Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Ones,

I am sitting in our big reclining chair, and on my bed is little Alice Giffin only two months old and she is just too dear and fat and round for words and as bright as can be. The Giffin family has just arrived and immediately we had a very heavy rain shower. Weren't they lucky to escape it? I expected Mrs. Giffin to be all fagged out after her trip, but she was as bright as could be, although she must have been more than a week on the way, and a large part of it in native boats.

Mrs. Gay will not come up again until July 15, and Mr. Giffin will not come until the time in August I believe, so that Ellison is man of the house for the present.

All his spare time this week, Ellison has been doing little carpenter jobs and he does enjoy it so much; also incidentally it makes things much more comfortable. I have spent quite a little time mending the things that accumulated in the past three weeks or so. Next week I hope to begin some important sewing. Each afternoon, just after dinner, I'll prepare some Chinese New Testament (Matthew) and read it with the Teacher, after that we will ordinarily go out walking, but this morning she goes to her carpenter's shop in the parish, and I make a little and then make calls or go in tanning or both. Soon the weather shall begin our walking or our croquet games at Mrs. Beardsley.

Two houses here out of ten are still empty, but three are full, and one more than half full and the Stewart family from Wellingford is in the Chapel so that we have quite a company in the valley. I shall be glad when Mrs. James gets up next week, for she is not feeling very well and I know she needs the coolness.

This week we have had the boys scrubbing floors and making things neat. We have put up curtains in the dining room too, so that
things are more homelike.

I shall be interested to hear what Carol's May Festival was like. Was it in Gloucester or Rockport? Indros or out? etc.

Glad to receive mother's letter of May 14. Did the Woman's Club have a Field Day, Mother?

Who is Howard Hooper? He isn't the son of our carpenter, is he?

Wish I could see Polly in her pretty new hat.

Now Stella must enjoy her new house!

Hope Carol got thru year all right, and that you are.

Elliana has just come in bringing a letter from Auntell and two postals from brother. Joy! I'll stop right here and read. So glad to hear about wisteria and budding bushes around the house, and all about concerts and parks and clubs. Hope Stella got decked for Memorial Day. Glad Mother and Nellie came through all.

Ah! First lovely letter from Marion too! So glad to hear! Wow! I wish she had my tailor to sew for her. It is so simple I could little dreamed that I should have it easier than you people at home. - great saving - as well as house work - but it is so!!

E. and I are going to investigate and plan for a code telegram to be sent to Boston (to all rooms) except November and from there to the other homes. Have to send to Boston first in case of their code name and consequent saving of 4 or 5 dollars gold. Hope m can arrange it all right. Shall investigate at once.

Was Tom at home to receive the May jacket? Hope so!
Hope Althea is getting along all right now. Was she a boy or a girl?

You will know by letters already that I have plenty of suitable clothing for the summer—also three new dresses and others which please me immensely. I really would look dear in a black dress coat. Wish I had an easy collar to send her, but have nothing on hand here.

Aunt Celio's silk dress must be very stunning. I like the silk and hope there is a little bright color somewhere to listen it.

My dream of home-coming was disturbed when the Byfugns left. I was feeling rather miserable then and I knew the cost was prohibitive at the time, and when they first— the last chance disappeared. Now I'm sure I don't think of it again until the treaty for 1920 arrives—except in case of the annexation.

I wonder what you mean by the awful Russian defeat, Aunt Celio. I am afraid we were without Daily Papers then, and I am afraid we missed it—about May 20.

I have written George some comments on Chinese-Japanese situation— it may hasten China's Development—but it means trouble ahead when China finally does get strong enough to chase under the hated Japan's rule. The Japanese seem treacherous, dishonest, greedy.

Your letter, Aunt Celio, gives me my first news of Charlie's tennis court. I am so glad they have one. Just where is it. Well, we'll have to plan a tournament for 1920.

About the sneaker, Aunt Celio, August will be a very good time to send it. I am sure it is too much for you to send, and I wish you could let me pay for the coat, and call the dear with birthday and Xmas presents.

No Harriet Allen was the same old girl. She was a little disappointed in missing...
conditioning excepting to find more organization and more preparation for her highly specialized with teaching Biology. I don't know about her situation to go home.

Is Nathan all right now?

What do you mean about May Nitham at South Framingham and how did Charlotte and Bradly fall?

Does Bertha have to have a special nurse?

Carol's letter of April 30 - much appreciated. Hurry Camp Fire girls progress.

John's letter of May 2, very good. I had to laugh at his clothing in a store again. We had a little talk here and it seems very queer. We usually put it on the pack and can wash as much as we wish there.

Do you like York Beach, John?

Almost stop writing and go out. I have been reading letter for writing all the afternoon.

Much love to each and everyone. I shall be thinking of you especially in the evenings at P.

Will Ruth be home at weekends or not?

Love

Lottie.

Thank you Aunt Lulu for Fashion Shirt. Didn't fully realize how wide the skirts were.
Dear Ones,

It is Sunday morning about 10:00 AM. It has been rather cloudy and now a soft rain is falling - the first after about two weeks of good weather. Alas! the last three days have been a little warm as well as beautiful. (Temperature about 83°) - warm for Thaipong.

Ellison is staying home as his ankle is a little swollen from a scratch - and he wants to be in good trim to preach this afternoon. There are so few men in the valley that it is hard to find enough to preach. Nearly only Mr. Tatum and Mr. Stewart has run up semi week-ends. Oh, I forgot Mrs. Fagan - she does not feel called to preach - and will not take his turn at relieving the situation here.

I had the nicest day yesterday in spite of the fact that I was disappointed because Ellison could not go with me on a trip down the river as he had planned on account of his foot - which began to be a little sore Friday PM - where he had rubbed a bite of some kind. The skin was nearly off - and I rubbed it with antiseptic (Campheal) - thus irritating it. I think and starting a little inflammation - which is practically gone now.

Well about my day: Dr. Mitchell and I started down the river at 6:45 AM. (Having had first installment of breakfast.) The sun was just peeping over the edges of the hills as we started but when we reached the river bed just outside the valley, it really touched us. Never in fact except as it slanted between the fields, etc.

About a little after 7:00 we reached the spring where we could have breakfast and then we heated water for coffee and half fruit and sandwiches. Then we found a shady spot to spread out our blanket and cushions and made ourselves comfortable to await the other girls who were coming later - Miss Huyserholm, Bess, Thompson and Missy. We had books, sewing and writing to while away the time until they came.

Of course the boys (Chinay) had thought these things as well as our fishing trip. About 10:00 they appeared - having been in the sun practically all the way - (Since me the early morning trip) - Then we huddled in the water, vector a little more - and then walked a mile or two farther over the hills to our flat for lunch.
We get the most exquisite view—just before the final drop where the river makes an abrupt turn and enters a very rocky bed where there are several pretty falls about 20 feet high. And when the sides of the two enclosing mountains are very rocky and steep, almost like a gorge.

We come to a gap like this.

But in this valley is the prettiest right of the river, makes an almost complete circle.

The circle lies in the center of the surrounding river representing green rice fields, most picturesque shape, but the further distance is making the sides curved, because bad spirits can walk only on straight paths, and thus, fields will be safe if the paths are curved.

The sun is high in the midst of the blue waters dotted with gray black rocks.

When we reached the first region about 11:30 A.M., I immediately got ready for a gay dip and then had luncheon followed by more naps and rest. All shaded from the sun by overhanging trees—next and the little camps—and in the rocks themselves, queer hat-holes. One in particular about two feet in diameter worked from the surface down and then worked out toward the center of the river so that you come suddenly upon this snug hole at the bottom of which you see the river rushing...
My trip on a gay me just beautiful. In front of me I could see the falls, with a cloud of spray rising high above them. To one side was the opposite rocky bank, on which sparkling spring water was trickling down the valley. The green mountains came together leaving this blue triangle leading to the blue sky. Just above my head was a rock encrusted with exquisite tiny hanging ferns. I certainly enjoyed every minute of the day.

We had tea at 4:10 and started home about 5:00, arriving at 7:00, with plenty of flowers and greens. — lovely day! And I wish I could have enjoyed it too, although the girls were a little free, without me of course. I was not nearly so tired at the end of day as I was after all day trips last year. Probably because I was very careful and not overly. Quite remarkable.

The girls were all very nice to me too, and always helped me at hard places, but I was quite okay! I have accomplished much seeing this rock or last. I hardly know what presents, mending takes us morning — cleaning day breaks up another, and other things happen, such as the arrival of new people. (Mrs. Hulsey and Mrs. Capes, this week — oh the planning of a picnics which require some morning attention, and so the time goes.

I think I told you that we all get together to ring bells Monday afternoon, and I think that it shall be the entry Monday Jolly Jim! We may give a concert at end of the summer.

Mrs. Page loves to play games evenings, but don't play very often.

Mrs. Page entertained some of the Presbyterians at tea on Wednesday. Pleasant. I sometimes go in bathing on these beautiful moonlight nights. Isn't they lovely? Would like to see that old Captain.

On Thursday evening we wandered out calling promiscuously, calling around and eventually calling at the Ashmore, to see Miss Cottle ride. We spoke of bathing by moonlight and so on. Unfortunately and Mrs. Ashmore (nearly 70 years old!!) came down with us and woke us!!! at 7:30 P.M.

Early church time. Ford by 70 never. Letter.
This week came fullcalendar from Bt40, and nice letter from Charlie Becker also posted from mother! written June. I glad Carl could go away for Memorial Day, and glad mother had company too. Is the ride around the lake just as lovely as ever?

(I am so very happy about Tom’s raise and hope it will make you save each nick a little toward the next burden. What a relief it must be! I just rejoice over it - altho it is hard to make the words show how glad I was.)

Yes, Marion, the papers even here got the most important news by cable, so that we know at once of any news of big things. Isn’t it awful that there has been such floods? We have had terrible floods at Canton - river rose 69 feet in one place I think. In addition to Canton there was a terrible fire that burned a square mile of territory and they are horrible tales of suffering and death. I have not heard the details. This is scarcely an answer to such a good letter as yours, Marion, but I’ll try to write you some day. How will that do? All in the family!

Your just learned that letters never get ready to night instead did to morrow, and so I must hurry. Thank you dearly for your very nice letter. So glad to hear of definite dates for Georgia. I shall think of you. I am continuing to feel better fine as you can tell from this letter. I shall take no dangerous walk; and don’t expect to take many at any rate but I enjoy them all the more because they are few. Thy news for the fall will not be definite before Sept. 1st; at least spoke of letters from Delta but only one from Charlie has come yet. I shall look forward to it until its arrival for I always enjoy. So glad to hear about children.

I am afraid you have your eyes writing to me but I do enjoy letters from home. They are a great comfort.

I haven’t done a thing about Christmas yet. Don’t know what I shalldo.

Very much love to all.

Love ever,
Dear Ann,

This week is just flying by with lovely weather - but warm - unusually warm for F.Y. It was 87° on Dr. Schmert's porch the other day and even the early part of the nights have been warm too, but it always cools off before long. So day has been cooler - the afternoon particularly. We had a big mail - in fact to be accurate 2 1/2 lbs. and I spent the whole afternoon reveling in it. I was surprised and pleased to hear of Rachel's approaching wedding. Sorry that Ruth cannot get away to act as attendant. Suppose it will be in Missouri, will it not? The hotel from Kingscote helped me to see you all vividly - and to enjoy the trip too. I am so glad that you all could go, so glad that Jennie could be there - and glad for every thing. Only wish Mother and father could have gone, too. What a hard day father must have had doing that mosquito making.

If you find here in China, you would let the cookies do that, Papa, and you would just look on and supervise!!! How would you like that?

The letters bring such a wealth of news that I can hardly remember without referring to them again. The letter started on the block is a great substitution - if they are all as good as this one, it certainly will pay to keep it up.

Sat AM. July 29.

New Gene's and Miss Curtiss birthdays have gone by and I haven't written a word on that day. Hope they had a nice time. Some time I'll get into the routine of remembering beforehand, but I'm not quite on to the scheme yet. What is the date of Lucille's birthday? I don't seem to have that. How I should like to see her! She must have grown so much! And Gene too! How old is he now? How they all will have grown up when I come home.

Sun. AM. Aug 1. Rainy for a change - I am afraid we'll need Sunday school today - I will not feel like coming out to-day.
Yesterday when we went to Mrs. Ackmore's playing golf, despite the clouds came up very heavily and there was a little shower, but we persisted in finishing two games. It is fun to play golf there is a crowd and it is so far from Lutens that all the old ladies enjoy it too.

Do you remember my speaking of the McShahan's coming out last November? They went to Rutland for the summer and there their little girl was born July 21. They are very happy to have a girl at last. Mr. J. is not so old as I am. He had two little boys to her former marriage. We have hoped that they might come to the Baker House for the winter, but I rather doubt it, as Mrs. McJ has been prime mover in arranging for a school for the missionary children at Swatow.

We have heard from the Bakers several times. Last time they wrote, they had arrived at Mr. Baker's home in Versailles, Kentucky and were very glad to be back.

Ellie's foot has been all well all the while. During the week I finished "The Inside of the Cup." Did you read it? Quite all? Rather heavy, but very interesting, I think.

Mrs. C. is off to working house now and I do not begin until August 1st, but I do not accomplish as much as I should. For instance yesterday it took all the morning to pay off the accounts, sending money to Cefu to pay working there, give directions to the cook about buying provisions to bring up Aug. 1st, and arrange about the teacher's trip home. You see Ellie is to take his vacation in this month and so we shall not want the teacher for awhile.

And Monday morning I intend in making up accounts, estimating expenses for the first year and making a budget of expenses for the second.

Monday afternoons people come here to sing and we all enjoy it. As Dr. Beattie was going to Swatow on Friday, he decided to give the a serenade party on Thursday evening so that she could hear some of the songs we learned to sing later.
About 8:30 we all wound our way by lantern light along the narrow rice paths to Dr. Beath's House. (across side of the river). We gathered silently bow the reed alts and then began to sing to the tune of "Where, oh, where are the verdant hicken?" - a song which Mrs. Giffin had lately written.

"Why do they call the sweater doctor?"

"The one with the red-brown hair."

I'll enclose a copy.

Then followed an impromptu program of singing and reading which was very pleasant. The girls at the house had also made up a silly song to the old tune of "There is a town in the town..." the verses of which are so catchy that I hear Ellison singing it almost every day.

"The pack of your bags and boxes and your pillows and your shoes and your toothbrush and your gold and gold. Come welcome, all of you, all of you. As all good missionaries do, "Nurseries do..." just bring a long your waterproof and game..."

Trust...

The nurses had to do with a local incident that made it quite funny.

On Friday the whole valley had tea in a shady spot by the rice fields and so we made use of the good weather by all sorts of games. After this tea, E and I went to walk, came home late - not wanting supper, went in bathing, took a hot bath, and then to bed.

Mother, have you a list of the birds Mr. Eldridge has seen?

Glad to hear of missionary tea at Uncle Charlie's and please send more. I often think of him and Uncle George altho I do not mention them very often.

Glad you gave Kootie Shurtlewite a toy too.

I think I had known about Rachel's wedding earlier so that I could have ordered some special drawen wish for her, and have had it there...
in time. Really can't get hold of anything as
else where near as here in September and then it
will be six months before. Pard
got through, but safely. It must
be very hard - what time do you plan to do it
all in one day? It can't be!

How busy Papa must be paying out so much
money. I appreciate your letters so much. It
certainly does seem good to hear. Please thanks you
for all your kindness.

I hear the relations to Germany are growing
more strained all the time. I hope that U.S. will
be firm and demand its rights and that Germany
will be forced to give in!!

Good to hear about those cherries, George and your garden.
Would like to see that farm

Sue's purchases in Boston must be pretty. How cheap
they are.

Did people go to Brimanschick or launch or by trolley?
Yes, we noticed that June moon. Always do!
You ask about our games. Mother. In card dominos,
Rose, Poodles, Cheesman. I believe.

Hulman is a little like parochial - in that it has a board
and men, but it takes more skill to play. Yes.
We do not have laurel here; there are some leaves
that remind me of it, however.

So glad Jack Kainig is at Cape Ann. and am delighted
if I can believe that possibly Mrs. K. & Katherine may
come too.

What is the course in Practical Arts, Carol? Do
tell me all about it.

We hear that our dentist has gone to Nankean to
live. He wasn't awfully good - but we shall probably
have worse if any. 80. Too bad!

Congratulations to Adeline!

Ruth, I think your question about inoculation I have
answered. Remember you must want to know. I grew rapidly
better after Cholera myself and am feeling better than usual even.
Everything written you know is my impression.
Aug 6, 1915.

Dear One,

Last week there was a wedding in the village. The lady went off weeping - a form of etiquette, whether it meant more or less. This week there was the funeral of an old lady, seventy, who, they say, becoming tired of life, hanged herself. There is a procession of eulogy event, but the funeral procession is rather more to look at than the wedding crowd. I think we told you last year of the tall red banner, the coffin, the procession, the mourners, the black cloth, the priests in square hats, and the descendants, accompanied by continual beating of ten pans and other orchestral music - and small children. It is well worth seeing. The members of this family upon return from the grave, ascended on the hill where four Buddhist priests led them in some rites which we could not see.

Sunday August 8.

There had such a lovely present this week from Mrs. Brookes Clark of Hilling, who came out on the steamer with us. A little knitted white wool Rubens shirt and a knitted bed to go with it. They are so dear that I am almost tempted to send them to Byndelle as a pattern - but I guess I won’t risk them in the mail! They are so soft and nice and warm! In the same mail came three little cotton and woolen shirts from Cameron Bros. - a piece of flannel in a pattern and a pair of unders and some little safety pins in a box, etc. I was glad to get them. There also came a notice that the white wool knit blankets which I ordered from Wales had been sent and so I expect them soon. I am glad the things I ordered are arriving so early, for one feels safer about them. The little dresses partly finished that Marion gave me, I have completed, and I have made another pretty raincoat slip this week. I believe the item is still to be finished but I can at least get the finished picture.

Mrs. Pay has given me a little white jacket, very cheap material, but with some embroidery; and Mrs. Street has knitted a dear little pair of socks. It is such fun to be gathering together so many pretty, dainty things. I must get to work on
wrappers, and nighties, and little pads and fellow slips now. It seems to me that I am very slow indeed - but as I saw I notice that I gain a little skill and speed.

Have no time to finish. Morning going early - but will write again.

Jennie's letter & pictures simply grand. Entertained me all day today.

- on trip to Home.

Heaps of love.

Fatha.

Sunday.
Dear Ann, Did George have a nice birthday yesterday? We thought of him and shall think of the other birthdays coming so soon. I have rather neglected birthdays I fear since I came to China. I must send Carol something else if she decided not to go to Northfield this year.

We have had a little rain this week in heavy showers but the weather has kept remarkably good on the whole.

Friday, Aug. 13.
The men are going off to the camp on to-day to cut a path down the side so that a party can take the trip later. I am owing my rather reading and having the weekly cleaning done. All the cook is coming right now! I have been expecting him to-day or to-morrow.

Sunday, Aug. 15.

Shower again to-day. Nearly Sunday-school time.

Well, I think I'll give you a brief resume of the week.

On Monday, Elliver went off caravanning - The call him the handy man - here in the Valley. He went up on the hill to the Bechmore's to sew with Mrs. Mildred for a little - Mrs. Bechmore was very nice and not only insisted on keeping me, but sending for Elliver to share her roast duck dinner. He had a very pleasant time.

On Tuesday we had two guests for tea and then took a nice walk down the river. Mrs. James and I going not quite the entire distance, but sitting down and waiting for the others to return. Her feet are still tender from the trouble she had when she first came.

On Wednesday the girls came to practice a stunt for a concert that is to be given the last week in August, and we kept Dr. Mildred for dinner here. And I had tea at 'Blink-lumini' with the James's and rest of house staff. Then the men went for a rather hard walk. He seemed joining them later for an easier one.

On Thursday we had another tea-party here - the James's and Mr. McRumple being our guests.

Friday was the day & went to camp set Saturday I had another short walk, but was caught
in a shower.

I have sewed a little, and mended, and got
our household stores. I begin housekeeping to-
morrow, but it will be only two weeks with a large
family, and as I think it will be easier than
last year.

We played Boston Rocks Saturday evening.
On Thursday next there is to be a social party, for
which we are planning to prepare an orchestra, our
only instruments being the organ and a sort of
horn which Mrs. Giffin has.

Do you remember, Aunt Lea, that two years
ago 13th day of July was the day we came this
from New Hampshire? That was about as bad
as Chinese traveling.

We had good mail yesterday, including a letter
from Herbert Allen telling about the flood in
Boston. They had exciting times, I take it.
Mrs. Richards wrote a most interesting
letter telling of Mrs. Richards coming to this
country forty years before the letter.

I will speak of the other good letters from
home as I write on.

Dear Jennie, those pictures I was so
delighted to see. That one of you and Marion at
Woodheads is too cute for anything. Please if
you paid for all those, collect the damages from
Ruth, so I had sent her some money for this
purpose. I have gazed and gazed at them, and
I don’t see that all look about the same except
from dark down. Then most marvelous change
has taken place. How the children have grown!
I have looked at every square inch of the house and
gardens and trees and rocks. I think the grass
needs attention about as much as anything I
can see.

I did not recognize Bradley. Isn’t the
bungalow pretty?
The Willowers took pictures with their evidence
that strangers have accepted me very enlightening
too.

It was so good to receive your full letter, Jennie. I
enjoyed every word.

It was certainly good of Uncle George to play the chauffeur on that rheumatic hill. Surely the sunrise was no better.

Your auto trip must have been very beautiful.

Did you say that someone owned a ringed-knob?

Or you must mean across the river. Did you come on the 25 bellen car from Gloucester & wonder, or en my trolley?

The Bobs is not a dangerous position at Newport. Did he visit Helen at Newport? I should judge not.

I suppose Ruth’s school closed this week. Hope she has enjoyed it much. And spent Cece is at the Cape. How nice it will be even for this short time.

Aunt Cece’s good letters 7 June 30 to hand. Shall be glad to hear about Pearl and all the family of course.

How nice that you should come to China and see Mr. James in a dream. She certainly is a lovely woman.

My Miss Curtis’s affair is no better. The dinner makes my mouth water, asparagus, shrimp, strawberries!

Did you ever try the fish in Korea? I made it with a pink until light and creamy.

She cooks beans that they turn them into white ones and I am glad.

Glad to see Ruth’s postal from Simmons and nice note was very welcome.

Such good letters too from Mother, George, and Ruth.

Dick must have been very funny in the “Horrible.”

I was interested in all proof of Caro’s gift and send back as light and milk destote in no time. I think she looks a little thin. And Carol do you curl your hair all the time?

Wish she can come on. Shall be anxious to hear more detailed plans of Ellen’s Rachel’s wedding. Wish I could be there.

Did Bob and Perry get to Cape Ann?

Is Elizabeth Civil at Southend this year?

Such a rain as George told about, it must have been like a thronging rain! How I should like to see that moving picture of surf and wave, it must be wonderful!
No, George, we don't have cherries in South Africa. Sometimes we have canned cherries.

Sorry the screen doors smelled so. Are they all right now?

Ruth, I certainly was awfully pleased to get your full letters of doings. How nice of Dr. and Mrs. Emsry to entertain you and Bob so pleasantly.

Sorry about the swim. Was the boat near by? Were you frightened at all before you could rest with the help of the boys?

You certainly had a nice visit with Bob. Don't try to make me anything, Ruth. I am all right and you are too busy.

Hope David can enter Practical Arts. John is well.

Love, all. Sister

Tell Della and Charlie and children get to Cape Ann.

Check for Ruth for Memorial House Improvement Fund.
Dear One,

I am late with my letter this week. I don’t know when the time flies to either, but I agree housekeeping you know the family is only ten. That would seem nothing at all. Do not this actually if she had a cook to do all the cooking!!! But I manage to spend an hour or two a day on planning, giving directions, giving out stores, and seeing that the pantry and larder closet is neat and clean. I try not get careless about washing dishes and also about clothes! One has to keep after them rather closely.

The cook has done unusually well with the cooking, really better than Mrs. Griffith’s or Mrs. Page’s kitchen. I think and she keeps the kitchen infinitely cleaner. It is a great comfort to me. Ellison has made a campaign to keep the back yard clean and to feel that a few improvements like this may help to make up for my inexperience in housekeeping.

The cook made very good rice and cheese croquettes for supper last evening and had the best luck with graham bread today. We have to use canned goods or home supplies almost altogether up here and that makes living quite expensive! But it is not end here (although I had not suffered from that) and that must if be down on the plain. The report came here to day that it was 107° in Swanton!!! Only 83-85 here.

Most of our extra time these days is spent in concerts and playing for concerts, in tennis tournaments, or walks, and teas and believe me it keeps me busy with writing and housekeeping to do too. But in spite of the fact that housekeeping takes time, I am not troubled by it nearly so much as last year. In fact I rather enjoy it for I have plenty of stories and my health is excellent. I am so glad that I take him. We had such a nice supper to night.
Pork, liver and rice and gravy all mixed together.
Maccaroni and cheese.

French fried sweet potatoes - delicious.
Pineapple and walnut salad; olives.
Coffee and peach jelly with cream.

Eclair cake and peanut cookies.

Private - not to be repeated.

The Jones are awful pigs. Excuse me for saying so, but it's true. They act just as cheap as a table as they can. (Two 7-pounds for 8 people).

Worst example. Spic and potato and water cake for one supper.
Dried fruit always, except we can of apples and the can of rhubarb.

and then they try to fill up for the winter!

It seems so at any rate when other people keep house.

I see three words and only two lines begins of the story.

Well, we hate to have to come back to live with them next year, but it is so expensive to go anywhere else that we hesitate to change and in hopes they will do better next year - having had Mrs. Giffins' good example. (Not to mention mine #88).

This is just letting out a little - to excuse it.

They are very good people - cannot be for the only very religious - but rather lacking in training or instinctive good taste.

Nobody loves them - poor things! Their two poor children, too.

There is a beautiful moon tonight. It is full. I think. Hope you are enjoying it.

I thought of George and Marian, and Cheriton on their birthdays, and I shall think of Ruth on Thursday to -though I have received two good letters from her lately and such nice mail, up from Aunt Lily, father, Marian, etc. I will try to answer later.

I am swamped with unanswerable letters just now and have not touched pen or needle except for plans of clothes worn this week or more.

I wish I could comment on good letters now, but am writing in evening only and really do that in hot weather here. Had circus and
mosquitoes do not seem bad at night. I will send order for letting next week when girls go down. The difference in price of two kinds is very little, one is 1.60 N.Y. and the other 1.50 I believe a piece. It would not make a difference of more than a cent a yard.

I was getting a little nervous about sending things in letters when I stopped— and may send next in package. It is all right to send once in a while.

In account of difficulty of getting Vanck that, but to do it regularly every month hardly seems right. So it seems I'll just. It may be a month or more likely before I get letting. Only one old lady makes it I hear.

He has had a lovely concert this afternoon and I have done a lot of accompanying which I enjoyed immensely. He has been a good deal of talent in the valley this year and in here had many bright songs and stories. Elliot has figured largely in the original songs this year and I must try to gather them together, for they are so funny. He is so tall, and he has helped so many people this year in carpentery or something or other. I don't know that he has been on easy subject. He has been very good-natured, and we have been rather pleased even if somewhat notorious.

It is about 9:10 and I must stop this overly to Miss Brender who goes down tomorrow very early. I hope all will be well and I will write better some time soon. I am very well. very better and as happy every day. Elliot is very good to me always, couldn't be better. I didn't mean I was marrying such a good husband. I think of each individual daily and pray for your health and comfort and happiness.

Very much love
Lottie.
Don't be frightened if you should receive a
telegram in November after all, for we may
put it able to reject the desire to send word.
Don't worry either way.

Keep the code - it is important - and
if anyone receives one - send letters or post-
to to members of immediate family ales to Mrs.
Bartholomew and Mrs. Kendy and Mrs. Kendall
and three.

We should have two letters, telegrams sent
from Boston to one to Holyoke. And one
To Rockport, if we should do this.

Love again.

Letter.

Thank you Peter for paper, and good little
note. So glad to hear always. To always appreciate
your philosophy or poetry. The days be
always prove a bit of
philosophy -
Dear Love,

Ellen, I believe, is to write a carbon letter while I try to catch up in the commenting business neglected for at least two weeks since I have been housekeeping etc. So prepare for a deadly dull letter. It is about 4:10 P.M. and E. has been trying for tea. So we had a little private tea together—the boy bringing the tray around to the back door? I told him that he should go in his desire for afternoon tea than in almost any other way.

To go way back. Here's a letter of Mother's written July 6 at 12:15 A.M. I did not notice the early hour before!!! They say Mother that I do not like to be up late in this country, though aches much every day. For 5 days it was all downhill, and etc., they go into short clothes sooner. Here I think, perhaps at six months—on before.

Next is the letter from Steve—he wrote July 6. I have a close friend here. We had came here last evening and that was the best we could do this year. Yours must have been delightful.

Letter from Thamar. Started July 8th and telling all about the good times during those early days. So glad to hear. Each one gives a different point of view as she writes and then I piece them all together and get my composite picture.

I can get embroidered dress but they are not likely to be in the latest style at home. If any one can get an idea of a dress they want six months late and send it to me to be embroidered. One to me the pattern so that I can cut out the portions desired and have them embroidered here on linen or silk or crepe de chine. I can get something quite satisfactory but it is not dirt cheap. Work is exquisite however.

Thank you for list of things received. Now if you ever need small alpaca or mohair, local or else I'll try to help you have all that I have sent.

The sample of Mrs. Greathuck's was just to look at, I'll get another piece of tatting as soon as possible and send. Glad to hear of Penning's cottage.

(Next July) Have they given Papa an assistant?

(Carle July) Carle, you will want to think whether you would like this trip to add...
Next summer instead of this, or whether you would
prefer some smaller thing? Did Nellie Stevens
go this year or not?

Hope you'll hang the pad up again for my letter!

Glad to see Ruth Bernier's note from Rockport
and also Katie Sherburne's. She must have received
my letter by now.

MOTHERS’ DAY.

You see Mother you were doing better than you
thought in writing them—three differently dated letters
within a week—and all so interesting as could be.

Then there is another!!! July 13. How good you are to me.

Letter from dear Uncle H.A. I think I have mentioned. I will
get telling as soon as possible. So glad to see Dear's

letter to Aunt Aule.

Lovely letter from Aunt Aule July 14. I suppose you
are at Rockport and enjoying the beautiful scenes.

I hope that the dog days did not last this year. I
remember I used always to dread them when we
had company—because it meant a tedious trip
and three. There are very few flies here—
practically none and I am duly thankful.

Yes, dear Aunt Aule, your letter and all the
letters this spring till very lovely and I certainly
appreciated them. Had another examination
this morning and all is excellent as I hoped.

You must really know by now that I am
likely to have better care here than at home—
Rule could not have two doctors at home and I
am likely to have here. They all believe in that
arrangement in case of emergencies.

I am hoping to stay at Cong. and hope to
have asked Dr. Mildred to attend me, provided Dr.
Leach cannot. Dr. H. has had splendid experience
both at home and here.

There seem to be more people here this
year than last year about 75—I am all I think.
My housekeeping is light house. I am not
minded it.

I am anxious to see Mrs. Wilder this
box. I don't suppose I shall see it until I go to
Spring about the 21st or September.

The Giffen's leave Mid Sept 7 of this week
and the Porges Sept 7.
Dearones,

September has come round again and
the summer is nearly over. Ruth will soon be
in Vermont and Aunt Belle and Marion and
the Kiddies back at their respective posts, but
expect we shall not go down until the 21st.

Mrs. Griffin and family depart this afternoon. How
I shall miss the baby! She is lying in my bed
now kicking and "goosing." I
saw Mr. and Mrs. Bage go a week from yesterday.

On the 10th Mrs. Jamieson I expect will come to
stay with us until our departure on the 21st. We hope
to get back to Peking by Saturday the 25th, and I
guessthe baby and the cows will be glad to see
us even if nobody else is.

Sunday, September 5.

For the last two days I have been using
quiet constantly as I borrowed Mrs. Celeno's little
hand machine and wanted to mend up all L's
P.V.D.'s and run all my slacks for those
two days. It has been just nice to have it and
take care of small family, I could sit down at 9:00 A.M. and
work most of the morning. Of course I did not forget
my afternoon nap!!! But still there were a few
minutes in the afternoon too.

Monday Sept. 6.

The papers are getting ready to depart tomorrow
and so I have not had so much time as
usual to write to day— but that I have been
helping any, but that are many interruptions to
return little borrowed things or take account of
kitchen stock — or such things.

It is a beautiful day. Ellion has been making a
frame for the Ladies' Home Journal cover — and
the sandman by Jessie Miley Smith. It is too hot for
me! Then he has been overseeing carpenters and
working on another set of shelves to fit placed at the
foot of our bed. I really think that we shall have
plenty of shelf room next year and that is saying a
good deal. — And he is fitting me on a bed — thinking
not is so nice to have a handy man!
This week has been uneventful. We had tea with the Sturtevants on Thursday and have had one or two short walks, but otherwise things have gone on as usual. We played games one evening, but almost always we just sit around for a little after our late supper and then go to bed quite early.

I am so glad that Mrs. James is coming to stay with us for the last ten days. We can all together and plan together. Mrs. Keeler has written that she can take care of me this fall and has invited me to come to her house for the “party,” but I have just written her inviting her to come to my house, and hope she will feel that she can, because it will be so much easier for me— and not awfully much harder for her I hope. There is also a Dr. Ross in the city permanently now on the Presbyterian compound less than a half hour away, so that you can feel quite safe about us. Don’t it feel that Dr. Ross could come. It makes all the difference in the world about one’s feeling safe.

Two weeks from today, I expect to be going down again. We shall then have had a very mild summer.

Ellen is going for a long walk tomorrow with Tom Gibson (Presbyterian).

Did I tell you that the James’s and some of the girls and Mrs. Gibson are buying a plot of land and will build a new house here for four families? I am so glad because the town is overcrowded already, and building and buying is my expense every year. I must run get the kiddies some lunch and be good by for now.

I am all excitement at all the packages when I go to Sutterton ten weeks from now.

Love,
About Sept 10 - I expect Mrs James will come and stay with us gentle we go down as her husband has to leave early, and we both want to escape the heat of Sept. Down below last year in went down the first week.

We shall delay in Kachikich several days, to arrange about a permanent mural for baby, to buy xmas presents, and drawn work if possible, and to have one extra light wool maternity gown made for the last days when it will be cool. I don't know what pattern E shall use - but Mrs James has a random model that is very pretty - a loose robe like this - but lines splendid. - to wear with gown or shirt over.

E will answer your comment in his letter. Aunt Celie some day he says.

I will try to send picture if I have not already sent film.

I do enjoy the journal very much. (So much about food and babies you know) - we get Miss's work sent to us by some friend at home and have some things to edify our minds.

If you care to send again - just let me know at Shanghai. I shall have to inquire about plan and how to do it.

Hope you had nice time with Ruth at Simmons. I am sure both Della and you would enjoy it to full.

You are due to send a parcel. I shall look for it at Swatow. Miss E see Della's letter to Jennie, and Jennie's to Aunt Celie.

I am very good letters from Ruth. I will receive attention some day. So she
rush back to school to-day. Hope she is not too tired - as I certainly did
like to see the dresses she made.

Last night came one more good envelope
(July 23) from Papa and mamma. The letter
was great.

Papa will get money from Domenic
estate. He certainly deserves it without having to
take old furniture to sell.
I asked Billy's marks inside and Marion's note.
No, Elgie, haven't seen me this summer,
and floods have left us untouched.

Who is Miss Jane to marry?

Glad Mother went in bathing.

Mrs. Kendig sent me three more beautiful
dollies to go with my set. I must write her
immediately. Don't find much time.

Tell me about pageant when you have time.

Seems good to hear of blueberries and
peaches!

Now it is 5:55 in P.M. and I must
run to oversee a banana salad for
supper.

We have had a lovely summer. Many
people go back to work this next week.
But several families stay thru fall - usually
without the husbands tho. I am thankful E-
can study here.

We had a sacred concert Sunday ev.

Very very much love to all
Lotte.
Dear Alex,

Our summer weather has been rather unusual - long sunny days one after another, with very little rain from sunlight, perhaps on account of the beautiful green of the rice now growing for the second time this summer. The whole valley almost is carpeted with it, and as the wind blows one gets the same effect as when the wind blows over a field of tall grass or wheat.

Mrs. James came to see us on Friday morning and it is very pleasant to have someone else in the house. She is so thoughtful and pleasant that she is always present when you want her, but never anywhere to be found when you don’t want her. We haven’t really sent away yet, but I hope to begin to-morrow and get in a pleasant trek. I am so anxious to get my packages at Sun-Tzu. I hope they will be there when we arrive. There is to be quite a fire, for we are expecting groceries from Shanghai, stores from Chicago, and all the packages. Polly has written me that she is sending two little winter nighties, and I believe that that complete the list of necessaries. This week came a cheap little knitted jacket which Katherine kindly made herself, and she has a reputation as bad as mine when it comes to anything like sewing. I hate now to take a stitch for myself, but I shall quit a little time yesterday in letting out seams and raising the belt line on my white Japanese crepe, which should have been arranged by the tailor that it did not need any more adjustments than a change of stocks and cuffs. But I have the lucky not to have to do more than that.

The carpenters are at last thru with their work. They have made me about 13 feet of the porch, a shutter door, a table 3 x 3 with non-removable top, and folding legs, an ironing board. Then they have partially made a set of shelves, a porch table, a stand for a cube stool for my dressing table, and have mended a hole in the floor, and the chicken coop door, and have made new wardrobes tight. Really quite a long list for about twelve or thirteen dollars. All the wood except what came from the old Fernandina flake, then they had added two inches to my dressing table.
Did I tell you that on Thursday I and Jane up at 5:30 gave fruit and cereal, and then went to a beautiful valley with a wide view of mountains and plain, where we fried eggs and made coffee. It was very pleasant. We were gone only two hours and a half and yet we had a lovely time and came home not tired at all. I had a feeling that I have told you this before. Then I had had Miss Stewart of Wu King Fu and had three children here for dinner yesterday.

Duck soup, toast.
Roast duck with dressing, gravy.
Cranberry sauce.
Beans, Native egg plant.
Baked sweet potatoes.
Roast chicken with cream sauce.
Coffee. After dinner mints.

Lovely letters have come this week for which we are very grateful. You have all been so good to write me so frequently.

Audrey's question.
At Wu King Fu is an English Presbyterian Mission. There are Miss and Mrs. Paton with 3 children in charge of school.

I. Mrs. Stewart
II. Mr. McKenzie - Evangelical and school work.
III. Unmarked ladies - school.
IV. Miss Balmer: wonderful woman, very smart.

Country man. Starkey, independent, very smart.

Thomson: nice, young.

Miss Thompson is the youngest and nearest and she is a peach.

All the people are hospitable and cordial. Wu King Fu is where Mrs. James was before she was married. She is the daughter of missionaries.

Harriet Allen was in the flooded district, but their house did not tumble Luckily. Their plan is to build again. Petri's letter about it to get to you.

I think I sent it to Rena. I am not sure.

Hope August weather at home has been better than July, though. Too bad to have so much rain and fog.
Did the Bank vote to give Father an assistant? They will never get another secretary and treasurer at this salary I am thinking.

It is too bad that Mr. Fairbanks had to be sick on top of all the other cases Charlie has!

I was astounded when I heard that Ruth had accepted a new position and am very anxious of course to hear details of how long all had to consider - whether it might arrange giving up at Hanoverfield - whether she had no chance to ask for 700 - which would seem a little more reasonable, salary. (because the move is a step in advance I believe) - the length of year, price of board, number of teachers and pupils etc. All of which I probably shall have read by the time this letter reaches home.

About the box that is coming Aunt Cel, I am only too certain that there is altogether too much in it and that I shall feel mean and selfish in accepting so much!!!

Not many people in So. China have baby carriages. Mrs. Peiser & Mrs. King Fu - has a lovely (samatl) (she calls it) - which she uses on the porch and as a cot. A few people have go-carts I believe - but usually there are no roads on which one can use anything of the kind. The Afghan however, you know will be invaluable as a wrap.

Yes, I am impatient in one way for November, and in another way - not. I want time to finish preparations, and to be ready for Xmas etc etc.

Thank you, Della for your nice note. It was so good to hear and I enjoyed Mary's letter from Rock just so much!

I am so glad that Pearl is to have the care of Cyprus this year. It will probably be good for both. Please don't mention sending any more and at present, you sent so many before that it is to last for several years. I had some left some samples and have sent for a little corn and tea this year I believe. Perhaps I shall want a few
and I'll write you then as you want next year, but we haven't much garden space at
Levi.

And for the little one, I saw afraid I have already received all too much! But in case you should
feel badly, might say I could probably use a small
pinner AL - perfectly plain - about 12 inches by 8 or 10. Now
remember I don't need this and I should much
prefer you would put more or material on some
pretty thing for yourself.

I was just reminding the fact that I have to
destroy my nice letters when Ellison encourages me
to a little by saying that you quotations is from Tennyson
and that I can find it then - I am glad to be able
to have that much permanent - but if I can the
letters I never find time to look at them again,
and the silks, picks, and crocheted let those that
the world does not make unintelligible.

Was our front beach been "lived" as Mary says?
I'm this is another good letter from Delta written Aug.
at Rockport.

It must be constant work to keep track
of Gene and colly, if they run off to Piney Cree
and Great Hill - whenever they feel the impulse! How
funny!

How silly it must to be all together at
Rockport, yet I declare some colly's arrival matter
had to quiet her as usual, and that Delta must return
as soon.

Thank you, Marion, for your newy letter. You
have written me so many times this summer, and I
don't appreciate it. So glad you wrote of Ruth's position for I can
hardly wait for the letter about it.

Carol's letter, too, was very welcome - telling me
about the Practical Arts course? Both Ellison and I
think it is a most interesting course and wish
we could take parts of it ourselves. Have you had
any cooking before this, Carol? Please do let
me know if you have been able to take it and
how you like it. I should very much like to see catly.

John has John had any vacation yet? I do hope so. It
must be hard to work in hot Boston all summer.

Glad to see picture Carol.

Can't you remember Ruth's recipe for
stewed eggs. I tried to remember the other day but
couldn't.  Mother's and Father's notes and the boys always appreciated too.  Oh!  I see I have another chocolate pull here and a fat one from Jennie too, with a nice note from herself.

Glad to hear of George's work, his gardening and the hurried carrying trip from his own pen.

When I go to Swatow I will try to find something nice for you and will send it on.  Wonder if you would want anything as nice as a tea cloth about a yard square, or if a pin cushion cozy or small doll's play mat?  They are all accepted.  I may be able to find a pretty crepe de chine bag which I think would be very suitable.  Only well do my best.

What is date of Rachel's wedding?
Mother's letter telling of pageant very welcome.

Later.

Have just had a Church service at Mr. Runzler's mission in the north.  Pray tell me as soon as possible.

Suffern bell is ringing - Good by for now.

What did Marion mean by "John's little joy" - Was that the one that John accidentally hit with his motorcycle?  I was so hurt?

Truth speaks.  The Pratt instructor.  Those girls learn that method from Pratt itself.  I believe from Alice B.'s reports they are all working mercilessly in their courses!

Does food from cooking courses come on table at 2, Simmons, Ruth?

Carol did you say that Camp Fire girls were up every day from 4:00 until 2:00 AM again.  These are really Camp fire ideas I think.  Write me about it when you have time.

Take all the literature you can at school and learn French if you get a chance.

Where is Rose now?

8:50 in Sunday - Have you seen the little new
moon. We are hoping to send our letters down by a man who leaves at 7:00 tomorrow morning, so the way Good night.

With love to everybody whether mentioned in this letter or not.

Letter.
Dear Uncle,

Since I wrote last week we have changed our plans about our route home, choosing what we think is an easier way. The only difference is that at Kiyang instead of changing to a steam launch and then going to Swatow, from where we take train and chair for Hombay, we stay on the same river boat in which we land Wuking, and are taken to a little place called Paon, less than six miles from home. We then go by chair to our house. Then I shall have time to settle myself and thoughts and plans a little before I take myself to Swatow for the final shopping etc. It seems much easier to me and really the weather is decent and the chairman on time to meet us etc. etc. I think we shall be very glad no changed. I have been picking up a little in preparation for packing, but really have done very little and expect to do very little; in fact I have been spending most of my spare time yesterday and today. Mrs. James has been with us a week today, and she enjoys her immensely. She is absolutely no trouble and is so gentle and thoughtful of others as well as entertaining in herself.

Ellington is studying daily (except now of course when he will pack, and during his odd minutes he do a few light engineering jobs such as making pigeon holes for our correspondence, and making small shoes in the attic room.

It has been raining today, the first heavy rain for many many days, and so the weather is cool enough to make us want to have on our full supply of summer clothing.

By the way - whenever you are in doubt about our address - or anyone asks about a permanent address, use mrs. E.S. H.

Swatow - China.

It will always reach us (unless we should go far away north - 100's of miles) - and will be quicker and safer than other addresses whether it is at Kiyang or any of our stations here.

Of course while we are permanently at Chefoo China, it is better for you people to address us there via...

Well, we are practically all packed, and not very tired. We worked quite steadily yesterday, although I went for a little while every hour. I believe, besides taking rest in 8 M. and stopping for a cup of tea at 11:00 and 4:00 P.M. Helen is becoming quite addicted to the habit of having a cup of tea at 11:00 while she studies. A good many of the Englishmen have it. Now it only requires one before he gets up in the morning and another at night, as among all the full-fledged Englishmen. To-day of course, we have done practically nothing, wrote, and read most of afternoon until tea-time, and in the morning I read my correspondence. So we do not go down until afternoon to dinner, and everything will be quite easy.

By the way, when Miss Palmer was out in the country on a visit lately, one of the old women, not yet a Christian but interested, asked her in all good faith, if an old friend who had recently died a Christian, was sitting in a golden chair in heaven.

What a fonder! Miss Palmer answered that she had no doubt if the woman desired to be sitting in a golden chair, she was.

Best love Good Night.

Love by the moon full almost.

P.S. No end letter written at Cafe.

So glad to hear of little Charlene arriving. I wish she had a bicycle (she gave it to him), and I wish she had and possible stay to lend a hand.

Hope Aunt Celi and Mother will not work too hard when both Ruth and Barn are away.

Blueberries sound good!

Will put you later of what then made and that. When.

Words in this letter are against some. Words not but all the very good. For by letter.
Dear Over, Here we are at home again all safe and sound and glad to be here too in spite of the fact that it is very hot, so hot that the evaporation stands out on our faces very often during the day and even the early night -- and even now with a good breeze here my elbow is sticking uncomfortably to the paper under it.

We left Taiping very comfortably Monday morning and I had a very pleasant ride along with Barranco earlier in the day. I had a wicked chair with a reclining back which belonged to Miss Starns and four men to carry me to prevent jars and or safety! Mrs. James had only three men. We stayed on the boat at Wanking and started off at daybreak the next morning, so we will still be all right. It had been very hot the night before (I had really forgotten what the heat was like in my three months at Taiping) but during the day on the river and the following night we had a good breeze and were very comfortable. Those boatmen worked all day -- and all night until 5:00 on Wednesday -- with a few stops to eat rice. I don't see how they could endure it. The scenery was beautiful - the water a riveting blue, and at night the moonlight was perfect.

Looking forward to it.

Boatmen talked all night Tuesday so that Mrs. James could not sleep but E. and I slept very well until 5:45 AM.

Diagram of boat:

These plans are fuller when the beds are there then they appear on these plans.
Then E. and Mrs. James wrangled with the carriers and finally about 8:30 Mr. James and I started off in chairs and the carriers and E. soon followed. It was a beautiful day and there was a nice wind, and really I never remember having a prettier or more comfortable ride than that six or eight miles from the boat into the city. We stopped with Mrs. James for a very welcome hot bath and a good dinner.

The cook was to have gone by any of Swatow and take up our packages and mail, but he had an attack of malaria which has delayed him. I expect him at any time now and am anxious to see him with the things.

I shall go to Swatow soon for a few days. Have not yet seen Mrs. Esten.

I know you will be glad to hear that we had such a pleasant journey and that I stood it as well (without any effects as far as I can see) (thanks very much due to my good husband.)

I found Aunt Celia’s lovely letter beginning the record I wrote at Chekiang. James’ note and Mother’s letter of August 13 at making me and enjoyed reading them on the boat.

When been putting a little today but am not working hard or fast. The boys have washed our room and the other room and have cleaned the medicine chest and turned it as well as their regular work.

The piano is great about as it was when left in June and I am so happy that it shows so little effect from heat and damp. True chaos! It seems good to play again.

Now must see why the carpenter has not come to mark a table I told him too. Then it will be ten.
Dear One,

I am having such a happy Birthday; altho' I know you will be disappointed to hear that the package from home has not yet arrived. They are certainly slow--for that was sent in plenty of time. But I still have to look forward to and you may be sure I am anxious to see it.

Luckily Mr. Kildeer's package arrived yesterday and that furnished a good deal of excitement and pleasure. Such pretty things for baby--a beautiful dress, and such a warm padded coat of flannel, a little autum flannel jacket and two nighties which Mrs. Kildeer made by hand putting in flatter stitching and little dainty buttons and clasp. Then there is an heirloom--Ellie's grandmother's shawl--a petticoat for her children and altho' it was worn and eaten Mrs. Kildeer and Aunt Van have mended the bottom part so that I can use it for a little wrap. Won't that be nice!

Monday

We have had coolness Saturday, Sunday--and today thanks to a north wind and a few showers. It has seemed so good. From now on, I hope there will be no more intense heat.

The boys are washing--the cook is re-heating flour which was taken by sweets, making graham bread--cake--and pudding for dinner. Ellie is holding a conference with the preacher.

The cow is out in the yard feeding on the grass as it has grown quite a little during the summer and I have just been doing odds and ends, inspecting food supplies, putting things away and straightening out a little. Of course I have not sewed at all since I came back. But some day I'll send you a list of all the things I have made--not very many.

The cook stayed over at Kittyang on his way home--presumably to take care of a load of potatoes held for Dr. Kildeer's hospital, but he was taken down with malaria and so stayed at his home near Kittyang until Saturday. We were very glad to see him but may be it is set for altho' this boy does very well, still I had to leave mostly to him and I could not have the help of the boys to settle the house as much as I wanted to.
You will laugh I suppose to hear me complaining of lack of help when I had two servants — but you know each has his particular duties, and they are not very anxious to turn to and do anything — nor do they put into large amounts which a man hired for the day might do.

I must get the courage right to work on the garden for it is high time to planted something. Otherwise the ants and birds will make it very difficult to raise anything.

My flowers seem to be in pretty good condition but they all need new earth. The leafy plants along the front walk are in splendid condition and it is so pretty to see them.

Well — I’ll stop for now and do a little more setting in the big bedroom where the odd and ends have been put.

Thaps of love — Lottie.

Has tuition been raised at Gloucester High? I hope not. It is not to affect those who began at $30.00 a year, but should it applied to entering pupils only.

Glad to see Uncle George’s letter. Hope all are well.

Tell Jennie, I find the snapshots a constant pleasure. Keep them in my diary and look almost every day.

Newspapers from Mother received Sat.