Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Ones,

No Christmas presents further. All one could be allowed this year.

Perorder L. R. Hildreth.

This order must be obeyed to the letter.

Sure that Bette has got ahead of me by putting in 2's and my Xmas presents! Well, I can't stop that: And I am sure we shall enjoy them. So I'll forgive her this time.

And Auntie, we, have than to mention the pretty blue ribbon which seems a very good match to me in this fair country since it is so difficult to make combinations of color. You said the new wish that you found something you wished you had put in the box!! How could you? when you had put in already everything any one could think of?

Well this week has been filled with my trip to Swatom which I made very comfortably. Are you interested in the details?

I. Instead of taking chair ride from house to city, I took boat across river, and then a chair by a shorter road outside the city.

II. I rode 2nd class instead of 3rd and was lucky enough to have the compartment to myself all the way.

III. At Swatom instead of taking rich chair train temptation is for men to go too fast and as fast as one, I took sedan chair to jetty where I got a boat to the other side.

Ellies wanted very much to go with me, but I objected strenuously that he finally let me go with the good servant a few to supervize the trip, after I got in train. Of course he came to station with me.

At Swatom I found that birthday box and the package from Mrs. Hildreth, and you may be sure they filled most of the afternoon until ten o'clock when we went to Miss Culley's. Then there were other calls & Buys, meeting &c. &c.

Pacific Mail Steamer! - I made note of this so that I could not forget.
to say that on account of that miserable
Sham's Bill (misable in some way only) - the
Pacific Mail Boats (only American line) - will have to
be discontinued and that may make a serious
difference in the time it takes mail to come and
go. - Hope not! - They start sailing in November.
I believe.

Well, we had a bunch of bananas given us
this morning. Your advice will encourage them!
They look quite green but some of them
are very ripe in spite of looks. It did not
see many yellow bananas except in summer.

Well, on Thursday I went to Swatow by boat, dingy
to the Presbyterian compound and that Mrs. Iyall
entertained me at luncheon and provided a
drawn milk woman to show me things!
Weren't I luxurious!
I bought about a hundred dollars worth for the
Fellowship Fund and found it quite interesting
after it is a little hard to choose what will be
the right - attractive for a tall.
Then I got home again as easily as I had come
had one with the family - saw the tailor andioo
with woman - and new for supper at 6:30
with a good appetite.

The next day Friday was very full of business. First
I talked with Mrs. Baker and Dr. Millard about
plans and decided (albeit there may be some
modification) that I should go to Mad Tcher's
about Nov 10 - and that she should help me do
the sterilizers. (They have a big new sterilizer).
Then I should have expert care before hand and
afterward, overnight of nurse and training of
a mid-wife for a while afterward - (albeit she too) is
supposed to know this business very well.
In this way also I have to learn home. I
know that I am getting the very best and also
being a lot of trouble to other people.

One thing that helped me to decide is that E
must be away so much in November and
December.

It's exams come about middle of month.

There is an important Legion series of meetings at Notchick proposed for Dec 23-30.

Our conference comm. meetings begin Dec 9 with actual conference starting on Dec 14.

So you see that it is a very busy time indeed, and it is quite inconsiderate of me to wish my party but so crowded a time.

I must get Xmas presents and dinner ready as soon as possible for Ellic to take this week when he goes to Sweaton. Some things especially for Mrs. Paton may not be able to get until later (one is an order) and as if some things are late blame this unusual year please and know that we are thinking of you just the same.

While Ellic is away auditing and attending convention at Oliver-ang next week, I shall probably stay with Mrs. James and if so, shall hope to see a lot on last thing.

That last P.M. is Sweaton Friday. Had to see my amah, pack up, clean several callers, sea things, etc., but for supper etc., etc., and start out at 7:00 A.M. the next morning to return here bringing Mr. McAlister to spend week-end & Tho's Sollman to inspect schools for the day. I staid all this beautifully and as you can see how well I am. My feet hit not swollen one bit and veins are all right.

Dinner.

Afterwards we all hurried into city to buy eggs for sponge cake and so I'll close with very very much love and a separate thought for each one.
Boys and they please them! At Mrs. James'.
the best I could do this year — not much to choose from.

I do not do the things up inside because they have to be open at Seattle and cards and wrappings are scattered to the four winds, but you know how much less is sent with them.

Don't Mrs. James go to take me in for this time? I hope to finish up all sewing on little clothes, and have only basket, mattress, pillow, not, and a few things to do for myself when I go back.

Mrs. James herself is not very well now. The hot weather has brought back the blisters on her feet, and she has had to stay up restless a good deal.

We had a heavy rain last night which will probably save the crops. It is the only rain we have had except for a night shower, since we came home from Tobacco.

Our boy was so insulted about his crops at his home that he insisted on leaving us all the time was very inconvenient indeed, and going home at all new things were. He wanted to go so badly that he was willing to give up his job, and so of course we let him go — although we did not like the way he acted about it.

The people have been praying for rain, and doing all sorts of motherly things to bring it about. Ellison will probably tell us all this later.

One thing for them to do I believe is to go without meat or fish. When that fails, they closed and sealed the most important gate to the city which caused a great deal of inconvenience to travellers and trade.

Dr. Ries who takes his meals with Mrs. James was mentioning a terrible incident. A man only five days married having beaten his wife black and blue — got into a further quarrel with her, and struck his eye.

He nearly cut off one foot, one hand, and succeeded in removing several fingers and
Laying the train open in two places. It
happened the doctor and an assistant two
hours to sew her up, then in less than a
week, she wanted to be up and around!!!!!

There is no hope of divorce for her by
Chinese law. The husband can demand her
and if he is strong enough, can take her to
his home at any time. Don't that a
horrible state of affairs? Even a wife
can demand that his wife live with him,
and Mrs. James knows of an actual case where
the man was free advanced in the disease
fell end of those horrible things!

The week has been full busy. I got very exercise
around the house usually so that I do not do
more than to go out when the sun is low,
and walk around the two yards, inspecting
the two gardens, the cow house, the drain,
the flowers, the fruit trees. And seeing
that all is in good condition. If we are
two months in Beshum our garden will
be of very little use. It is still fall, I am
sorry to say. The corn and beans have come
up beautifully as yet!

We have found only two traces of white ants
since we returned. Thanks be! But Mrs.
Giffin found her house riddled and found
two big nests such as we found in our roof.
They are such a nuisance?

We have found rats in our house and no
means of catching them yet. Chinese rats do not
like cheese any more than the Chinese do. Can't
that queer? They love turkey soap however!

Even after last night's rain it is hot and
muggy this morning. I perspire as I sit
writing. I have not used a sheet at
right if more than five or six times since
I returned from Thailand.

This week brought Mother's good letter with the
welcome pictures, cards, photo's, and
Aunt Cal's letter and bulletin. Bless thy heart for
it. It is a comfort to live over the days with you.
This morning I am wearing a middy shirt and the old slate blue shirt which Aunt Lily helped me buy the material for in Boston. I have always been glad I bought it, but especially so here in China. I cannot remember name of material, but it is a loose basket weave, and I had ties woven to it, one with a sailor collar and puffed. Do you remember well the point of these remarks is that I am wearing this shirt without any changes, I just leave the buttons undone at the top, and have it a little and it looks fine under the middy.

I am so anxious, Paul, to hear how you like school this year, and to know whether you have to study outside the building.

Does little Carlton's school begin late, or is he not going to return late? I was so glad to see the picture. What a boy he is! I am glad he can stay on, and do hope that Maudy can go down with him. The first thing I thought of was clothes! Are your clothes all right for the trip? Usually it is so easy in America, too, to get anything you lack at short notice.

So glad Charlie and Lucile got down for Labor Day. Hope Ruth finds work and friends congenial at school.

Have never seen the Poplar Court on Allen St. house. Are they nice?

It seems queer to me to think of Carol as old enough to help Papa. Since we Carol, I left you in plain short dresses, and now your pictures look quite grown up! I am so glad to see them.

Does little Cheriton write a nice letter? Should he be glad to see one.

Does Frank Grace live in Gloucester now?

Can have much outside work to do for school?

Where does Frank Joel Cameron live?

What work has Papa to do on Allen St. house?
Did any of you get up to Rocky Nurs to call on Nellie and Chloe.

Don't you want to send me recipes for educator (men) cookies with jam filling, Martha? It is sometimes difficult to think of things for tea.

Thank you Papa for nice letter. What a busy day you had with the bank books, Glad you sold the Cleveland St. lot.

Thank you Jennie, for your note on Aunt Ella's letter. I hate to think of your using your eyes on anything for the dear baby, but if I can't stop your knowing precious every stitch will be. I am expecting also to use the pink shawl you gave me so many years ago. It is so nice and warm still, although it is a little faded and mended in one or two places.

I was so glad to hear of Ruth's birthday on Aunt Ella's bulletin. I certainly was thinking of her, as I have thought of you all on your birthdays. Can't it nice that Aunt Hattie had such an enjoyable visit! I am so glad.

Now, a little wind has sprung up. Some of these hot days lately, it has the wind has been so strong that he has had to close the shutters to keep everything from blowing away. But give me the wind instead of the heat. So in addition to it even if it is hard to comb one's hair or work with papers.

How long did Cousin David stay in all? Sorry Mother bothered to buy bonnet, but I know it will be nice to have. I believe I haven't any made at present - except there is a little linen one Marion gave me as a pattern.

How did you people know so much about my Cablegram? Did class send home for information? I am sorry they did not find out that there is a code at Boston which could have saved them several dollars! weren't they
good to read it?

Glad Ruth found someone and had nice mines.
Who are Mr. and Mrs. Sanford? Abington people?
Where is Rose working now?
So sorry about Cell's grades were so bad!
Do Marion's Mrs. Smith a 132.4°C woman? Hope she can visit her.

In Leicester on Maple Farm lives Ruth Earl Southwick - one of my very dear classmates who did not graduate with class, but who left junior year to marry a farmer. She has four or five or six children I think, but she is a dream - she played on basket ball team.

How hard for Della to have so much to do just now.
Sorry on. Teams is not well. Great what is the trouble?

I certainly was not uneasy with your letter, and I did not read it to bed in addition to reading it more than once myself. What a sweet, lovely dream you had!

I must to my other letters or my sewing - but I wish my pen could express all the love in my heart for each and everyone.

Don't worry about me. Every symptom points to normal or even better than normal conditions, and I am very well. My face is in splendid condition and so is my hair longer and thicker than usual. And dry and fluffy.

I feel so happy too - and so thankful that Dr. Mrs. Eden will visit me thru the days when I need so much advice and care. Ellison is a time strength too. Very much love to all - That birthday box I shall never forget. I can see it just as it looked - as much of me.


Dear Ones,

When I am visiting, I seem to find a little more leisure for a word or two with you, and so I'll begin to write a little. The days naturally are spent in our usual way, but very pleasantly. The nights continue to be uncomfortable even at night, but at times during the day there is a good

Regular program is

1. Breakfast 7:30 - Worship with servants.
2. Sew until ready to rest by playing, writing
   or reading a little.
3. Sew some more.
4. Lunch at 12 noon
   Rest or playing or reading.
   Write a bit.
   Dinner for tea at 1:00.
   Sew or play until too dark.
   Sit on porch and talk until 2:00 PM dinner.
   Talk with coffee after lunch and then bath
   and bed.

My! How very long it sounds. I guess considering the heat and your conditions, I suppose it is fairly nice.

I took a boat home yesterday at 6:30 to get some music and little things which I had forgotten. Now I must write funny and tell you that I have sent for some drawn work.

Lettie

Good envelope from home yesterday with the pictures of dear and family group. I must have mentioned these, haven't, in my letters. So glad to hear them.

By the way, it has been so hot that Mrs. Patton's family of Wicking Fu have gone back to Taiping.

They have three small children who are always affected by the heat.

The Holidy is evidently approaching, for
each afternoon before sun-down are the most elaborate and wonderful sites. The most expensive and difficult to make-rise is one called the centipede site—many many feet long; at least over 25, I think; and with a hundreds of it looks very odd in the sky.

The most beautiful I have ever known was an octagonal shaped one—made of small octagonal pieces that looked like jewels which glittered and scintillated like cherubals and rubies in the sunlight. Exquisite thing!

Friday 11th.

How the time has flown, and tomorrow I must go home. I still have now to do, the visit for the next two days, I have had such pleasant times here and have finished off or made entirely

1. woven straw petticoat
2. flax drapery, light enough for warm weather
3. little bonnet
4. puffs
5. namork petticoat - not yet finished.

I have also written some and played piano, and just visited. It is extremely beautiful to sit on the porch these moonlight evenings and see the dead glimmering leaves of a big pecan and the dark outlines of a tall thickly-leaved evergreen tree in the foreground, and a wide expanse of yellow sandy river bed behind which are the ruins (of course) of a pagoda and back to all the dark hills.

I send and receive many messages of love. I know how you wished all the best, and dear, and happy days.

If my Christmas messages don't reach you in time, please know that I am sending them along slowly but surely and I shall be thinking of you all. I will keep all the mail that arrives.

The last two nights have been very comfortable, and so probably will be from now on.
Sat. Eve.
Home again

Ellen surprised me by walking in Friday PM and I certainly was glad to see him. Mrs. S. insisted upon our staying over night and so we did not start for home until 9:00 this morning and I have been lousy most of the day since. The heat is still intense - quite unusual in degree even in October.

I have been renovating the shell kind dressing robe that Aunt Ada prepared for a family trip from - and expect to be very proud to wear it. I think, however, that I shall wash it - and that may spoil it entirely! I hardly know what to do.

Ellen starts at 8:10 tomorrow for one of the country churches not far from here, but expects to be here before night, when he will probably go into the city as usual. Mrs. James will come over here for the night.

Ruth's good postal with a 2 page of the school routine today. Please send on her home letters for me to know about her work.

The poor couple has a case as big as a mountain with nothing about it, until he had to explain the swelling.

So glad to see the postal from George and his mother, and to get his and brother's good letter in this week's mail.

Hoping for a little mail from Mr. and Mrs. I will notice if mails are irregular.

Notice magazine comments on "Ramsay's Bill."

Ellen has just finished studying D. S. Lee's in Chinese. O.K.

Sun. Morn. - Not again.
E. left at 6:00 A.M. for Pay Koin and will not be home until late this afternoon. Sorry it is so hot.

I suppose that Mission is home from B. H. by now. Hope she had grand time!
Glad Leo and John got as much of a trip
as they did for Saturday.
By the way he would like to see some of
those beautiful pink lilies. George.

Sorry it was so hot when mother had to go to
Boston.
Is Aunt Mary better?
What is being done to Popham Court
and Allen St. houses?

The soda has done very nicely for my heart.
Byrns, Mother. Hard had no trouble to
check of since first attack. I am very well now.

Much love to each and everyone
of you. Lottie.
Chaochowfu via Suatow

October 27, 1915

Dear Mrs.,

It is almost bedtime on this lovely evening, but I am going to write a line or two to say that we are both well and are steadily getting ready for our two months away from home. I am reading for the most part, and Ella's studying and finishing his dictionary. He will take his teachers along for a part of the time at least.

The weather has been less trying for these two days and that is very nice. The evenings and nights now seem very comfortable and we can endure the heat of the day. Che-yang is cooler than Cufa- and I'm reliably told it will be no more complaints about heat. I hope not at any rate.

There been trying, too, to arrange the little Christmas presents. I am trying to save sixty or as much as possible this year, and so am sending all little things in letters. Have an envelope addressed to Harol and one to Ruth. Please notice that I don't do up very securely inside because more difficult to send.

Chen had the little sewing girl ten days now, but she can do only plain sewing and mending.

Chen bin are coloring a "cane-stuffed" baby blanket with dotted muslin from my college home dress and making one a hair-pillow into a little matress that just fits. Now I must make a little pillow and mosquito net and everything will be all right.

Isn't it queer that the Montgomery Ward goods which I ordered early in June, had but not arrived, although the.ottemon on which they found the goods come, has arrived. Luckily Mrs. Parker, I think, can supply all necessities that I lack, and I shall not need food, or in shall be providing, but I hope that the things will turn up soon, for the ham and bacon at least will be

Saturday

Oct. 30, 1915

Such nice cool north wind we have had
for three days now. Actually, put on my new sweater on Thursday morning. A real angel, and it did feel so nice and comfortable. I am sure it will be invaluable in itself and doubly dear because Aunt Lily actually made it. Everyone admires it. I suppose this very strong wind and cloudy sky mean that there is a typhoon somewhere, but luckily it is not here, nor very near. Perhaps it is out at sea. But the coldness makes me feel like working, and so I packed up all baby clothes that looked at all yellow and put them out to bleach for a while. Then the sun was out. They came in looking as white and nice that I felt well repaid for the small amount of work. Then on another day I arranged them, for I like to do that work all myself.

I have been preparing Christmas presents for little things — for all the missionairies in your station and their kiddies — it makes quite a heap of work! Also here been arranging and home presents. These are nearly finished — and I think all but about ten are done.

Our boy wants to leave, and Ellick and I are trying to decide what to do about it. He has been rather neglecting his work and quite glum for a month or so now. He seems anxious to go into business and give up a servant's position, but he may be merely dissatisfied with the amount of work that has to be done in this house — and want an easier job. He will stay until January if I insist, but he is willing to go at once if it brings up quite a problem. We really do not need this servant while we are boarding, but are not fully satisfied with our cooker which he acts as boy, and do not know whether the cooker would be satisfactory to Mrs. Lecker. Then we should have to train in a new man upon our return in January.

I rather think, however, that we shall let him go if it suits Mrs. Lecker as well.
I had a letter from Miss Disher this evening in which she said that in one village the son of the only Christian family has diphtheria. The heathens say that it is because the Christians have lately held a convention there, and so think the angry deity pulled down the sign above the school. They think that the heathen gods are very angry. Miss Disher has been down to attend the boy. And all are hoping and praying that he will get well, as otherwise Christianity will not be able to get any hold upon the whole village. Aren't the Chinese queer, superstitious people!

We have had one guest this week. Mr. Griffin stopped in one night on his way to meet Mrs. G's sister who has come out to spend the winter with them. Isn't that nice!

Ellison went to a little village below here on Friday with the preacher and Teacher to visit the school and people. He had a boat down the river, but it was quicker to walk coming home and so he arrived hot and fairly nearly am'n after dark, but glad that he had made the trip.

I am very sorry that I did not get a letter by John for his birthday. Ellison says at least he had a little birthday present for both boys and he will probably send it next week.

There's a door banging! - By the way did you realize that our upstairs doors are about 8 feet high, I'll run close it and get ready for my bath - Good night - With love to both - Lottie.

Dear Marion, I tried to get tattooing in Saturday, but it was too hot and so I guess you'll have to wait. Sorry! L.

Dear Aunt Edie, I'm sorry I am afraid I must call on you or someone again to buy Xmas presents for Miss G's boys. I am endeavoring to get stamps to be distributed, so you are put among the three who will make it. Thank you - Lottie.
Sunday Nov. Elliston has gone to Eje to hold communion, but I will be back for dinner I expect.

Mrs. James will come over to spend the night. We probably, as the men go to the city as usual.

The wind continues very high and I can see the river sand—river is low and sand bed is exposed—blowing just as I imagine it blows in a desert sand storm, only in miniature here of course.

We are planning to leave here for Chaoyang on November 10—arriving the same day in mid-afternoon I expect.

Very much love to each and everyone. No mail this week.

Love—Lottie.
things by packet as soon as arrivals. We do not trust BO. here very much, and I am wondering if everything still arrived safely. I certainly hope so.

I am glad we do not have to plan for such a long journey as we take when going to Tokyo.

I am feeling very well from present indications I do not expect any developments before the end of the month.

I am enclosing a few snap shots of which I have duplicate, of which the original owner may have more than I do.

Carol's letter I kept. 20 very welcome. I read about the narrow escape of the movie actors in the surf at East Gloucester in a paper that Felipe sent me!!

Glad you have a smock - I want one myself but am not sure whether the tailor can make it just from a picture.

Do you have to go outside C. N.S. for your recitations?

So glad Stella has a fiancée.

Shall be glad to hear all about the wedding (Mothie when Stella returns. You wrote the date for it.) in your letter of the 2nd and I was glad to know.

Yes, Mother dear, you and Father paid that beautiful new dress to my birthday box and you certainly should not have done so much for me.

What did you send Rachel? Thank you for good letter and Tatters' measuring slip.

Was so glad, sent all in your letter of the Sept 23rd to see Rachel's enthusiastic note of thanks. I am glad they can have a little home.
Carol dear, Thank you for poetical written on my birthday eve and filling the groves so full of love that it was nearly ready to "burst" for.

So glad, dear Marion, to have such a nice letter from Bar Harbor. Do cleaning a boy the other day & came across the book of Bar Harbor views & to day noticing the snap shots taken while in Bar and I sure there, I enjoyed them all again. It is your second trip, isn't it?

A good many people are here here these good pictures and I have enjoyed them much.

Hope Bllls hard time is over and that her burdens are growing lighter. I am glad the children are all capable and can help her some.

HentHent, I enjoyed your lovely letter of Sept. 23rd very much indeed. Please remember me with love to Miss Curtis. Hope that she will have a good winter.

This letter is, I thought a very vivid picture of but I take it she has a bad case of tuberculosis. I certainly hope that she will recover.

What a time you had with housekifs for Marion!!! What did Tom do that week? Hope Marion came home feeling fine and strong.

So sorry Lucle was ill. Does she go to school now?

I am quite anxious to see that dear little brit jacket! I shall think happy of it!

Supply time - So Good bye for now -
This is Sunday - clear and beautiful!

Love to each and everyone.

Did I tell you that I have made a pretty dainty blue jacket from the toy of one of our travelling teetees (Hope) - lined with blue moat cloth covered
with scrim and filled out with two small baskets and a pocket, and a little hair cushion, embroidered lawn on blue.

Then the little cane basket is deftly spaced into my dotted muslin dress — these hair matters, and a down pillow case. With a new set — all placed within a bamboo frame which she has made. He has done yards of machine sewing for me this week and things are practically all done. I have had the little serving girl here three or four days.

About the work there is really nothing to tell, for I just stay at home and sew, read, rest, and read, and play and write a little.

Guess I'll write a bit more and then play piano. I shall miss it at Christmas.

Love again. Still am feeling fine and well. The abdominal binders have helped me very comfortably.

Lottie.
Dear One and All: Here it is Saturday morning again and I am at Chaoyang.

We packed Monday and Tuesday leisurely but frankly, and left the house about 5:30 on Tuesday, to go to Mrs. Jemer's for the night. It is with a relief to go somewhere else for the night and last meal. It is awful to steel off after an early breakfast and not have time to fold the silver tinfoil decently or arrange about the making of table linen and bed linen, etc.

Well after a good night's rest, we started for the train about 8:30. Dr. Pears insisted, upon my taking one of the very comfortable nickeres hospital chairs (and I felt very luxurious travelling along in it). The train ride was not hard at all, all the train was packed full and for a short distance men sat on the edge of our two seats (they are not cushioned and meant each is meant for two people, but it is only a free of wood about a yard wide). But we had baggage between us and them.

At the station in Swatow a big rail boat met us, and we had a delightful sail to Chaoyang landing where we disembarked - 4 people (teacher, cook, E. & I.) and three carriers - into a small boat and made our way at a slower pace up a small canal into the city. The canal is always crowded with boats and always smelly, but we were finally rowed to the Standard Oil Companies shop, from which it is only a short ride of about a mile to the locker. So you see, I arrived hardly feeling tired and at about 3:00 P.M. Poor Elder had to come with me and then return to see about the baggage. His bicycle tire was 20 punctured fuel that he could not use it and so he was hot and weary and disgusted with Chinese cookies when he finally arrived to stay.

Dr. and Mrs. Lischer have done everything for our comfort. We are in this big guest room about 20x15 with its ten nice beds and bath room with running water and some bath tub.
Since earning, the days have flown, with getting adjusted—seeing all the beautiful things that Mrs. Lischer bought on her journey from this summer—silk, brocades, China etc. all for a song—unpacking and settling our things—sharing our outfit to Mrs. Lischer and Mrs. Groebel etc. that etc. includes quite a little talking!

You know our boy wanted to leave, and so did him go. Mrs. Lischer expecting to hire an extra servant to take his place. She was unsuccessful in finding the boy she wanted, but, after long discussion with her household, she took the suggestion of calling my ainsla (the permanent nurse) at once.

The cause and the arrangement has proved most satisfactory, for the man is willing to do anything to help—such, wait on table, wash, cook—such, mind—etc., and the coming was a godsend to her, I guess, for she was having a hard time. The household is a scamp who will not give her any money and as a matter of fact she has not had enough to purchase her kind she recovered from a bad attack of typhoid over a year ago I guess. She looked hard and old—middle aged almost. I believe she is younger than them! But she has begun to pick up immediatly now under Dr. Groebel's care and with a few extra attention given to her diet. She is as happy as can be & the kin! I am so pleased to have a woman servant around.

On Tuesday next, the hospital nurse is due to arrive.

Ellion had to hurry back to Swatow to audit the day after he arrived, but since then he has been studying hard. His final exam is not far off.

This afternoon he is trying to prepare his type so that he can go down to a church service with Dr. Groebel tomorrow if all is well.
One of Mother's letters arrived the other day—just before I left Cebu—entirely slit open on the top. I hope nothing had been taken out. These next letters from Carl, too, written inside.

I sent by Dr. Walker yesterday registered & by sample post— the piece of sheeting. Supposedly 12 yds. I did not measure it. Maybe, but perhaps you had better be sure it is all right. Hope it will arrive safely. I will try to get more as soon as it can be made.

This is a rainy Saturday— and I wore my lonely new sweatshirt all the morning—as the air is a little chilly when all doors and windows are open. I am glad to have a bit of coolness.

Well, goodbye for the present. I'm very much love to me send to you all.

Lettie.

Thank you Papa for June moon message. I am quite sure I received it, but no glad to have the translation too.

Please don't go into this real estate business any more. It is a poor business. Perhaps the Cunningham house on Rockland and the Allen St. house in Gloucestor will come out all right without being too big a drain—but please don't start a stone house on Dodge St. There are too many reasons it could give you if you cared to hear them.

I am so glad you have paint for the house, but do not think it would be a good bargain to hang a cheap paint job. I shall have to think of the house as painted and looking fresh again.

Thank you; Mother, for your good letter, too. It seems good to hear of future and affairs. Yes, we have canned goods come to us, and m have a good deal of fruit here that we can put up-

Carol's theme subjects interest me, too.
It was good to see a letter from George again, with news of baseball, motorcycles etc. - always very welcome.

Now it is Sunday All. I am staying at home as usual now.

Very much love to you all and especially at Christmas time. Let me know if things do not arrive safely. I do hope they will, but I fear I should have registered everything.

Ruth's good letter came by way of Mary Cottee with nice note from her, and I was very glad to hear.

Letter:

Many people seem to think the monopoly is sure to come back to China, but without any trouble. People seem indifferent or want it -.
Dear Gome,

I am sitting at my table doing a little writing and so I'll just say "Good Morning" and tell you that we are well, and the weather is good - (warm and beautiful) but not too warm. I find there is less to do than at home, and yet I get tired of going, writing, and resting all day long. I try to catch up on all my writing, oughtn't I?

Thursday Nov. 15

On Tuesday the Chinese hospital nurses from Kintang arrived under the chaperonage of an old Bible-woman. She is a fine-looking girl, bright, clean, well kept. She is studying while she is waiting for her to be sent to a good hospital.

Tuesday about five o'clock Ellison was telling me Leckie drove home tall holes into the ground for sweet peas, and something got into his right eye. It proved to be a little red bug or fly that poisoned his eye and it swelled up almost immediately. He wasn't able to see anything yesterday, and felt quite miserable but today he is studying. Again, having a shield over the bad eye. Luckily we were in the house with the doctor and he attended the eye constantly and skilfully, or E. might have had a much worse time.

At least we have received word that our mail-co-boxes have arrived and you may be sure we are relieved and glad. It is nearly six months now since we ordered. Freight has gone up at home too, they inform us. Is it in to take 20 long to get things out to order now, for next June, isn't it?

Friday Nov. 17

Another beautiful day cooler than last Tuesday. The water in the bay is a beautiful blue. It is 8:30 am and we are all thru breakfast and about our work.

Helped Mr. Leckie get off his Ireland packages.
yesterday. She has been so busy, poor lady, that she has not had time before.

I am more and more concerned about the things I send in envelopes with letters and wish I had registered them.

Hope I asked somebody to write Miss Kendig in case we cable. She did.

We have all received an invitation to take dinner with the American consul on Thanksgiving day. (I can't believe that it is so near!) And felt needlessly to say, we cannot accept. I was nice of kind to plan such a big dinner, wasn't it?

Well, I'll to my sewing now.

Sunday AM, Nov. 21.

"All quiet along the Potomac." -

We are waiting for the breakfast gang to ring. Yesterday Alice went to Swanton and picked up some of the M. H. & Co. boxes and so on had a miniature Xmas again last evening when he returned happy with bicycle supplies and a check from them, and helps of things for baby - a little hot water bottle - gin & cement, mustard bath, thermometers - flannel for bath apron, starch obliques, soap, etc., etc. There was one pair of acid bottle tops (candy) - and ten pieces hams. His by course is only a hat, that he bought over but it is real fun to get them. Remember the rose around last June.

Came some lovely mail yesterday while I was in Swanton. Postals from Motts, letters from Aunt Ceci with enclosures, and then several letters from other friends. To-day came a letter from Mother, too. So glad to hear something of Rochelle riding and John's vacation. I should think he should be tried out with so much riding. I hope he stayed at good places. I shall be glad to hear more details of weather scenery, stopping places etc., if he can find time to write.

Mrs. Decker took the heart beat this morning and found it a good deal slower - so after all it may be a rest and not.
not to know E B B.

I did up a few last Christmas presents this morning and I have still four, five or six others to prepare for local people. But otherwise everything is ready. The Grebeck children, thinking I would be lonesome, came in to see me, and were quite interested in the process. They are awfully nice kids — Katherine eleven and Tony eight. They have been keenly interested in seeing baby's things and Tony is trying to find out what he can make for baby.

When he was this looking the other day he asked, "Oh, thank you Mr. Sheldon!" and reached up his arms and kissed me. He is a little like Jack Kendig in responsiveness and style, indulging for thanking you for jacket and

Please forgive me for getting mixed up in the labels in the Xmas Birthday box. I was so excited that everything was scattered to the four winds. I thought I recognized the white jacket — but did remember the robe embroidered in red and blue — and the perhaps the boys had found it in the Ex change, clothes that seemed a rather strange. You had already given me training Mission.

I suppose all the labels but on things at house get torn off at Customs office too bad. That is why I do not take so much pains in marking.

Ellison's eye is all well now, although the other eye is a little tired with the strain. He had a pleasant day in Swarth yesterday, although he found a lot of people sick. Mrs. Park is quite sick with either dengue fever or malaria. There hardly knows which, yet mostly people have had malaria, and there has been some slight pneumonic poisoning.

Mrs. Keshen and all of us are very glad that I am not there.

Ellie mother had such a nice outing and Mayitham and Mrs. Hackins.

Did John stop at Mowden.

Saw a large 27 in embroidered centerpiece.
on a small tin table close to Rachel. Hope she likes it.

Hope AE to letter. Can't it rain that they ran an auto?

Jennie Hulstee seems to like a very nice school and seems to like it and to be succeeding. I am so glad.

Jennie's letter to Aunt Cal was most entertaining. I am so glad, too, to hear from May Cotte the other day. I don't seem to find much time to write outside this general letter, but I appreciate all extra very much.

Glad to receive letter from Pearl Beeman. Hope she is well. Charles very nice foot note much appreciated.

Aunt Cal: Mrs. Leecher has "A Far Country" and perhaps I shall find time to read it before I leave. No--I am not at home all the time, but I got discourage much about little local things than anything big--except this awful war. Sorry you hold to worry about that birthday box. My! that was a nice one. I would say that to hear that. I am saving that lovely fruit brandy, E.'s Xmas, as I want to surprise him and he was due to last in the present. Will let you know letter.

Sunday 29th.

We just finished transposing "Holy Night" for Mrs. Leecher. Chinese voice seems to be invariably low.

Elliger is writing home. Dr. Leecher is reading his home paper. Mrs. Leecher is putting needle into bed.

How very soon I shall go down for my fath and nights next. There is a lovely moon now and I am wondering if it will take my message home to you then. It comes. &--Hope.

Very much love to each one.

Ketti.
Chapung, via Swatow.
Nov. 23, 1915.

Dear Une,

This is a pleasant Tuesday morning.

The amah is washing our clothes. I am perfectly comfortable and have nothing to do but sew and write or read. I have about ten minutes work to do on a Christmas present and then all three are ready.

Wednesday - Nov. 24

A beautiful bright day with a north wind that makes me appreciate why lovely new anzacine doors and windows are so wide open. The sky is as blue as can be and the mountains in the distance are all heliotrope. Mrs. Leahy and I made candy yesterday for Thanksgiving and now since it has been so long, I am hoping I shall be able to eat the Thanksgiving dinner tomorrow at Mrs. Groestek's - we have all been invited - and that will make a happy eleven. Won't it be nice! I shall think of you all. I am of course sending daily greetings by this beautiful moon to tell you that we are all well.

The Groesteks have bought a great big beautiful goose - which the kiddies are having a lovely time with. They drive it around the yard and pick it up in their arms and treat it to all sorts of indignities without the least bit of fear.

So long for now -

Thursday: Thanksgiving morning!

How happy Ruth and Carol must be to have a holiday and all the Brits and kiddies too!!!

I have imagined the appearance of the jam mines on the pantry shelf and the pudding and the pies. - Thy! But it would be nice to peek in on eat dinner with you.

We never had snow at Thanksgiving does we? We have had a remarkably warm fall. At this time last year I was wearing my heavy winter suit with muffler jacket!
Wednesday Nov. 26.

Another beautiful day has come. I am waiting for the nurse to bring me some hot water to wash my hair. The room is all upset as the egolie is coming in to scrub the floor. I have been sewing a little.

We had a very pleasant Thanksgiving party yesterday, and since I have to wait so long, I was glad to be able to eat the dinner.

A nice roast goose with dressing.

Potatoes and gravy.


Apple sauce (made from home).

Maine pie from Maine meat made by Mrs. Greenback when she was at home! My, it was good.


Saturday Nov. 27.

Still waiting!!!

I have nearly finished making a dainty little short dress for Mrs. James's little daughter or son. Mrs. James made one for me in English style, and I then made one for the same style: very short and plain.

I am wondering if she will use it or if we will decide to swap back again.
Somebody is going into Superior this P.M. I think, and so I'll probably send the letter on by them, although you can have them... absolutely no need. It is cool and beautiful this morning. That means as usual, that when windows and doors are wide open there is breeze enough to make a sweater comfortable.

I am enclosing a letter from Margaret Allen to me which I think would be returned to her. I think that she would be interested, don't you?

I am reading "A Far Country." The idea seems rather disappointing so far.

I was trying to turn a hat for Mrs. Leacher yesterday. I think to what I have come!!!

No use in prolonging this longer.

So—I send love. Heaps of it to you all.

Lottie.
December 1, 1915.

Dear Melz, look at that date, will you? I wouldn't have believed it, if it had not been right before my eyes. It is three weeks to day since I arrived here. No further comments necessary, I suppose.

There is no news! Mrs. Grosebeck had a birthday on Monday and her kiddies prepared a bag for her with a present for every house. Ellinor and I dropped in several times at the hour to see the fun, and I thought of Agent Celie's nice birthday of last year. Katherine eleven years old, made an angel cake for her mother.

The Leakers, you know, have been without milk since a summer. On Monday they succeeded in buying one more calf, several months old, but they have succeeded in getting only about three teaspoonsfuls of milk since then! - Hard, luck!

The Grosebecks have also been without milk and they have bought a young heifer calf last week. I think that their case is not yet more hopeful than that of the Leakers.

Ellisio's teacher has gone off to the meetings in Kweichow (meetings that E has perhaps written you about) held by a Chinese man noted for his character and spirituality, who trains men in the art of preparing for a big evangelistic campaign with its graded Bible study classes etc., and as the early campaigns. The people hope to get Mr. Ellisio himself next fall. Poor Ellisio, he does not say a word, I know is deeply disappointed that he can not go. Because he has been counting on these meetings for a long time!
Thursday Dec. 2. - There is a little backache, and that is my only encouragement. I have been writing and working on accounts, and it is making a stroke for myself — without a pattern!

Friday Dec. 3.

Well, they are thinking of giving me quinine to start things along.

The Sekers had to send their cow back. Couldn’t get any milk from it to speak of.

We are having beautiful weather and wonderful sunshine and sunsets. It is nice to be beside the sea even if there is no beach.

So long!

From Aunt Alice
Dear Aunt Alice,

I have not forgotten your birthday, and I shall think of you from time to time. I shall think of you and the dog and all of you.

Remind yourself and Kitty by this. Write letter.
Dear One,

Just a few days to Christmas and vacation for Ruth and Carol and a holiday for the boys. Won't it be nice! It seems more like Christmas here than anywhere else I have been in China, because there are children here and they are so joyful and so expectant, and the mothers and fathers come in all kinds of presents, and making hampers and packages of nice candy, and Mrs. Everts has been making cookies and fruit cake, and plum puddings and salad dressing, and it does seem so good.

The Boursfields (mother and father and two boys) have fast-tracked their inland arrival and came up to Hongqiao yesterday to spend Xmas with us. In a day or two the men will go off for trees. It's very nice now as little snow or falling cold. It has been cold enough so that the Leesers have had a fire upstairs, and down town but it gets warm in the afternoon. Yesterday I sat on the porch and watched the sun over the bay as it dropped behind the mountains and came to you. And wasn't the moon lovely! I know you were all looking for it too. I saw it at 6:00 this morning just as it was ready to dip below the horizon too.

Mrs. Boursfield has brought over a big basket full of Xmas presents for us. I am hiding these for the Leesers, and Mrs. Leechet is hiding these for us; several packages have come by mail too.

I continue to grow stronger each day. After Ellison still plays nurse, and Mrs. Risher declares I must not walk up or down stairs until four weeks is past.

Ellison is using the typewriter doing work preparatory to conference, and Dr. Leech is working on accounts now. Yesterday Ellison
helping a little at a most interesting situation on a baby. Perhaps he will write about it.

Well, Good morning for now. I will go back to my room and add one layer of clothing to the scanty supply I have on.

Oh! I must mention how very useful my first socks that Della gave me, and the little five-cent cap she gave me and the pink one Jennie gave me years and years ago have been. I don't see how I could have got along without them. The shanks have been so washed around my back. Also the bath robe Mother B. helped to make. Everybody admires it. Three days I was wearing stockings and no occasion mightije the white silk-lined green outside convoluted robe that Marion let me hang and my blanket bath robe. I find it very comfortable, for I lie down a good deal of course.

Harriett Allen is inviting Ellison and me to come to Canton again, and if no dentist comes to Kakechlik or may feel that we can afford to go. For I have had a little tooth ache several times lately, and Ellison needs work too, but we are not thinking of it very seriously yet.

He has been much interested in all the letters.

Dec. 24. I was dressed in ordinary clothes yesterday and shall be again today and tomorrow. I may go in a canoe to the chapel exercises in the afternoon.

The tree is up and Ellison is helping put up the decorations.

Guess I will stop writing now in order to send this off to-day. Instead of waiting.

Love to each and everyone.

Lottie.
Dec. 24, 1918

Dear Mother and Father,

This is to wish you a very happy anniversary although it may be a little late in arriving.

I am enclosing some Irish crochet which may make up the lawn dress I sent last season.

I would rather send something which you could both use, although I know Father will enjoy seeing Mother wear it. But I cannot get out to buy something I had to use some thing I had on hand.

I have had real clothes on for two days now and it seems quite strange. When I think that well I am taken care of and now I have no work to do, I think of...
My Mother dear, and how you always had work to do and children to demand attention. Like any this kind realize parent.

There is nothing experience of to make one what one's have done for one. Both. Ellison and I realize more fully and are more grateful than ever for all you have done for us.

We shall be thinking of you this evening and to-morrow and Sunday and hoping that you all will be very happy and many of you together.

We both send more love than ever. Lottie & Ellison.
Chao-yang, China
Dec. 29, 1915.

Dear Uncle,

To-day we leave for Kyehchek. Mrs. Lusher has to go five days before committee meetings begins on account of committee meetings. Our packing was all done yesterday and the day before so that I have the morning to rest in. Ellison was inoculated against plague on Monday, and so he has not been feeling quite so well as usual; but I decided not to be inoculated now as my year is not up until May and as I do not think there is any necessity for doing it now.

We have been thinking of you all these days and hoping you were all happy. We had a very nice Christmas, in fact the most Christmas day one we have had since coming to China.


We had an easy pleasant trip over here. It was warm, so warm that I had to discard my wrap over my serge dress altho I am still wearing summer underwear and we were sitting on the upper deck of the launch—where there is usually a cold strong wind.

Dr. Lusher stopped to see a case on the way and we were alarmed to hear the launch whistle, while it was still 9 minutes before starting time by our watches and we were nowhere in sight. I told Dr. Lusher the doctor had not yet come— and he waited seven or eight minutes, but became impatient and blew the whistle again and another man came to start the wheel—but we remained silent again and Ellison ran out quite a distance, returning with the news that six choosers were approaching—Again the captain hailed a minute or two, but after a while arrived he blew the whistle again and started from the wheel just as we saw the doctor come. He ran; the captain pulled off but did not stop on speed; the doctor jumped upon a small boat and came along side climbing into the steam launch, and so we started. That is characteristic of China.
When we arrived, I walked up the hill and then climbed my first pair of stairs. I did not feel very tired, and I doubt if I am improving. So far, I am taking a tonics; a cathartic, an antiseptic, medicine, and one other kind.

Many of our packages have not arrived, and I am worried about them. The one from Jennie, one from Miss. Keene, one from The House, and one from Ellerson's come in from Brooklyn containing a number of things. They should have been here at least a month ago. Did my birthday gift finally reach Della?

Next week is not due until Jan. 11 in Hong Kong.

The letters from Aunt Cella, Francis, Ella, Mother, Father, George, and Auntie come, and the one from John, have all been a comfort. Also a package of newspapers from home which came while I was sick, and another package arrived here in Swatow.

It is so nice to hear from Polly and Luke too.

I am looking for the Thanksgiving letter now. It is at least ten days since I received mail. No letters between Dec. 24 and Jan. 1.

Think of Ruth giving talks on good values!!!

And Mother, how do you do so much preserving and cooking???

I have read all the letters twice and some three times - so good to hear George is always vived and I can see what he writes about. I was so glad Father told me in detail about the paint. I can picture it quite distinctly now. Also glad to hear of back cellar and apples etc. - Luke's dog.

Yes. Mother we have hundreds of books here. Wish I had left more for you.

We do not need more rugs at present, but are getting along very nicely.

Ellerson has written quite a little about times by way of Phillips, and you will see that I think.

Jennie's good envelope full of letters from Ruth came while I was sick, and I was so pleased to read.
Returning to Rockport, Mass. eventually.

Rockport
Port20
Boston

Halyoke
9/21/17