Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Father dear,

I am writing on the launch that takes us to Sweden and how we cross over to Råshult where our dear little girl is to be buried in the foreign cemetery which is nearly full already. Her body is well and it is taking of very well. Mother is now very well too. At the time she seems more concerned over my grief than over her own. She stood the labor wonderfully well. The doctors say, and Mrs. Kesner specially remarked about her control and the way in which she helped the pains. I have written my mother and Aunt Belle about almost everything and they will send their letters to you. But right at the end I don't think I heard anything about the end of labor. Up till 4 A.M. the pains began just after midnight every time I was satisfactory and I was excited having her first child it was making good progress. The head was almost tight against the perineum. They didn't want to give her chloroform. They wanted her to keep it by bearing down. While the head is tight against the perineum—then the important thing is for it not to come too fast and they give the chloroform or relieve the pain. But about then the pains increased in number and severity and progress slowed down. And after an hour or so was very little so they gave her the chloroform and applied the last forceps. The child was born at 4:30. All doctor and the nurse were sterile. He held the foces, she held one leg grasping the sterile sheet. I held the other leg bringing the sheet as little as possible, and also the hand which bothered at first. Doctor Kesner managed the chloroform and acted as midwife. When the child came out the cord was around it neck once, but not tight and it was breaking easily some strong force, with the most strongly, artificial respiration in that, put on not hot, and water in alternation was used (forget which first) followed by more respiration, and Mr. Kesner blowing into the lungs with sterile cloth. Then pressing on the air. Also hypodermic of strychnic taken twice in the arm once on the heart. I don't feel what the doctor did all came in it and had to be cut after a few minutes because it interfered very seriously with the breathing. At the end when hope was about gone, he omitted the sterile cloth, and put the cord out and wrapped the child to come to get batted and too strong to get tied. and the worked hand and fast. And didn't quit the heart had already stopped beating. Some time after. Then the little girl was washed and laid aside and the placenta attendent.

The nurse had been breathing the nitrogen, it was good for him. The placenta was already to be expelled and came out immediately, the whole thing as soon as Kesner got sterile again and brought it out. He kept sterile at first while working on the baby. He had
Few words to the wise, might be hard. On first everything that was needed was already and at hand, but presently the water needed to be warmed, so I got common hot water from the kitchen. And off came the clothes. Then the cord was already cut and bandage was nothing but work. Work, work, while I Food by and watched and prayed as I have done before, till the became faint and knew what was going on, and asked me if there was any hope. Instead I lent below which was true then, by and by, they stopped. Working on the baby and the want came and told her any good news. She was more conscious. They gradually under stand how they had gone. There was written by her sister. After the suicide was written. It was very light after we had dressed. The baby was in the nursery. And they let off the bed and left the baby in a bottle. She was 21 3/4 in. and weighed a little.

Specimen of which have been taken for examination were present in one portion through a small section of mesentery.

It is with regret to say that the lungs had not been in any of the amniotic fluid.

Others were well and standing very well indeed.

Cordless delivery. A point of interest.

There seems to be no apparent cause for the failure of

20 and 40 minutes after delivery.

Very soon the heart beat ceased between delivery. But all in vain, the heart beat ceased between delivery. But no respiration, artificial respiration and drugs used. The heart continued to beat for fully thirty minutes after delivery. The heart beat during the day, and up to the time of delivery.

And the child delivered it was an easy case. The head was in the performance and vaginal force was applied.

The pain became milder and weaker the least half hour before 6 P.M.

The patient was much interested. Listening and talking between them. The patient was quite normal, the mother standing the ordeal very well.

Mrs. M., delivered of a cleft baby, Dec. 24th, at home.
attention to Lettie who by this time was very awake so that she knew what was going on more or less, and knew without telling me that it was in vain. I was glad I didn't have to tell her, she took it better than I did, and all the evening she kept saying let's not think about it, and how sorry she was for the Lescher's and Mrs. Me. You know the Lescher's lost a little girl last year, just about 11 months ago, drowned in the ammonia tank, so it did make it hard for them, to have the same thing gone over again in their house when they were in charge of the cake. Mrs. Lescher has managed everything that was done, but Mrs. Lescher has done all the cooking.

I must close now. The funeral is at Hakehill tomorrow noon at the foreign cemetery. We asked Mrs. Lescher to take charge, the girls' dress, etc. Mrs. Lescher made a beautiful cake and the baby looked so pretty in it. On the other side as a report of the case that Mrs. Lescher wrote, we wanted the outlay for the same reason that the Lescher's did, to find out why such a perfect child didn't come to life. I don't know whether we shall find out or not. I fear not.

We thought about naming, and my conscience has troubled me quite a bit about not naming. But it seemed best to wait for a letter to give some details and not falsely the sad news. I hope you'll forgive me for not naming.

We had it planned that if this baby was a girl we would name her Katharine, and we have decided to do so. We may never have another girl to give that beautiful name to, and while it is bad that you and your mother can't have a live name, we love her as much as if she had come to life. And I hope you'll understand,

Yours lovingly,

Ellison

Let me repeat Lettie is getting on very well indeed. You don't need to worry about her. I should have known but not at 10 o'clock and we have to have breakfast.

Please send this to Northampton and ask them to send it to Miss L. N. Vawterlee, Summer St., Bridgewater Mass., she will be glad to send it to Rockport, and shave Rockport. I have returned it to you for I know you will want it back. I haven't time to write long letters to them. When do you write the letters? I will be different, and I know they will be glad to send them to you.
Chaoyang, China, Dec. 5, 1915

Mrs. Hildreth was delivered of a girl baby, Dec. 4, evening; the labor was quite normal, the mother standing the ordeal very well, watching the progress and the change in the characteristics of the pains with much interest, laughing and talking between them. The pains became fewer and weaker the last half hour before 5 P.M. The head was on the perineum and visible. Forceps were applied and the child delivered; it was an easy case. The heart beat during the day and up to the time of the delivery ran at 135. The heart continued to beat for fully thirty minutes after delivery but no respiration, artificial respiration and drugs were administered but all in vain, the heart beat ceased between 30 and 45 minutes after delivery.

There seemed to be no apparent cause for the failure of respiration. Autopsy showed two small extra openings in the Septum Ovale but scarcely of sufficient size to be any causative factor in the failure of respiration.

The lungs had not taken in any of the amnionic fluid; there was present in the bronchial tubes a small amount of creamy substance, specimens of which have been taken for staining. This was finished about dark Sun. P.M. and of course there has not yet (Mon. 6 a.m.) been opportunity to study them at all.
My dear Family, I am sorry that I have not been able to write more than the pastel since the last letter of ten weeks ago. — Already it is 9:00 P.M. Ellison has been home this Sunday eve. and has been writing up stairs. It has been so pleasant! He tries not to leave me alone more than he can help, because he knows how lonely it would be just at first. He has been so good and kind and thoughtful. I can't imagine any way in which he could have done more, and he forgets himself absolutely in trying to make me happy and help me from anxiety.

By the way in this conference (which I did not attend very much), they decided for Ellison to continue Mr. Baker's work until his return next December or January, and then probably take the out-station work for this field and Mr. Daniels' field at Mytch. That will mean that he will have to be away from home a good deal, but I am not going to cross the bridge before I come to them. I think it hard work, but if he can do best service in that way and see some work accomplished there will be a great satisfaction in doing that work, you know.

It is 9:15 and as I will stop for the night because John primed me it was last night that he stopped at 9:15. Tonight she was just going to attend writing again when I persuaded her to let me write while she played the piano. It is now 10 o'clock and we haven't had our dinner yet. About five minutes last night we came up by the afternoon train, and had positively the easiest time leaving Kachchik that we have had starting on any trip since we were married — or before conference closed Thursday noon, and we packed leisurely in the afternoon and Friday AM. sent the goods list by boat for the RR station at N and had dinner at 12:15 and left the house at 1. We went without breakfast and some errands and got to the station 30 or 40 minutes before train time. I don't know what sort of luck my cookie had had wrangling with the orderlies, but evidently they had disarmed for a long time. The station carrier belong to a corporation and practically
have a monopoly. And in anything unusual such as carrying the hundred yards from the river bank to the station, they demand most
expensive prices. Finally, my coals succeeded in persuading the boatmen to carry, and they
half the job about half done when we got there.
Then I knew the only exciting part of the trip. We had 3 cases, 1 and 4 boxes of flight
from America, and it all had to be weighed before being loaded on the baggage car. Well, first
I sent Lotte on the train and left all my hand
baggage with her. Then I persuaded the
baggage man to weigh what was there, and
left it be put on the train. Box and I
walked fast at that job, and I carried
5 or 8 big baskets of fruit and put on the
train, without stopping to consider
whether they were heavy or not. Just as I
was beginning to consider what I should
do if the last two boxes didn't arrive in
wine, along they came, and the boatmen
put them on the train. I paid the excess
charge, $1.43 pex. (for about 1 000 or 700
pounds 9 think) and saw everything all ok,
just as they began to run the field which
means the track is about ready to start.
But at the that sounds exciting, it really
didn't cause any worry. Another interesting
thing was to be stopped by soldiers as we
entered the city gate. As Chinese New Year
approaches they consider it important to
avoid the possibility of disturbances so
soldiers are stationed at each city gate and
if anyone brings in a burden that looks as
if it might contain guns, the soldiers search
it. My boxes were looked at and suspicion
but I assured them that I lived on the hill
across the river, so (I was telling the truth)
my burden would be immediately carried
out of the city again. But I fear the word
not to readily have taken the word of
Chinese. I have often complained of a
foreigner. For instance, when white
people came down from Chao-chou and the
soldiers were looking for someone, and they
made everybody go through a narrow gate and be examined. But White and I climbed the fence, they objected a little, but then they were looking for a certain Chinese and obviously neither of us could be it, so they let us go.

I was over at the Presbyterian Company this afternoon. It is quite deserted. Mr. and Mrs. James are still in Swatow. The young ladies went down today for a wedding and Dr. Ross was the only one there—a lonely bachelor. He doesn't seem to mind it. I was very glad to hear that he is not going to leave us. The submarine doctor was to go to the front, and Dr. Ross go to Swatow to take his place. But on further investigation it appeared that the submarine doctor wouldn't be needed, so nobody goes. The mission physicians certainly are needed here. We are glad, indeed, that there will still be a foreign doctor at the city.

The Conference relieved me of one of my bothersome jobs—that of auditor. There are three clerical jobs connected with my conference, jobs that take a lot of time, but no skill. So that a missionary who is new and not yet very busy can do them—and for a few days recently I had all three—conference secretary (and I read), auditor, and statistician. But they wisely elected another man as auditor, and I am glad. It is a job of addition and my arithmetic isn't good, and furthermore, one is likely to have to object to items. The man who makes the accounts is likely to object to the objection. I haven't had any serious trouble about it yet. I am glad to be rid of the job. I am rather interested in auditing and statistics, and Baker (of Swatow) was good secretary.

Our Conference this year was peaceful and easy to report. I wrote a long article.
I would write about 6 or 8 pages, but fear that even what little I have said may not be very interesting. The things that affect us most is that plans for medical relief at the villages are dropped, and our medical work is to be concentrated at Taotieh: that the missionaries are not to come up here to be company for us. For fear it might be too hard work for them to move away when Baker comes back. (I have my own ideas on that subject, but don't put forth them very freely.) And that probably when Baker comes back he will do the city work at Hauchoofoo and take over the country churches and also the two king country churches leaving Jones free to do school and city work.

It might be worth mentioning however that the mission framed a policy for the next five years that gave a boost to every station we have except Hauchoofoo and Hauooyang, Hauchoofoo fit in the prospect of medical work and half of my time will be given to country work. Which Baker had been here to see if something more couldn't be done for Hauchoofoo what I said didn't carry much weight.
Ellen's poem to Mother — Mar 15th 19 —

Mrs Lane had seven kids —
And she took such wondrous care
That they grew up fine & big
And are scattered everywhere.
No two in a single place —
And the best one lives with me.
How she made them all so nice
Is one great big mystery!
So we wish to Grandma Lane
Many happy returns of the day
May her life be full of joy
till forever & a day.