains. The three alternatives are 1. to
go up the coast a couple of days or so to Foochow, and then go up on a
hill called Kuliang, where there are many more missionaries, but where I think
the rains and typhoons are worse than here; I should like to get acquainted
with all those missionaries, but I don’t like the trip up the coast either
for expense, seasickness, or the fact that it has to be made in typhoon season.
2. Changning, or remotest Hakka station, where Mr. and Mrs. Bousfield live;
living conditions there are most primitive, the crowd is small, and it is
distant and expensive; I think Kaying is as inaccessible as Thaïyong, and
Changning is three days march beyond Kaying, traveling in chairs or afoot,
and spending the night in Chinese inns. 3. Double Island. There you are
right close to home, and can easily get all kind of good thing from the
Swatow stores; you can take a lot of things that are comfortable and con-
venient, but are too big and heavy to bring up here; you have a great many
community people to associate with; you see the steamers come into port, just
off your verandah, and you get frequent mail service; and you have delightful
sea bathing. Conversely, you undoubtedly live somewhat more lavishly when
you can buy things that was and are surrounded by community people who live
high; we are perfectly comfortable here, and we have such things as an organ
and a typewriter, which we don't think bankrupted us to bring up here. The net cost was about $3.50 Mex. for the two articles for the summer, which means about $1 per gold just now; we don't have the community people to associate with, but we have here this summer about thirty adults, and the absence of community people means that we don't have to put on much style, which fact adds to comfort and economy; we don't see the steamers come into port, and we only get mail once or twice a week, but we have a large number of fine walks about the hills, while down at Double Island they can't walk more than about half a mile without falling off the Island; they have delightful sea bathing at Double Island, but that is about all they do have; during the day the glare is something appalling to anyone whose eyes notice glare at all when I was down in March I wore both smoked and amber glasses, and was a little uncomfortable then; if I were to go to Double Island for the summer I should have to spend all day in doors with the shades drawn to keep out as much sunlight as possible. Then about six o'clock, when the sun was down below the top of the island I could go with the rest to bathe on the east beach where the breakers come in from the ocean; then one can enjoy the coolness of the evening, and tomorrow stay indoors till evening comes again. That is the description one gets from people who like Double Island I have to confess that it doesn't especially appeal to me. And then when the villagers go to drying jellyfishes on the slope west of the house, as they do every summer, and when the west wind blows, as it does occasionally I am illing to take their word for the consequences. The west wind is debilitating enough, when it isn't laden with such odors as that. The Chinese eat jelly fish, and say why shouldn't anyone, it's perfectly clean. But I didn't happen to be brought up a Chinese.

So that is why we come to Thaiyong; not that it is the ideal place, but it is the best place available. Kuliang has more people for company, but the weather is said to be warmer and rainier, and the typhoons harder, and it is expensive and distressing to get to; the place near Changhai, has
better weather, but few people, and it is likewise expensive and distressing to reach; and Double Island, while cheap and easy to reach, has so many distressing features, chiefly heat and glare all day, and not specially cool at night, and jellyfishes drying on the hill side, and typhoons which are likely to take off your roof during the night and leave you to the mercy of the elements and the contractor whom you try to summon from other jobs to fix your humble abode. All together we think Thaiyong is a pretty nice place, and we take the rain with the coolness,
Dear Mother;

This has been a week of carpenters. That doesn't sound very missionary, does it? Here I have been in China almost two years. And I have studied the language, worked a little on fixing up dictionaries, traveled around the country, bought a few books, done a lot of carpentering, such as it is, played a lot of tennis and gone hunting a little, and all the religious work that I have managed to get in, has consisted in leading a few prayer meetings, and preaching perhaps half a dozen times in English, to missionaries, chiefly, and preaching two Chinese sermons to little country churches, with a handful for an audience. That isn't very much in the way of missionary work is it? But I read once somewhere that the difficulty of learning the language was erected by the Lord to prevent missionaries from jumping into the work at once, before they knew anything about the character and customs of the people, and thereby making so many mistakes as to seriously injure their later usefulness.

And as I think of it, there certainly have been heaps of things that I have been able to pick up during the time I have been here. It certainly is a fact that along with the language one picks up the psychology of the people, and even such a thing as bossing some carpenters teaches one how the Chinese mind acts. Only, the more one learns, the more one realizes how much there is to learn. A year ago, I could wrangle with a boatman about his fare, and thought that was some progress. Now I can direct carpenters, who are Hakkas, and therefore their knowledge of Haklo is as imperfect as mine, and get along without serious difficulty. But I am just beginning to realize how wide is the difference between bossing a Chinese carpenter, and working with a Chinese preacher, so as to inspire without dictating, to arouse right ideas and desires without being didactic or hortatory, to be humble and yet not let him think that I can be imposed upon, to make them feel that the work is theirs, and yet not let them get
heady, these I find to be a few of the problems that the others are having to tackle, and I know that I shall run into them as soon as I get into the work. As I suppose you know, I am not designate anywhere yet, but as I am the only missionary living at Chacowfu I am put in financial charge of the field; that means practically nothing more than paying a few preachers, etc. The responsibility for the field lies on Lewis. But when conference meets, I am likely to be put in full charge for the field, and then I shall be in for it.

It is a mighty important time, too, and I would that Baker, with his experience, acquaintance with the field, and sound ideas, were here to have charge of the work. Just a little before he went home, he and I conferred with James, of the U.P. Mission, and decided that we would do union work from then on. But up to date this has meant little more than that the Sunday evening services, which James used to arrange for at his preaching hall, are now held alternately there and at our chapel, and that we provide half of the speakers. James has had no Chinese preacher to put in charge of the work, but has just succeeded in getting one, and will begin in the fall (such syntax); I have had a very good Chinese preacher who has practically done all that was done on our part, for with my studying I have had no leisure to work in the city; but that will soon be a thing of the past, and I shall be in the work. Then James and I will have to get together and work out a policy. It is more accurate to say "work out" than "plan out", for James, altho he has been in the work some four years, is a year younger than I am, and I think had no pastoral experience at home. So we are both venturing into pretty deep problems, with little experience as a guide. Fortunately I like the man about as well as anybody I ever had to work with, and he doesn't seem to dislike me, so that will be a great help.

That is affair No. 1. The second is like unto it. You have doubt
less heard of the wonderful work that Sherwood Eddy has been doing in meetings for educated men. We are making plans to have him here next fall; it isn't certain that we shall be able to get him, but there is good reason to hope for it; anyway, we are going to prepare. Now preparation for such meetings is a very large undertaking; aside from the work of getting the people in the right attitude, and organizing the meetings, is the much more important and difficult work of training up leaders for Bible classes; because Eddy always clinches those who are willing to give favorable Christianity consideration to Christianity by getting them to promise to join Bible classes; and there must be ready prepared before the meetings start, a number of Bible class leaders, sufficient to teach all those who may be willing to join the classes; and it is in just such qualified leaders that our missions are deficient; to train them up will be a big undertaking. Well, if we don't get Sherwood Eddy, all the work that we put in in training Bible class leaders will be well worth all it costs.

In anticipation of such meetings we expect to have special meetings this fall with a leader from up north. That will be a big undertaking. So here is my program. Sept. 21, leave Thaityong, stop a while in Kakchik and get to Cofu on the 25th or 27th. The 30th is the end of the financial year, so I must make whatever disbursements are necessary, and then make up my accounts to the Board on the 30th. Then in a week or so comes the Association meeting at Chaoyang, which I must attend if I can get anyone to stay with Lottie. Then comes Lottie's party in the middle of November, and just about that time I am due to take my final language exams. Scattered all thro these few months I shall have sessions with various missionaries, auditing their accounts. Perhaps a little after Christmas will come the preparatory meetings that I just referred to. Shortly after Christmas must come our annual conference. Shortly after Christmas must be held our annual hunt, if it is held at all, but I am beginning
to fear lest it get crowded out. Shortly before Christmas Lewis and I
must confer with a committee from the various Ccfu churches as to how
much assistance they shall receive, and in regard to other arrangements.

That is a full enough program for me. Study, auditing, union work
in Ccfu, secretary of the conference, secretary of the program committee
and of the committee on the revision of the constitution, which has to
make a lengthy report, which I must typewrite in multiple for distribution
father of a family and senior missionary of Chaoshonfu. Do you think
I shall have enough to do?
Dear Mother;

This has been a week of carpenters. That doesn't sound very missionary, does it? Here I have been in China almost two years. And I have studied the language, worked a little on fixing up dictionaries, traveled around the country, bought a few books, done a lot of carpentry, such as it is, played a lot of tennis and gone hunting a little, and all the religious work that I have managed to get in, has consisted of leading a few prayer meetings, and preaching perhaps half a dozen times in English, to missionaries, chiefly, and preaching two Chinese sermons to little country churches, with a handful for an audience. That isn't very much in the way of missionary work is it? But I read once somewhere that the difficulty of learning the language was erected by the Lord to prevent missionaries from jumping into the work at once, before they knew anything about the character and customs of the people, and thereby making so many mistakes as to seriously injure their later usefulness.

And as I think of it, there certainly have been heaps of things that I have been able to pick up during the time I have been here. It certainly is a fact that along with the language one picks up the psychology of the people, and even such a thing as bossing some carpenters teaches one how the Chinese mind acts. Only, the more one learns, the more one realizes how much there is to learn. A year ago, I could wrangle with a boatman about his fare, and thought that was some progress. Now I can direct carpenters, who are Hakkas, and therefore their knowledge of Haklo is as imperfect as mine, and get along without serious difficulty. But I am just beginning to realize how wide is the difference between bossing a Chinese carpenter, and working with a Chinese preacher, so as to inspire without dictating, to arouse right ideas and desires without being didactic or hortatory, to be humble and yet not let him think that I can be imposed upon, to make them feel that the work is theirs, and yet not let them get
head, these I find to be a few of the problems that the others are having to tackle, and I know that I shall run into them as soon as I get into the work. As I suppose you know, I am not designated anywhere yet, but as I am the only missionary living at Chaochowfu I am put in financial charge of the field; that means practically nothing more than paying a few preachers, etc. The responsibility for the field lies on Lewis. But when conference meets, I am likely to be put in full charge for the field, and then I shall be in for it.

It is a mighty important time, too, and I would that Baker, with his experience, acquaintance with the field, and sound ideas, were here to have charge of the work. Just a little before he went home, he and I conferred with James, of the E.P. Mission, and decided that we would do union work from then on. But up to date this has meant little more than that the Sunday evening services, which James used to arrange for at his preaching hall, are now held alternately there and at our chapel, and that we provide half of the speakers. James has had no Chinese preacher to put in charge of the work, but has just succeeded in getting one, and will begin in the fall (such syntax); I have had a very good Chinese preacher who has practically done all that was done on our part, for with my studying I have had no leisure to work in the city; but that will soon be a thing of the past, and I shall be in the work. Then James and I will have to get together and work out a policy. It is more accurate to say "work out" than "plan out" for James, altho he has been in the work some four years, is a year younger than I am, and I think had no pastoral experience at home. So we are both venturing into pretty deep problems, with little experience as a guide. Fortunately I like the man about as well as anybody I ever had to work with, and he doesn't seem to dislike me, so that will be a great help.

That is affair No. 1. The second is like unto it. You have doubt?
less heard of the wonderful work that Sherwood Eddy has been doing in meetings for educated men. We are making plans to have him here next fall; it isn't certain that we shall be able to get him, but there is good reason to hope for it; anyway, we are going to prepare. Now preparation for such meetings is a very large undertaking; aside from the work of getting the people in the right attitude, and organizing the meetings, is the much more important and difficult work of training up leaders for Bible classes; because Eddy always clinches those who are willing to give favorable Christianity consideration to Christianity by getting them to promise to join Bible classes; and there must be ready prepared before the meetings start, a number of Bible class leaders, sufficient to teach all those who may be willing to join the classes; and it is in just such qualified leaders that our missions are deficient; to train them up will be a big undertaking.

Well, if we don't get Sherwood Eddy, all the work that we put in in training Bible class leaders will be well worth all it costs.

In anticipation of such meetings we expect to have special meetings this fall with a leader from up north. That will be a big undertaking. So here is my program. Sept.21, leave Taoyong, stop a while in Haukchih and get to Cofu on the 25th or 27th. The 30th is the end of the financial year, so I must make whatever disbursements are necessary, and then make up my accounts to the Board on the 30th. Then in a week or so comes the Association meeting at Siaoyang, which I must attend if I can get anyone to stay with Lottie. Then comes Lottie's party in the middle of November, and just about that time I am due to take my final language exams. Scattered all thrro these few months I shall have sessions with various missionaries, auditing their accounts. Perhaps a little after Christmas will come the preparatory meetings that I just referred to. Shortly after Christmas must come our annual conference. Shortly after Christmas must be held our annual hunt, if it is held at all, but I am beginning
to fear lest it get crowded out. Shortly before Christmas Lewis and I must confer with a committee from the various Ccfu churches as to how much assistance they shall receive, and in regard to other arrangements.

That is a full enough program for me. Study, auditing, union work in Ccfu, secretary of the conference, secretary of the program committee and of the committee on the revision of the constitution, which has to make a lengthy report, which I must typewrite in multiple for distribution.

Father of a family and senior missionary of Chaochowfu. Do you think I shall have enough to do?
Thayong, via Swatow, Aug 7, 1915.

Dear Mother,

This has been a week of carpenters. That doesn't sound very missionary, does it? Here I have been in China almost two years. And I have studied the language, worked a little on fixing up dictionaries, traveled around the country, found a few books, done a lot of carpentry, such as it is, played a lot of tennis and gone hunting a little, and all the religious work that I have managed to get in, has consisted in leading a few prayer meetings, and preaching perhaps half a dozen times in English, to missionaries, chiefly, and preaching two Chinese sermons to little country churches, with a handful for an audience. That isn't very much in the way of missionary work is it? But I read once somewhere that the difficulty of learning the language was erected by the Lord to prevent missionaries from jumping into the work at once, before they knew anything about the character and customs of the people, and thereby making so many mistakes as to seriously injure their later usefulness.

And as I think of it, there certainly have been heaps of things that I could have been doing here to make the work more effective. I have been able to pick up during the time I have been here. It certainly has been a hard year. I have learned considerably more of the language, and even such a thing as bossing some carpenters teaches one how much there is to learn. A year ago, I could wrangle with a boatman enough to roll a two-hundred-ton ship at his own rate of speed, but about his fare, and thought that was some progress. Now I can direct men and an entire collection of tradesmen, and order carpenters, who are Hakka, and therefore their knowledge of Haklo is as imperfect as mine, and get along without serious difficulty. But I am just beginning to realize how wide is the difference between bossing a Chinese carpenter, and working with a Chinese preacher, so as to inspire him without dictating, to arouse right ideas and desires without being didactic, or hortatory, to be humble and yet not let him think that I can be imposed upon, to make them feel that the work is theirs, and yet not let them get
eady, these I find to be a few of the problems that the others are having to tackle, and I know, that I shall run into them as soon as I get into the work. As I suppose, you know, I am not designated anywhere yet, but as I am the only missionary living at Chaochowfu, I am put in financial charge of the field; that means practically nothing more than paying a few preachers, etc. The responsibility for the field lies on Lewis.

But when conference meets, I am likely to be put in full charge of the field, and then I shall be in for it.

It is a mighty important time, too, and I would that Baker, with his experience, acquaintance with the field, and sound ideas, were here to have charge of the work. Just a little before he went home, he and I conferred with James, of the E.P. Mission, and decided that we would have another of those 2 day long and eventful meetings before we go union work from then on. But up to date this has meant little more than that the Sunday evening services, which James used to arrange for the week on alternate Sunday evening past, have disappeared to another local man. The Sunday evening services, which James used to arrange for the week on alternating Sundays, have disappeared and there is now held alternately there and at our chapel, separately to attend some large gathering of no constraint and that we provide half of the speakers. James has had no Chinese preacher to put in charge of the work, but has just succeeded in getting one, and will begin in the fall such syntax; I have had a very good word with a Chinese preacher who has practically done all that was done on our part, with my studying I have had no leisure to work in the city, but that will soon be a thing of the past, and I shall be in the work. Then James married a native of his tribe, and I shall be in a native of another tribe, and I will have to get together and work out a policy. It is more accurate to say "work out" than "plan out", for James, altho he has been in the work some years, is a year younger than I am, and I think as I tell you, another week before I came as missionary had no pastoral experience at home. So we are both venturing into a unheard of success and with our wide experience of监护, pretty deep problems, with little experience as a guide. Fortunately, I like the man about as well as anybody I ever had to work with, and he doesn't seem to dislike me, so that will be a great help.

That is affair No. 1. The second is like unto it. You have doubts
less heard of the wonderful work that Sharwood Eddy has been doing in China amid amount ended. Joa Drown day of meeting for educated men. We are making plans to have him here next fall; it isn't certain that we shall be able to get him, but there is good reason to hope for it; anyway, we are going to prepare. Now prepa-
ration for such meetings is a very large undertaking; aside from the work of getting the people in the right attitude, and organizing the meetings,
it is the much more important and difficult work of training up leaders for Bible classes; because Eddy always clinches those who are willing to
promise to join Bible classes; and there must be ready prepared before
the meetings start, a number of Bible class leaders, sufficient to teach
all those who may be willing to join the classes; and it is just such
qualified leaders that our missions are deficient; to train them up will
be a big undertaking. Well, if we don't get Sharwood Eddy, all the
work that we put in training Bible class leaders will be well worth
all it costs.

In anticipation of such meetings we expect to have special meetings
this fall with a leader from up north. That will be a big undertaking.

So here is my program. Sept. 21, leave Thaivyong, stop a while in Kachin
and get to Gofoo on the 25th or 27th. The 30th is the end of the financial
year, so I must make whatever disbursements are necessary, and then make
up my accounts to the Board on the 30th. Then in a week or so comes the
Association meeting at Chaoyang, which I must attend if I can get anyone

to stay with Lottie. Then comes Lottie's party in the middle of November,
and just about that time I am due to take my final language exams.

Scattered all thro these few months I shall have sessions with various
missionaries, auditing their accounts. Perhaps a little after Christmas
will come the preparatory meetings that I just referred to. Shortly
after Christmas must come our annual conference. Shortly after Christmas
must be held our annual hunt, if it is held at all, but I am beginning.
in which need ask your blessing? In a joyful time and to such easy
to fear lest it get crowded out. Shortly before Christmas Lewis and I
then even and even of thefe authems etc. m. now before the next council
must confer with a committee from the various Ccfu churches as to how
at cred to end in the bys of the lea in in 21st the way I'll that
much assistance they shall receive, and in regard to other arrangements.
That is a full enough program for me. Study, auditing, union work
ment more obvious that in an autheem may ve of an autheem which the
in Ccfu, secretary of the conference, secretary of the program committee
a student and a student now abu by abut abu and the by abu to
the of the committee on the revision of the constitution, which has to
not arable to abut. It would be done some more work and it al
make a lengthy report, which I must typewrite in multiple for distribution
of all this ears the of abu on abut abu and be the abut al
father of a family and senior missioner of Chaechofu. Do you think
my writing of the to the abu abut al
I shall have enough to do?

I have just heard that the meeting this fall will probably
occur about the middle of Nov. What a convenient time!

His as my past, and am by abut abut abut abut. What a precious place
have her is much. Many thanks.

P.S. Father's birthday and I is coming soon and the
with them many happy returns. The present we want to send
be brought in this mountain village and we are not
by the town as we stay for a couple of weeks. As then
may be delayed the good wishes promptly, however.

at the Board of the 30th. There is a week to come.

the association meeting of the next, which I want to be at:
the middle of November

so to stay with us.

And just don't fail to see me in the next

as we plan to see you in the next

S.R. I know there will not be anything to take for the day's journey.
Dear Mother,

Another week has gone by with a round of study odd jobs, eating, sleeping, talking etc. On my part and on Betty's part, a similar round only with sewing and letter writing in the place of study and odd jobs. But the big event that we are both waiting for doesn't occur. We hoped it might take place a week or so ago. The time is getting short now for the Chang'ai More meetings begin on Wed, it is now Sun 3/10, and nothing coming. And I'd rather not go away (for more than a few hours) till 3 days after.

Mr. King arrived in Tawaut yesterday. He preached today and then tomorrow goes to working for getting back. So I suppose on Wed, M., Mr. King goes to Tashaokounfu for the week end and returns to Tawaut on Monday for the three day meetings. Of course he is not the only preacher at these meetings. He speaks morning and evening - alas. If the connections were only better I could spend the nights here. But to catch the 8:30 boat I have to leave here at 7:00, and I wouldn't get to Tashaokounfu about 10:30 and I suppose the meetings begin at 7. I believe that last boat leaves for Chaoyang at 4:30 and I wouldn't have before Tashaokounfu until later than 3:30. Of course an evening meeting would be out of the question and this at the Chaoyang is only a little way from Tawaut and there are seven boats a day each way.

I made a flying trip to Tawaut yesterday. Mr. Kershaw found he needed some tetanus anti-toxin (for lock jaw) and so he telegraphed Hong Kong for it on Thursday. We figured it would be up on the 2nd but so I went to get it on the assumption that if anything happened it was more important to have it than to wait.
than me. He didn't decide for me to go till 6:30 and that is the ordinary time to start for the 12:30 boat. I took me half an hour to get ready, but I made the trip by bicycle in 35 min so I had ample time. I ate my lunch on the boat, which reached Swatow at 11:30. I went directly to the British Post Office and asked if there was a big parcel for me. No! But there was one for me. They had sent the parcel over to Kalkrief the day before. On the back of the slip they note what the customs declaration says about contents and value. The slip has been signed by the customs-house and they (I accept the declaration) either stamp it "free of duty" or else make out the duty memo.

In the former case you take the slip to the P.O. sign the receipt on the face of it and get your article from the gather of your postman. In the latter you pay the duty at the bank and present your receipt to the customs and they stamp the slip "duty paid" and then you go for your goods.

In the latter case you take the slip, make out duplicate slips for the two packets addressed to Swatow (in case you had time to put them through customs) and went over to Chinese P.O. They had nothing for me. The customs office was not open for 15 min so I took a boat out to see if the stoker had been sent up in charge of a small bag I had sent at all. It had. But stoker had addressed it with the code address of the doctor in Hong Kong who deals in vaccines, etc., and it is forbidden to send code messages into Hong Kong, so a doctor in Swatow had sent the package and also changed the signature to read "American Mission, Swatow" I went to the British P.O. and they had the package.
all right. So I got a duplicate slip and
went over to the customs. I had hardly
handed in my slip when Mr Almores boat
came and gave me three slips two for
me and one for Groesbeck which he
had already put through the customs—a most
efficient piece of work on his part, but
I haven't time to explain just how he hadn't
replied slip up, and didn't understand
why. But on talking to the customs man
we found that they had given it to Mr. Almores
stevedore's steersman who was also there,
putting the same roll of matting that had
come up as freight to be the disfuration. Another's steersman,
Groesbeck's mailman and we were registered
mail, went to Mr. Almores and she signed
the receipt and gave them to the cook to
put there. The matting was freight. The
stevedore's steersman and the customs
man handed over the pour slip to the steersman
who turned the matter over to the steersman
and the customs men handed over the serum
slip. The customs men handled over the serum
ship to the steersman along with the matting
ship. And he was off to the bank
when the cook found
that the steersman had the slip he was
off to the bank on the run, and back in
a surprisingly short time with a paper
which the customs accepted
and stamped the slip "They say." Then
we went again to Mr. Almores
and got the parcels without difficulty.
Then we got all
four under my arm if they were good size
and went on the wheel and rode in
to the launch landing, which is
a half mile or so away. We crowded
the launch and hollered with the other
for I broke my head in the morning
and it requires a great deal of hollering
to attract the attention of the Chinese
for steamer. But I got off at the launch at
8 a.m. and I was glad because
the launch boat gets me home at about
4.45 but the 4.30 boat wouldn't have got me there till 6.30 or so on account of the darkness making travel slower, and I was anxious to get back to the seedless as early as the dock and the steersman hadn't done the routine for me. I couldn't have got there in time. I was considerably grateful to them.

When the launch leaves the landing at Bhagyag it leaves the stem fast to the wharf, and starts the engine the result being to swing the bow out into the channel which is narrow and shallow, so it is important to start right. When the boat was some feet from the landings a man who was anxious to catch the launch got excited and tumbled off. He was then standing in water, mud, and the water was up to his neck. After the discussion which is always necessary at any crisis before any action can be taken, the men in a rowboat finally came to the conclusion that said man wanted to get out of the water and into the steamer. So one of the boatmen lifted him by the cowl and hoisted him into the boat, and then hastily transferred him to the steamer.

I immediately asked the steamer's captain to call this attention to the fact, that he had had any leisure to do so.

I put a new tire on my bicycle yesterday morning, and on the trip to Indianola I had the good of it. It certainly was a satisfactory shock at first. That didn't need to be done up every hour or so the tree shade and the fountains have been attacked by this time, and I'm satisfied the way except that the fountain aren't filling my needs. We are considering the
Proposing of my taking back the non-leakable
which needs to be mine and turning the
your one over to Cotton. I don't know
how that scheme will work.

Mom G. Nothing doing yet. Cotton
tells well but is disappointed at having
to wait so long. It is unfortunate. The nurse
has been waiting nearly two weeks now and
her time is limited as she is supposed
to in a training class and the less
she is away the better. My time is some-
what limited as I explained above about
the thing of her meeting. Cotton's time
is limited so she ought to have been
for some about the end of these, and the
longer they stay now the less time she
has to get it done after this. So
altogether we are anxious to have things
happen as soon as possible.

But of course that will all be
over before you get here.

We wish you a merry Christmas
and hope the thing we sent will
arrive in time. Needles & Spay. We shall
send Christmas here and it will be a
happy one.

K. L. Anson

Helen

Please send to Mrs. D. Robbins
Return finally to Holyoke

P. H. Creay. Rice Swanton,
Third Dec. 5, 1915

Dear Mother: 

I don't know just what to write to tell you what happened yesterday, but I guess I'll just say it right out. Lotte is here in the bedroom, quite comfortable. She passed time the experience very well. Her pulse is the nicest, baby I ever saw, and she never breathed. We don't know how to account for it. The heart beat before birth was good and strong, but the cord pulsed after birth not strongly, to be sure, but it wasn't they broke it and it grew softer later on. But Lotte, Mrs. Lasher and I worked for nearly half an hour, using all the approved manipulations and hypodermic injection. I finally had to lay her aside, and tend her own. She had been all the time ready for the nurse, with occasional instructions from Mrs. Lasher. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse. We don't know whether something was wrong with the nurse.

And then the thought came to me that something was wrong. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm afraid I was afraid of something. I'm af
blanket ready to use if wanted. By the time this was over, the pains were coming every five minutes or so, and Betty was beginning to groan considerably. Just before dinner she was transferred from my bed, where she had been in the morning, to the special bed, and about 2 or 2.30 Am Lester came in, with his went through the disinfectants, and arranged his instruments. He made an examination and reported that the second stage was just a fact which was quite evident from the increase of length and intensity of the pains. I always knew I had to be grateful to my mother for bringing me into the world, but I never appreciated it so much as I have. I don't feel I need to tell you what happened. It was perfectly normal, and for a woman of my age having her first child, it was rather short. But it wasn't than might be expected. But it wasn't enjoyable. They told her when the head reached the perineum they would give against the chloroform. Up till 4 o'clock they pains hadn't been very strong, and at 4 Mr. Lester thought that in about two more pains it would be time. But then the pains decreased, both in frequency and strength, and at 6 they decided to use low forceps, not that the child couldn't be born without them. But it could be done in a little while with them, without any harm to either. And there would be no use in keeping both mother and child in the process any longer.

At this point I stopped and read the letter to Lotte, and she makes a few corrections. Her time might have come as early as Nov 14.
and quite reasonably could have been expected by the 21st. Bottle was sure in the wee small hours that they were labor pains. But she didn’t want to wake me. Recker & me. They came at 3 minute intervals till 7 then lengthened to 5 minutes but might have waited till Dec 17.

At 4 o’clock when she called Mrs. Recker the pains came.

With the forceps things were more rapid. I think she began at about 6:15 or 6:20. (Under chloroform of course.) and the child was born at 6:40. No tears except a very tiny one on the inside which amounts to only a little discomfort.

Then things began to happen. Off with the rubber, gloves, into a bucket of hot water and immediately into a thing of cold. No first some artificial respiration than the water, and I wasn’t the one to see whether it was warm first or cold. The Fowler held the hot water was put up on the bed regardless of the soot on the bottom of the fact that clothes chafed and was drenched. Presently the cord was cut to make it possible to work quicker. I made two hast‘tries to the kitchen for more hot water! Atropine and strychnine were injected twice in the arm and once over the heart. And all the time something was being done and done by a man who was too close headed to get rattled and too strong to get tired but none the heart stopped beating and couldn’t be started again so the baby was wrapped up and set aside to die.
Dear Mother:

Since I came back Tuesday evening I have had
a fairly quiet existence. The nurse went Thursday
morning so that day and since I have bathed
Katie and taken care of her; also rested some
and read quite a bit. I needed the rest and the
reading helped me to get it. One doesn't usually
read medical treatises for light reading, but
that is what I have done. Mr. Baker would tell
me about an interesting case, and then give
me a book to read about it. Probably I wouldn't
have understood it if he hadn't discussed
the case first. This afternoon I have been
reading three articles in the medical journal
one of which discusses the various methods of
anesthesia. Saying that ether is far better
than chloroform and that spinal anesthesia
(injecting novocaine, or its allies such as cocaine
into the spinal fluid) is to be deprecated and
twilight sleep to be utterly rejected. The next
parted that in labor cases nitrous oxide (the
ordinary dentist's gas) gives ideal results, far
better than twilight sleep. And the third says
that twilight sleep is still needed and he doesn't
see why it hadn't been universally adopted already.
I take it that the question isn't settled yet.
I am considerably interested to see what else
some of it.

The two great things today are 1. So the
was up-stairs. Our bedroom is down stairs
but the sitting room where the stove is, and
the dinning room, are up-stairs. So she has
been sitting up since we had our first day.
I learned her up to the sitting room, and she sat at
the table for dinner and supper. It seemed
mighty nice. 2. The hot water system was finally got to work. I suppose we told you this house has had running water ever since they really lived in it - the only one in the mission that has. The get water from a well use a force pump to send it to a plot of big jar in the attic and from there out to send it to both bathrooms, the medicine room, laundry kitchen and ironing room. The plans provided for hot water too. The stove in the study, the heater in the bathroom (this heating both rooms). The stove was in place last winter but couldn't be used till the lines were connected and the water turned. Lester and I couldn't get around to it. I've and Lester couldn't get around to it. Yesterday I have worked all our spare time on the job since I came here, and yesterday we worked all day till 9:30 and got the job done. So today the water was turned on and after the leaks were stopped the stove was lit. Result: lots of warmth and lots of hot water. We're all glad about that too.

I haven't time to write any more as it is bed time now and I want to send this by Ms. Deek who is going to swallow early tomorrow morning. I am returning a page from a letter that just came. I was going to send it on, but I didn't do it straight. We don't quite understand what is meant by "don't get your hopes up" and wonder if it means another package lost in the mail. Good night.

Your loving son
Ellison.

P.S. Will you please mail these notes and I'll try to get some stamps to reimburse you.
Dear Mother,

Yesterday was the nicest Christmas we have had since we came to China and the Koehels said it was the nicest they had had since they came—so you can see it was a good day! Perhaps it better tell first about what I gave to the kids. I had no present arranged for when we came here, but expected to be able to get something in someway. But all those many shops were so full of affairs and so busy that it proved very hard to find anything and they weren't able to arrange the trip. So one day I went into the city for a stroll and bought my cookies along. And whenever I saw any things that looked cute, if I could get it at a price less than indispensable we did so. We got a Chinese rat-trap made of bamboo for a little less than 30 cash (a cash is 50 of a cent more): so that was about 1 1/4 S. Money; a little horse made of mud coated with gaudy paint with wheels to roll on: for 10 cash a felt that represented on the back a dragon boat in which races at one of the fairs; with the runners all on place—2 1/3 cash; a large felt pottery image for 1 1/3 cash; a bamboo cylinder to stand pens and pencils in: for 25 cash; a tiny tea pot for 1 1/4 cash and two small bamboo thing on the trees, and helped out quite a bit.

Another day when I was out-strolling with Mr. Newman we bought some cheap little things and other things, all in cost of a few cents, and these were put into the kids' stockings. Mother often kicked had started to go up stairs, and here at the stockin. Having it away in the hall for the morning? I hung it on the top knot (outside) and with called it the attention to the fact that Santa didn't come in so he hung the stocking outside. She was somewhat excited and very much pleased.
The great problem was to get one nice present: and I didn't know what to do. But the housewives are sitting here and one day the geesebecks took them in to a store which sells various things that foreigners like to buy. I was glad to accept an invitation to go along and found a nice size coat for a quarter that Mrs. geesebeck said wouldn't keep that much long. So I was very glad to buy, and Betty seemed to be pleased with it. I had been considerably disturbed over the question of what I could buy for Betty, and this opportunity was like last minute of a good angle.

The preparations for Christmas began some days ago when my geesebeck and Mrs. geesebeck help us making candy wholesale. I have never seen so much home-made candy except at a "Women's Exchange" so they made, and you'd better believe it was good! I was able to do a way with a lot of it.

The next stage was on Thursday when Katherine geesebeck and Weston English went out on the third after the tree one for each house. We had a fine time and a good long hunt for. There were many piny pines, pine trees growing on that hillside, but we hunted half an hour or more before we found two that would do. The tree is simply brought in on a beaver skidder. I was surprised to find how light they are. I purchased 2 ft. which is 5 inches in diameter. They are a little awkward to carry but not nearly as heavy as an ordinary Chinese burden. I carried our tree around the house and didn't mind it at all. Our tree didn't have any branches at the bottom but we bought some from other trees and just bored holes and stuck in the branches, they look as life-like as natural branches and you can have them wherever you want them.
The insertion of the tree branches was done thus. 2 PM. The setting up of the tree. Esther has a lot of big pottery bottles about 1 1/2 foot in diameter. We found a box that fitted close to the angles of this bottle. Then he had the potter at work for 2 or 3 hours sanding the space in the bottle, so that the sand was packed tight against it. Then water was poured in, and the tree is expected to a certain extent the tree will continue to grow in this substitute for soil. And if may stay green for a month or so. I shall be interested to see.

Friday was spent (or part of it) in decorating the tree and hanging garlands (which were chains, etc) and bells around the house. Of course Friday evening at bed time I fixed up the stockings and placed them at the bedside before breakfast. After breakfast we had soup with the servants and then came the tree.

It is interesting to compare the scheme used here and at the Grossbeck house next door. Isabel Grossbeck (aged 6) giggles at her stocking till after breakfast. The kids next door when up at daylight if not earlier. The scheme here was a taker off a present and stop and admire and distance it before taking the next. I fear we hastened it by our desire for speed. I think they would have used a great deal of the morning if they had been alone. They do the forget to the dance around the tree and then attacked it with enthusiasm and energy. I prefer that method. But the one we had

...has some points of excellence
The dinner, well, it was fine: roast
goose, so tender that it fell to pieces
while being carved, but the skin was
deliciously crisp, and the dressing was
excellent; good mashed potatoes and
nice gravy; and the sweetest bread
ever tasted. We all agreed that when the
dessert was served we voted
unanimously to postpone it till today.

Then we went to the chapel for the
8:5 exercises. It was the first time I had
been away from the house except to
go next door a couple of times. We got a
bed for her to go to the chapel, and took
her to camp chair. We listened to the
singing and speaking for 15 minutes or
so and then adjourned to the lawn where
the school boy gave quite an interesting
exhibtion of Halloween stunts and
athletics, selling tea cakes and candy
at frequent intervals. The elite of the
students in large numbers and
understand
they enjoyed it immensely. It stayed
about 2 hours and then we walked home.
I ran to camp chair and succeeded
in getting her to sit down and rest occasionally.
She didn't feel she needed it but Mabel
prayed for it at supper time and my
considerable gratification.

As for the present, most of the
missionaries sent cards. But Mrs.
Osborne sent a handbag, Miss. Graver a regiment
match box, and the Bowesfield's an old
gold bronze bowl. We espy the Bacon sent
some toffee and Mrs. Woodley a very curious
thing (for) the inside of which I have not
determined. It is partly made of brass.
The Wesley gave me some notes of
little chime—some green, a nice ruler
and the grosebecks some American apples
some most elegant Chinese candy of the
very nicest Chinese candy I have found—and some lovely cutting, while their laughter
patterns gave it some nice Chinese effect. And gave Mr. Chestner and me a midnight
rice bake. A member of the Judson party came out with us on the steamer. They
were the ones who took us on that splendid
cruise ride in Honolulu. Well she sent me
gordon's 'Quicksilts or Prayer,' and sent
Lottie and Mrs. Chester each a most beautiful
bead box with every thing that could be
deserved inside, and every article was most
carefully wrapped in white tissue
paper and buttom'd with a Xmas seal.

The home presents have not arrived
in great number yet. There was a knit
sweater that just be made for me and
it was nice as well the two week ties
that Ruth sent. Ruth or Aunt Ella or both
sent a beautiful birthday book containing
the names of all the members of the family.
Two of these came with Lottie's birthday
presents and one a little later. So anything
that was sent to arrive just about
Xmas time evidently was delayed. Never
mind. We had plenty without. And if any
thing does materialize it will be nice then.

One of Lottie's friends sent her a hand
bag, and one of her two adopted boys sent
a photo of her two adopted boys. One of
whom I thought to be very fond of, and he
is evidently developing just as one would
wish, and the other whom I have never
seen is the newest able fellow. I

Patterson presents to me were a nice
pair of woolly pyjamas; an Idaho down
quilt which caught some months ago.
and was supposed to be hidden from me. I found it once or twice, butottie,
exhorted me to forget and really did so so successfully that when she told
me that was a Xmas present I really was surprised. and pleased too. Of course.

The Bunsfields who were 3 days
march from anywhere. are guests next door.
You remember last year they arrived at Graymo cold and late on Xmasday
just in time for a Chinese feast at the
Chapel. I heard about that in a letter
sent home recently. But I just found
the other day that instead of going
out to the house after the feast
and getting warm and snug they left the feast
and went directly to the Nature Hotel
which took them down the river, and
Hokka books in winter are exceedingly
well ventilated. Isn't that a great
way to spend Xmas? the bop was
certainly enjoying their Xmas this year
they just got word yesterday that they
would be deported for admission
the American board at shanghai
and Mrs. Bunsfield assisted by Mrs.
Gilbert and Mrs. Zoser are all
beginning to worry. about getting all the things
ready. deanna will be more nervous than ever I fear. without the bop
Rowman, bachelor, and his Kathie
were also guests next door.

I must close now. With kisses
and lots of love from Betty and me.

Yours lovingly
Ellison.