Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers
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Dear Home Folks,

Well the dentist is glad I came. He said that the tooth which has been aching a little was just ready to begin a "high old time" if I had not come now. And another old tooth must be pulled, for it would have broken off very shortly, that is in a month or two probably.

I am having a very interesting visit with Harriett and hardly know where to begin to tell you about things. I came by train from Hong Kong Sunday afternoon. The train is English and has 1st, 2nd and 3rd class rates. Dr. Reymann and I bought 2nd class tickets but finding no seats took a 3rd class compartment and were very comfortable, having our dinner on the train. I had boiled chicken with peas, potatoes, etc., tea and toast, and fruit for a very reasonable price, perhaps 30 U. S. cents. The ride was interesting and fairly pretty. The country was very attractive for many miles as we followed the river, but later we got into a flat country — really the delta of the Canton river. A large part of the land was cultivated — and we saw several villages, but not nearly so many as I would expect in crowded China. These villages sound about Canton have one very queer feature. If they are at all wealthy, they have several large cows which are really farm shops. They make them very high to get room to store things and also for self-help against robbers. On the roof they build a small watch house and keep a man always on guard to roll down heavy rocks upon any would be robbers.

Harriett met me at the station and we began a ride of several miles first by rickshaw and later by chair. The chairs here are luxurious and very comfortable compared to what I have seen elsewhere. They are made of silk — are large and roomy and completely protected from rain — and have plenty of space for one's feet. The men in walking, have learned to move without lifting their shoulders a bit and as the chairs do not swerve like a baby carriage — after riding about five or six miles I awoke across the city and came to the Presbyterian compound. It has several very imposing buildings — first a two story dormitory, then a big three story hospital — another hospital with modern improvements, (1) a school building and two big three story houses. The houses are all dark gray with white trimming. The houses that Harriett is in are a good house big for them but they will soon have more people here. It is a clean room, furnished with Mission furniture which they have had made here.
They had a man cook and two women servants. The china is from the Cantonese ships and is perfectly beautiful! I wish that you could see it.

On Monday June 11 I went at once to the dentist and found him younger and more inexperienced than I had expected, but quite the right man. This going to the dentist is no joke, for I have to ride in a chair thru the crowded custom streets and it costs a fortune. Every day so far it has cost more than a dollar for chair fare alone.  If I am trying to learn the way as that I can walk but it is quite a task. Let me show you the path. Begin.

Don't you think it would take several times to learn that so that you could follow it coming and going too?

Some of the streets are so narrow that there is not room for two chairs to pass one another.

At first we pass thru a narrow section of the city where the streets are wide (perhaps perfect) and the houses are new (of gray brick) and owned by wealthy people and soon we get into crowded, dirty streets. However as one approaches the heart of the city one sees perfectly amazing signs of foreign influence — a shop full of foreign goods — a shop that looks like a 5 & 10 cent store with a window full of foreign wares — a place lined with photographs of Chinese after the foreign fashion — another store full of watches etc. We see nothing to compare with it at Theo Choufou.

Monday afternoon Harriett went in with me to call on Miss Sollman from Eaton who has been in the hospital here for five weeks. She is going home this Thursday but I must stay longer. Miss Sollman was under the care of Miss Writhe, one of her nurses, who has come to Canton to teach nurses. They invited us to come to dinner last evening and accordingly did, having a most interesting ride back in the lighted streets after 9:00 P.M. I was almost afraid to think of going such a distance at night but it seems to be a very common thing here.

Miss Writhe wants me to spend the week end with her.
On Tuesday I went again to the dentist. Dr. Harriott took me across the river crowded full of picturesque boats in which the Chinese live. Now they can manage their possessions so that they can live in those boats, I cannot see.(Can you imagine a family living in a fishermen's wooden boat at home—surprised, it had a flat bottom!!!)

We visited the Presbyterian compound on the other side seeing their big schools and in particular visiting Dr. Niles's school for the blind. That is a most pathetic and interesting place! The little tots were having gymnastics and seemed as happy as could be. Many of the eyes could have been saved with proper care. Many of the blind girls had been taken from a school for slaves instituted at the time of the Revolution but allowed to dissolve in the past few years with most of the reforms. Conditions in the city now, they say are dreadful. The authorities are licensing long form of evil in order to get revenue. The people hate the President on Monarch. (I hardly know which to call him), but there are at present no signs of revolution although this city is one of the quickest to rebel in all China. I suppose the revolution is going on in the heat, but we hear little of it and see no effects except a little more care on the part of policemen and officials in enforcing laws.

On Wednesday I went again to the dentist in the afternoon and had a tooth filled. Then I went to the Canton Hospital where Miss Dailman a temporary patient (They belong to our mission) and had dinner with them in their flat in the hospital. The streets around that hospital are constant. Night and day peddlers are calling their wares. The carriers sing a little song as they pass along rather monotonous—really the most musical thing I have heard from the Chinese, I believe.

On Thursday I celebrated the day free from the dentist by visiting the Chinese shops. How fascinating they are! I bought a fish, a cow and a rabbit, a beautiful thing, and a cheap milk pitchet and small bowl. I also bought some silk I had to be dyed and had to pay an outrageous price for it on account of the war!!!
Yesterday I visited the dentist and had an old tooth painfully removed. We had six guests for dinner & a nice party with ice cream for dessert! Delicious!

It was very cold for the first few days when I was here but now it is much warmer, milder and sunny.

I hope to get away next Thursday and reach Swatow and Cheo-tung-fu on Saturday. If I don't, I am afraid the girls will be tired of me. Harriet is dean of the Medical College, and Dr. Martha Hackett her friend, is at the head of a rather large hospital. It is interesting & keen for her cafe. One is a case of arsenic poisoning. The young girl took it rather than marry the man her family wanted her to. When she was in greatest agony, her family took her out to the grave yard and abandoned her. Not wanting her to die on their hands. A philanthropic society found her when she was in the paralytic state and brought her to the hospital where she is slowly improving but will probably never be entirely strong again. She has the sweetest, smiling face of any Chinese girl I have seen. I think and it seems very pathetic to think of her fate. She can use her hands and stand on her feet, but cannot walk.

Will turn to the letters now and see if there are any questions.

Very much love to you.

Lettie.

March 9, 1916.

Thank you, Lucille, for your nice note. I still have our cow, mother. She gives nearly a quart a day and in getting butter from that. Thank you, Ruth & too, for your letter and the picture. They are very attractive. And Stella and Charlie and Marion, your letters all mean so much to me, and Ruth's too.

There is little to say in answer, for you have had the fuller letters that followed the first. I am getting stronger each day, and taking very good care of myself. Trying to get ready for the future. Now very much love, dear ones all.

Love to Ette and all who read.
The text on the page is a handwritten letter from Canton, dated Thursday, May 29, 1916. The letter begins with a greeting to the reader and proceeds to discuss the writer's travel experience on a steamer. They describe the state room as the largest they have ever had, with a compact suite of arrangements, electric lights, and fan. They also mention the food, which they find to be very good. The writer expresses a desire to see how nice the steamer is compared to the others they have sailed on.

They have been out on deck quite a while, and the land is flat, and there is little to see at present. They have come in to arrange their shipping list for tomorrow, and write direct. They have just come in and have ordered a cut of tea to go with their lunch. Harriet did not want me to eat the food on the boat, but I imagine it would have been all right.

The writer also mentions that they saw a dentist, but they imagine it is only a temporary filling until the one that is in will be filled. They describe the writer's view of the land and the flatness of the land.

The writer concludes the letter by mentioning that they believe their last letter was sent last week, Friday or Saturday. They went to the Canton Bazaar with Miss Holroyd Saturday evening, and went in early to shop with Harriet at a store that sells mandarin coats and embroideries. They bought a very pretty blue silk coat embroidered with gold. They also saw many many beautiful things, including silk dresses, embroidered with flowers.

An excerpt of the letter reads: "Dear One,

You see that I am travelling again, but this time it is to return home, and although I have had a perfectly lovely time, I shall be glad to get home again. That's to hear Emma alone, for I know that the food will not be as good as if some one else is there. I am surprised to see how nice this steamer is. I am in the largest state room I have ever had I think, provided with the most luxuriant comforts. There is a couch, a writing shelf, a compact suite of arrangements, electric lights, and fan. In fact, everything you would expect on a first class steamer. The Chinese bath is very fine, and English lines which run between Canton and Nanking. I don't see how they can get much trade when there are as nice and so much cheaper than the others.

They have been out on deck quite a while, but the land is flat, and there is little to see at present. So I have come in to arrange my shipping list for tomorrow, and write direct. They have just come in, and have ordered a cut of tea to go with my lunch. Harriet did not want me to eat the food on the boat, but I imagine it would have been all right.

Hello! I saw this with the dentist; for the present, but I imagine that it is only a temporary filling. He has put it in the tooth that is in which he has been filling the nerve, for there was a slight sensation when he took out the nerve this morning. He found one more cavity after taking that one tooth out, and filled that this morning. I think he will come to Sydney within two or three months, but I think it was wise not to let my teeth go any longer.

Hello! I believe my last letter was sent last week, Friday or Saturday. I went in to the Canton Bazaar with Miss Holroyd Saturday evening, and went in early to shop with Harriet at a store that sells mandarin coats and embroideries. We bought a very pretty blue silk coat embroidered with gold, and also saw many many beautiful things. They have silk embroidered garments embroidered with flowers.

Exquisite! Did I say that we bought that coat to
Miss Witherse on Sunday took me in a rickshaw thru the crowded streets to the compound of the Southern Baptist Mission—where we visited Miss Anderson—who has done perfectly wonderful kindergarten work. She could not have a building and so she had a one-story 'grass house' made—(they are extremely picturesque—looking yellow and rough, but in the same shape as old Chinese and with glass windows).

This is divided into four class rooms and one big central room in which they take care of about a hundred pupils—In each room colored with pretty drawings, etc. Along the sides of the room and at each window is a shelf in which is some beautiful plant. You cannot imagine how pretty it seemed to me after coming used to bust little schools in Chinese buildings—unsafely lighted and ugly to look at.

A little past about seven led the Sunday school service and then the classes separated to their rooms where they were taught by normal girls. I ran not seen such good teaching anywhere else in China. Every teacher had a concrete illustration of her text. In one class they had two tiny fishes and five small pieces of bread to illustrate the feeding of the multitude, and in another the teacher had 500 to illustrate another lesson. The teachers, needless to say, were all attention.

From this we visited the primary S.S. in a very attractive new building with chakirs and blackboards just the right size and height to suit the children. It was quite an eye opener to me and I felt very glad of the opportunity to see the work.

Then we attended church service in a large crowded church—by far the services longest and of course I could not understand a word. So I did not stay long.

These Southerners were very hospitable and entertained us very nicely. After dinner with them, we had some music—Miss Anderson's sister who was with her being a teacher of music.
in a Southern College. I enjoyed this very much.) -

Another family invited the Anderson's and do

for tea - and then it was time to go back to

city for 6:10 o'clock train ride in

English. It is needless to say that I enjoyed that

and also the informal supper and singing

with Dr. and Mrs. Todd afterward. Quite a day

wasn't it?

"Seven minutes to eight - slice!" I hear a chime

outside the window saying. Most of the servants

on the boat knew Pigeon English -


Monday Harriot had another dinner party for

me - inviting Mary, Williams and Mrs. Pigeon girl of

as well as three or four others. On Tuesday after

visiting the dentist in the Pigeon and I had a

most fascinating trip to the soap stones. In the

City could see some of the beautiful frames

of paper, cotton, napkins, umbrella handles,

also buns, beads etc. with their intricate

carving. This ground this City makes one

well to try - but of course I could indulge in

only a few things such as would be

suitable for home presents and gifts.

Saturday, spent a quiet day at home for

Mary to have guests for dinner again and

I knew that the next three days of travel would

full to the brim. Have a great many

things to do for other people and myself at

Hong Kong and also at Swatow. But nothing

will still be able to get home on Saturday.

Then has written me enclosing several

letters of which I must mention, those from

Carrie, John, Ruth, George, Mother, Sister - all

welcome.

Although I could not help smiling - in

fact laughing aloud even at Georgia's letters

of sympathy. It was full of humor, and

I doubt another soul who could

make me laugh in such a letter. Don't you

all think that quite a feat! We almost a cold

sympathy too but mixed the humor so cleverly
that I simply had to laugh.
All the others wrote so beautifully and I was so glad to hear. It is dear of you all to regret so much and to realize so fully what it means to us. So glad to see Mother's notes to you all. They will certainly dear!

As I came along the streets in my chair this afternoon —

Please admire the proportion.

I tried to think how I could give you a picture of that moving crowd. But give you the glimmering vista of those scenes; how lovely the many stands and booths, but it is not beyond me to tell you! One would all be astonished to see the countless human burden bearers. The many babies and tied on their mother's back with their little heads bobbing helplessly along; the many trades represented in the shops. You could scarcely be prepared any more than I was for what sight of a small company of toy soldiers marching proudly along in white and white. "It's a drum and a file?" the head toy proudly balancing and swinging a toy rattle. "Came!" I do believe those boys scored nobler than any people I have seen in China — and they certainly did look nice.

Well, I think I will read "Pollyanna" now up for a while and then to bed.

Very much love to all my dear ones.

Lottie.
Dear One, all,

You see that I am at home again and it seems good to be sitting before our grate fire. We have needed a fire every day since we came from Kow Khoi last Tuesday. We have Dr. Newman with us to-night. He came up Friday and will stay at least until Monday. He is giving me that long delayed treatment against typhoid fever which I promised Aunt Lele I would have. He bought the stuff in Hong Kong - when we left America the treatment required three weeks, but now it is improved so that a doctor can give it in three days, and that is what we are having. I do believe I have taken more medicine in the last year than I have had in my whole life before. I get quite sick of it.

Mr. E. and I went to a village three or four miles away to-day to inspect the potteries. I really did not see any more wonderful work than we saw at Tong Pe Khoi a week or so ago, but we saw more varieties. The whole village is given up to making pottery - some chief brown kitchen dishes, pretty gray table dishes, Chinese varieties, and still nice glazed jardinières, big bowls, etc. of clear white with figures of various colors. All the work seemed to me required skill, and it was wonderful to see with what accuracy the artist could draw the figures to be painted.

Have you ever seen them take a small lump of clay and holding it on the wheel make a bowl or jar by simple skillful pressure and the rotation of the wheel? It takes only about a minute or two to have a kitchen bowl ready for drying and baking.

We had sunlight most of to-day. The first time for weeks it seems to me. I was anxious to wash my clothes but our trip to Kang Kin took us almost 9:00 until 4:00 P.M. and then I had too many pupils.

I found such a nice bunch of letter when I came back from Kow Khoi - more than twenty five plus a lot of magazines and a package from Mother B. which contained a pretty lavender...
jacket and a boudoir cap to match—something I have been wanting for two or three years now & & also there was a pair of black silk stockings from Aunt Minnie. wasn’t that a nice surprise.

I am feeling very well and strong these days; in fact I walked a large part of the way to Fang Koin and back to-day— and intended to go to another station with Ellery to-morrow but of course I shall not go off andlean Dr. Remen. I have my first cold of the season now—but have good medicine for it and hope to quick it up.

Oh, this noon we ate a lunch of stuffed eggs and sandwiches but we also had a big dish of Chinese preparation. Imagine a big dish such as you would see cake in filled with piping hot bean sauce and long strips of bamboo then concaved—like noodles, the whole cooked tender and seasoned with salt and pepper. Well—go me step further and imagine us going out to buy a bunch of chopsticks to eat them with!!! THAT’S THAT—or did. It is only the second time I have eaten with chopsticks, but I got along very well even if not gracefully.

Sunday night— I am so lazy! I haven’t written any to-day!!! Dr. and I went to church this morning and that takes the whole morning. The afternoon I went sound asleep when I lay down and didn’t get up until 3:30. Then I picked flowers and had tea and then I came home from the county story and Mr. and Mrs. Jones called—and it was supper time! After supper I played for an hour, then we told to him the thing hypodermic—and the day is nearly gone!!!

To-morrow some Chinese women are coming to call—and then for the next three days there is a Sunday School Institute which we must attend.
Let me see, we returned from Kou-khi on Monday last—coming by chair and small boat instead of the grounded launch. After an hour or two at Chou-yang we started for the Swatow launch—E was on his bicycle—but he didn't arrive, and didn't arrive after I had reached the launch. Well, I persuaded the captain to wait for a few minutes, but as E was nowhere in sight—I was worried and thought I had better not go. I got off the launch (it was the last boat to Swatow)—thinking that E would come along and we should go on a small boat, but he didn't come and didn't come, and so finally fearing that he might have had an accident to his bicycle possibly to himself, I went back to the shore—only to find that he had gone.

This was his experience.

He found a furniture just about as he was to start for the launch. He didn't get it repaired until 4:30—the time for the launch to start. He had to choose between coming to take a small boat, and trying on contre jour path over the mountains which would get him to Swatow in less than three hours. Well I had thought he would not do this last, because he did not know the way, but he insisted on going. He started off to take him or rather it got with him as far as the road was difficult, and this he had done. So that Ellison arrived in Swatow a little after 7:10 only to find that I had gone back to find them at Chou-yang. He was as disappointed as I was. But luckily the was the one to be in Swatow for he had a lot of business to do and what very little this trip.

For see, my chair has to start before his bicycle and that is why I didn't know about the furniture. Well, Good night for now—

Monday July 10:00

I thought we were going to have nice sunlight today, but the rain is coming in now and I shall have to bring in the bedding from the porch.
Thank you, mother, for the Transcript and Times
and for your good letter. I am so glad that you
could go to Springfield and enjoy the nice banquet.
I believe we have had one or two banquets there
too, while I was at college.

What a big snow storm you must have had in the
middle of February!!! You must have been tired
after that long trip from Springfield to Bridgewater,
Mother. So sorry that Tom was sick!

Thank you, Mother, for all your nice letters.
Don’t worry about me, for there has been so
much and had so much company that I
haven’t had much time to be lonely. Everybody
has been very kind to us. And you will not
be disappointed that I think it wise not to
come home. It would cost us too. But I
wouldn’t think of that (provided I could get it) — if
I thought it might be nice to come now.
I shall try to read those poems of Lowell’s which
you mentioned! Have you enough books? We
have so many that I feel selfish.

Do let me know more in detail about
Nannie Sherburne, please. It is too bad.

Why are you not going to lectures this year?
Is it the expense? How much are they? Please
let me know.

Have a chance to send this
at once and so will —

With very much love

Lottie

Dear Munsell, Did you receive my long detailed
letter written in bed — perhaps Dec. 10, 12, or sometime
along there? Please let me know.

Lottie.
Mrs. Noll says she doesn't like my letters. Will you see that she sees this one. Even though it is rather dry.

Subject: B.F. Return to Xinan, Kox Khi

By order of, 24th March. March 17, 1916

Dear One,

Look at the address. I am at a chapel sitting in a little side room (which Miss Tracer and I are using as a bedroom). Just now I am listening to several students reciting some truths to me. They recite four pages in this and I think it would tax my memory to do it as well as they do.

It is my first experience of sitting up and I am enjoying it much although the weather is rather damp and unpleasant. It rained last night and I am to be thankful it has not to-day.

Well, to go back. I had a comfortable trip from Hong Kong, meeting a girl from Smith College '03 and having a very pleasant time with her at my cabin-mate. I also took her on a tour with me at Kakashish on Saturday. I hurried to two foreign cities there and then set out for home. Ellison surprised me by coming down to the first station to meet me. He certainly was glad to see me back, and he said it would be harder than ever to leave me alone in the future, because he realizes more how necessary it is. And then, we hope that the Bakers will be back this fall, and that will be so nice.

I haven't yet heard a word about a room at Mohanashar for the summer, but I hope to hear soon.

I feel so much better than I did a month ago. I actually wanted to write in to Church with Ellison and back again, and it is a long walk. To find I am slowly improving in understanding the conversation and that helps a lot.

In the evening Ellison played violin and I played the alto and voices higher than it is written, and we both enjoyed very much indeed
There is something very pleasing in harmony. I never saw him enjoy an evening's playing so much as this.

Thursday and Tuesday except for a call on Mrs. James, I spent in unpacking and putting away, straightening accounts, washing my hair, and making lace and things that I did not dare give the boy, and packing up again to leave on Wednesday for their trip, which has been full of delays.

I'll listen to the classes a little more. They half change their lessons and it is very odd to hear.

Troll as to the delays. My chair came late; the road was crowded; the train was late, and the boat as soon as possible. So that we lost the noon boat and failed to take the 1:30 boat.

I found Mrs. Teacher recovering as well from her operation. That all was helping her husband operate. Mrs. Orrin is still laid up with a sprained ankle, and it is very long for her.

By the way, Mrs. Teller says she's in very good condition again.

I have to leave on the 10:30 P.M. boat on Thursday for New River. That we eat and waited over an hour for it and when it came it was so crowded - and the dock - that I could not see what the boat looked like until at our journeys end we got off on a small boat and pulled away from it.

Here again we had to wait for an hour for my chairmen to come - and then started the three hour walk to this station. Three friends, Miss Evans, Dr. Gresbeck, and Mr. Lewis. Dr. Lewis came along with us. By the way we were all speculated again last night as there is small pox around here.

You may be interested to hear what happens at a time like this.

On the morning the women visit the city, or nearby villages - and in the afternoon the men visit. In the evening, the men teach, and in the P.M. the women. Dr. is here all day to vaccinate,
and to inoculate for plague, and treat other cases.

The patients are quiet in the hospital and the doctors cry and the mothers and fathers try to quiet them or to chaste them while the hospital work is going on.

In the evening there is a good deal of singing, a stereopticon exhibit, and a preaching service.

It is all most interesting to us and to the Chinese too by the way they come around and look at our things and ourselves!!!

Saturday-

To-day, again, it is half raining and half dry, but we called just the same. The men have had to give up their long bicycle trip to nearby villages and call for natives to help.

This morning I went to a village where they make pottery. It is extremely interesting to see the clay shaped into such perfect bowls and things by a skilled and a hand. I don’t know when I have seen anything so wonderful.

I think the streets here are the dirtiest I have ever walked on. Evidently, when the dirt is mostly in the drains at the side of the street, the city or village is most progressive, for here there is no attempt to clean the narrow streets.

You know, of course, that there are no sidewalks.

The houses, too, look different from others I have been in, for the walls are all smoky black from burning something other than charcoal—mostly sweet potato roots and ones I think. Inside, the big smoky room one will see perhaps, a big pile of sweet potatoes (enough to make two or three bowls). And another pile of dried roots reaching to the ceiling. Almost always, contrary to custom in other places where I have been, I find a pig pen inside the house—and next to that a chicken pen, just above the pig pen. One sees all these details after several minutes. For it is too dark to distinguish things at first, and one is likely to step on the chickens.
Almost every house has a loom to make cloth, and I some of the people let Miss Travers and me try it. The weaving was comparatively simple, but the preparation of the threads must be a long task.

Don't you wish you could look into those houses with me? I wish you could, but it is hard not to understand or be able to talk.

There seems a good deal of interest in the meetings and among the women. I think at least there will be baptized. There is a big Roman Catholic mission here, but I'm not sure how many to run it— all alone here. Don't that hard?

I saw heaps of people who was too busy to come see the doctor this morning—but although there is a crowd of ten or twelve waiting most of the time, these people whom we see are slow to approach. I don't know whether they fear or are merely apathetic. There was one child with an infected foot, a woman with continual bad headaches, a woman severe with baldness, an old woman suffering from a cold, etc., etc. They seem gone without doctor's care for so long that they don't know from necessary it is. And then they fear, too, but it may cost something.

Well, I am tired out again I guess. I could write more, but much of it is too long to put on paper. Miss Travers is very busy minute—just now she is fetching up a quadrille between dictators. In two or three minutes ago she was trying to use her influence against the immediate marriage of a girl 17 and a boy 16.

Lord by golly, with much love,

Ruthie

Texas—Errett came by May 24th, 1916 for 7th High St. Rockport missionary meeting.
Dear Ones,

It is evening, and can you guess where I am? Ellison and I are sitting on the porch with a big wind blowing. The camp is on the lamp cage (a little glass house on a table) beside us. We simply can't stand it in the house because the mosquitoes are so bad. For two evenings now we have gone to bed right after supper and read in bed, because that was the only place we could be comfortable.

I did not remember the lamp cage and the porch then. We didn't get into bed until about 8:30. I guess because on had late supper both nights. But here is quite comfortable as long as there is wind and that is almost always. But at supper time I feel my feet tapping all the time and even then get bitter.

We are going to make tabs to put our feet in.

Lately I have had so much sewing to do that I have not had much spare time. The two dresses you sent last summer were supposed to be all finished nicely for me by the tailor, but I have had to take both of them after at the waist line and put an inside belt on and re-gather: and I have had to change collar and cuffs on one of them. My! I am glad to have them to put on too.

Now I have to change two more dresses, and do lots of little odd jobs.

My house cleaning is nearly done. The windows in one room are still to be done and the shutters and porch figure not been worked. These last two however, I think I will not wait until summer when we are busy.

This must be all very uninteresting to the male members of the family.

Well to-day we began our graded Sunday School work and I taught eleven pupils about the creation. It seemed so odd to translate perfectly harmless English expressions into common every day Chinese that seemed to
cheaper the meaning. I can't make you see what I mean. But what sounded perfectly all right in English seemed almost sacreligious to me in Chinese.

We have had quite a lot of trouble with this little school in the last week or two. I think Ellison will write about it in full and so I'll not waste time.

I went to Swatow last Monday. I had the teacher (Chinese) stay with me here over night while I was away. She is a very nice girl. We bought Miss Sullivan back with him on Tuesday and she stayed until Wednesday. We hoped she would come back this week and but she couldn't.

Ellison has been out visiting a good deal this week but has been only one day so far away that he should not come home for dinner.

We went to the other side for tennis on Thursday and had a good game.

The goats were in our garden again yesterday. Poor garden. Very few of the weeds have done much this spring. How much is due to the coolness lack of experience with foreign vegetables I don't know.

We have word that a room has been secured for us at Nanking. Our plans are not definite, but probably we shall have to leave late in June and Ellison will not be able to come until late in July. Isn't that too bad?

Don't change mailing address without special word from the pleace. Continue to address at Swatow and we'll let you know if we want address changed later. If you, however, had important letter
That should reach me. Send it to W.T. Beaman, Shanghai, with "Please forward" on it.

I haven't had time to look over all the letters and answer special questions, but have been very glad to get the special letters and the information from Papa and Germaine's Almanac from Aunt Edie.

Hope you are all well and that weather is much better now.

This is May Day! What a grand time we children used to have!

I hope Father Benjamin is much stronger by now. So sorry he is ill.

I am sending to Aunt Cele time tables (in pamphlet form for students) and some German papers that have come here addressed to Mr. Kemp. This seems to be the kind of literature Germany is scattering. Isn't it awful?

Cook is waiting for letters. So good by with very much love to each one.

Lottie.

Does Carol want to go to Dfield? Please answer.

Love.
Had nice letter from Elta. So glad to hear.
So glad to see snap shots of her children, and all of Jennie & Dana. Fine!
Dear Ones,

I wish you could see the lovely view as I sit here on the porch dressed in the pretty white dress that Ruth sent me last summer.

I can see twenty boats with wide sails set, turning a bend in the river. Way off at the horizon are hazy blue mountains, then flat plain with some trees; then the curving river all blue from the last light of the sun. I can't see the sun but just directly across the river the mountains are all in a hazy yellowlight just like the last light of fire.

By the river side the bamboo are bending as gracefully as actual plumes. They look so stiff and dry when we see them at home that I can never imagine them graceful but they really are. They bend over almost as much while they stand erect as they would if a fish were biting and pulling on the bamboo fish pole. And now they are all crowned with feathery green leaves.

The green rice fields spread out in the valley below this hill much as they do in the picture of the Thai Song valley.

Well today is Saturday. We had been expecting to have Mrs. Leecher and Melba here as well as Mrs. James and Dr. Ross and Miss Sollman, and so I planned to have a goose for dinner. Mrs. Leecher however for the second or third time failed to come. You see there get to be a lot of rumors around and they don't like to have women and children travel alone. It is the men who have the responsibility and they refuse to do so as they say. But we are disappointed that she can't come.

Tell Mrs. James (Mr. James is away) and Dr. Ross and Miss Sollman we were here, and we had a nice time and a good dinner, even though I couldn't make the alcohol lamp work for the coffee.
We had Goose soup, toasted bread.
Roast goose and dressing.
Apple sauce (dried apples).
Canned peas.
Roasted potatoes.
Apricot Charlotte.
Loganberry Shortcake with cream.

Coffee.

Now don't say that's too good for missionaries. For it's hard to get any meat but chicken, goose, or duck - and all the rest is canned stuff, except the potatoes! Oh, the cream came from the water buffalo which I call "our cow." Did you know that all the cream is pure white, not golden colored like home cream? We have one quart of milk a day, and that is enough to keep us in butter and to give us a little cream.

Food and scenery is about all I can write about when there is nothing doing. 

I have sent all the larger heavier Kmas presents to-day (Early! !) to Ruth Benson and have asked her to see to doing them up in separate packages and sending them for me. Am I not forehanded? I have kept here a dozen or two small things to send in envelopes.

They say now that there is a whole lot of fees in American customs. They are going to demand full list of all articles with wholesale and retail prices. It will be an awful lot of bother.

Sunday, May 7 - Evening.
Such a wind is blowing on the porch that we can't be comfortable there. It just blew a big rocker over - and so we have had to come inside and close the doors! Heat and mosquitoes are madly so that we shall probably go to bed very soon. Don't be afraid. And silly, they are not so bad in the winter.
when it is cool.

To-day came another fat envelope from Jennie containing Auntie's good letters and that wonderful appreciation letter shown by the letter from Miss Prendergast. I was certainly very happy - quite radiant over it. Hope you have told her enough of your preparation, Bette, so that she can judge for herself whether you could not fit in working only inoods. Another summer course would be of great help! Don't forget to mention that you of college for that means a good deal in teaching in college.

Monday. The high wind still continues. A haze has come over everything and I fear we are going to have some damp, wet weather now to take the place of this delightful weather we have been having.

I have studied all the text except when I have had to jump up to get a few directions. After tea I am to take the school teacher over to Dr. Roe's to get some books for her. She has not been very well for a year. This is the teacher in the school below here where I go to Sunday School. A nice package of papers has come from Papa.

Thank you.

P.S. Allen St. Notice her look? There was talk about it in this last postal.

Ellison is making a porch table and we are trying to think of some scheme for which I could use an old bed not on the porch and so be comfortable to sit in the sun and write or read evenings.

How lovely to have a vacuum cleaner. What a saving in summer! Mr. Barnett I really don't have to retail time to read the letters usually. Strange as it may seem - you see there is absolutely nothing to do here but our work with an occasional visit to the other side town. Music and reading; no movies - no lectures - no concerts - no calling except between two of our families and two unmarried girls. So leisure is not as much a premium as it used to be.
So glad you heard Dr. Nordick.

Hope Pearl's little girl is all well.

Tired that Auntie Abe is fine and strong by now!

Her letters are it Ruth is to visit and with whom this summer.

The pictures of Jennie and Dana were fine - a natural as life! They are enclosed in Della's letter and so I wonder if I should return them or if they got them by mistake. Please let me know if they should be returned.

Did you think to count up how much money the men who was gambling at his fun cost would get.

Just sit down and add for fun. It is surprising!

It certainly imposed upon you.

Ruth's train journey with college graduate very interesting - also her account of the big meeting.

Soglad it went off well. So proud of Ruth.

What bedroom closet is it, mother, that you were talking of finishing? in letter of Mar. 26?

So glad to see Marion's birthday letter to mother. But mother you are only 57 aren't you?

Marion dear, What is the ear phone like?

What is your invention John?

Eugenie wedding pretty!

Love to all.

Ruth dear, what kind of talk in China did you give and what did you say?

Remember what I say applies only to a small portion of South China. It is as if I lived in a little part of Florida or Porto Rico - and you know how much that differs from Rockport.

Could refer you to some interesting truths if you need some day.
Dear One,

I just couldn’t make myself do anything this evening, so I just played the organ for fifteen minutes and thought of you all. How I would like to drop in only for fifteen minutes and see that you are all well. I hope that you all are well.

We are having beautiful weather. It has not been very warm except a few days several weeks ago and these last two days. Even now there is a good breeze from the South.

I was so glad that I stayed a day longer at Chao-yang for the sun came out and it made the beautiful garden glisten. I could see the green of the rice fields and the beautiful mountains. And then I had a nice chance to talk with Dr. Asher. She showed me some beautiful lace—hand made—that one can buy in Amoy and pongsies from Taipai. Mrs. Truscott showed me how to crochet a rose—and so I felt that I spent a very profitable day.

We left there at 8:30, took the long chair ride thru the big city—along the canal, past numerous beggars to the boat. We found a nice box to sit down in, a little box of a lookout and read and talked all the way to Swatow where we took a little boat across the bay. I was just a little bit late for my 11:30 check in English. There they read and all. When they come to a word they do not know I look it up in a small English-Chinese dictionary which I have. Sometimes I find it, but very often I do not. There is absolutely no equivalent for some of our English words. I tried to explain the word happen yesterday. They use several expressions such as “it” which means have or “go” which means meet, or “it” which has a combination meaning of can and is, but not one of them gives the idea of happen.

Ruth—you may be interested to know that I saw...
on the white dress which Jennie helped me pick out in Albany, and which I wore for six days and then turned over to you and then received again. It is very comfortable for afternoon here. Except that I think I shall cut out the neck.

We have begun the course of study for the second six months. This week I have been studying only in the mornings because I wanted to pack away any clothing and do a little straightening around in dusty corners. As you can see, I did the entire washing and ironing as the Phi Chi took his little lunch back to the hospital to keep the bone of his ulna cuticle hole scraped. It is very painful!

Poor woman! The tears came to her eyes as she told me about it. There is some hope that he can walk after the operation. He has not walked for a long time now.

Well, I must go dress for we are going out to dinner & Shriners Banquet this evening. Elgin is playing tenor with Mr. Parker, but it was so late when they started that I decided not to go. We got all ready for a thunderstorm that seemed approaching, but it went off as many as them do here! Did I tell you that there was a very heavy storm at Chagrin last Saturday night? The sky was bright for nearly two hours. The thunder does not seem so terrific, however, as it does at Lane's Inn.

Good by for now.

Saturday A.M.

I suppose you would like to know what we are studying for this half year. We are to read the rest of the Gospel of Mark, and a little story book called the "Bible of Day," the second volume of the character primer that we used last half year, and a grammar written by old Dr. LeFlour. Then I have to write letters by dictation of the forms and learn a few more radicals as well as read a book and study the geography of our mission field.
We have had beautiful weather all the week, but today is rainy so that I can not go out, and put away summer clothes as I had planned to do.

When we came back from Chooyang I found a letter from Ruth, George and John, and letters from Mother and a beautiful copy of reproductions of Altman collections of pictures (from Metropolitan Museum) in the New York Sunday Times. Some are in colors and some in beautiful soft browns. They are beautiful enough to frame. Mr. Bliss sent them. Wasn't he good? It was also good to see the New York Times itself! They also sent a copy of the Montclair Times and some fashion plates.

Then we came home from Chooyang we found many roses. I picked up of Tuesday, 22, on Wednesday, and 24 on Thursday and about a dozen yesterday. I guess. Think I'll put all single roses too - not crimson roses.

The tailor is making Ellison some more white suits. I must have him make covers for our umbrellas too.

Then I've been cleaning out my desk drawers and came across quite a few letters which I had not yet thrown away - letters of Dec. 7, Jan., and have read them over with a good deal of interest. It is so good to have letters. They mean so much to us!

Have you the new stair carpet down yet?

Thank you George for mentioning paying Carol's tuition. It was good to hear.

Paddy, has the wrist watch gone back on you or will it still serve?

Have John or George sold any more motorcycles? Have your plan for trap shooting progressed any, George?
Has Laura Jane gone away yet?
Is our church going to have a new floor?

I suppose Eucett and Marion are out by now. How glad they must be!
Hope Delia and Charlie's colds are better.

Thank you, Ruth, for your good letter of April 5. Beth is very much better this winter they say. Can't imagine Dot forlornly engaged - but what fun she and Marjorie must have getting ready. What is her many business disorder.

Hope you will go to Adeline's wedding and have a pretty red dress. You can do it very fairly cheaply.

Yes, I love your print. We are going to have it framed.

I think you will enjoy our new year armony?

Are you well?

Amfully glad to get George's & John's letters.

Just a splendid week at home from Canton. What did you do all - that much end in Boston, John? It must have been lovely.

George, you must miss your dogs very much. I am photographing pictures which Beth sent me. It must have been nice to see the birds again. I was surprised to find that birds come back too. That automobile fire must have been wonderful.

Must get this RG at once. I will enclose stamps for Papa too.

Keeps I love to all.

Try to write to Glen Ridge every 2 or 3 days and so you need not send their letters now unless I ask specially.

Lr. Littie
Dear Ones All,

aren't these beautiful moonlight nights, and can Father yet sit out in the swing chair and read our messages or is it still too chilly? Here for about three week now, we have been having only summer weather. It has not been too hot and the nights have been very comfortable indeed. Since we have taken to eating on the porch and spending our evenings there, we are much more comfortable and do not mind the mosquitoes except on a night like last night when there is very little wind.

We have had so much company since last week that I have found little or no time either to sew or write. Luckily my clothes are nearly all ready for hot weather. The two dresses sent from home last summer, I have already enjoyed very much. They certainly have come in handy.

I tell, I suppose you want to know about the company I mentioned above. Miss Traver and Miss Smith (few last fall) came up on Tuesday last. Miss Smith to stay until Saturday and Miss Traver to stay until tomorrow when she goes over to the Eng. Presbyterian church to live with Miss Wells during the Sunday School Institute which is to occur next week unless some thing turns up to stop it. Mr. Waters came up also on last week Thursday for the night. So you see we have had our rooms full.

The first day (Miss Traver did not visit because she is just recovering from an illness) Ellison took Miss Smith to visit a big Buddhist Temple, and another day I took her to the top of the biggest hill near here, and to the oldest grave (a picture of which I sent in a letter to the Bartholomew's recently).

The other days they both visited, but I did not go with them until Saturday afternoon when Miss Traver went to the small village at the foot of the hill.

A good many people came to church Sunday as a result of her visiting.
I have been out with her this morning in the city. It is always interesting! At one place they had the prettiest little white rabbit I have ever seen. I think. At any rate it is the prettiest animal I have seen in China, where almost everything is dirty or sick or frightened to death. This same family had a little white mouse.

The visits this time seem almost bare of incident. I wonder if it is because I am getting so used to things.

As we went across the river, we stuck on the sand several times. The water is very low, and the grass on the hills is baked; the ponds are almost dry. This beautiful weather means hardship for the people I fear.

Tuesday, May 16.

We are having a rather surprising time with our salaries just now. Exchange has been so good at times that I have been able to get a Mexican dollar for 43 cents U.S. But now it is so high that it takes 54 U.S. to make a Mexican dollar. That means that we get $35.00 less Mexican money than we did last October. Think of that! Prices are all higher, and all food that we buy from Shanghai or America had very high freight rates.

So far as money is concerned, I am very sorry that I planned to go to Mohan Tsan this summer for board there is high. It will be $6.50 a day while it is new. Mr. Ber. Then our fares become well - if it all planned and we can't draw back very well. Don't be worried! We can manage.

We can have ice cream and strawberries at Mohanshan.

This week I have only two postals from mother. (very good yet) and so I am expecting a big mail today. The first Empress boats are in the Pacific again, and so that will mean better mail service.

We are having a few string beans, and I have managed to have some ears of corn out.
of our garden. It is too bad we haven't had more, but there have been many difficulties. I am trying to get my big home order ready - for Montgomery Ward & Co.

I am anxious to hear of Ruth's spring vacation. Does any one want to order items presents from China? If so, order early

We had a lot of cleaning Mother has done preparing for Ruth's vacation.

Hope George found work.

Sorry Marion had rheumatisms and you certainly hope it is all gone. Where did you have it treated? Was it painful? Did you have any fever? So sorry!

How about Allen Street House?

Glad so many were baptized.

Must write something like now. I feel quite rested.

It is almost impossible to write evening, for one must sit in the wind if one does not want to be eaten alive by moosquitoes and imagine how it would be sitting in Newland's Head writing. It is hard to gather one's things together in the first place and then they blow so, that it is next to impossible. So please forgive if I write my evening - I study Revelation which is sad at moment. Hymn in Chinese. It is hard - and then I read - or write a little or walk the fence - but I do nothing for more than fifteen or twenty minutes at a time.

We had rain to-day first time in a long while, and I am glad for the crops.
Miss Travers went to-day, but Mr. Waters has come back. For the next three days I am Sunday School Institute and I play organ mornings.

Much love to each one. I shall think of you and send messages all summer long.

Don't worry about us even if you see the name of our city in the papers, for we are perfectly safe in our position.

I am sending some films of the hills and our house, and Bakers to Hongkong to be sent from there to Bridgewater. They are panoramic views and take in the South front view of our house.

On one will be the river and bamboo clumps and rice fields - and in the other the overhanging grave covered hills with the little pond at their foot. It is too bad to send films as they do not keep well here and we can get only those glazed prints.

Love again to each one.

Lottie

From Bridgewater the films could be sent home.

I imagine I shall want to order a copy of each to be sent to Mr. Bartholomew for his next birthday next March.

L.
Dear One,

Well, warm weather is almost upon us. We have put on light weight underwear and I am wearing linens or cotton clothes while E is wearing khaki. We still keep on two or three blankets at night however for the weather is changeable even in a night. We have had some rain during the last week and that seems good, but we have been unable to depend upon any day as entirely good.

I believe it was on Monday that I received good envelopes from Rockport, Putzio and Atica and a pile of newspapers (gilded from White) and magazines. The cook brought a flower each half-pint. There was a book from Shanghai and a Montgomery Ward catalog besides a whole lot of advertising stuff. My how glad we are to see a pile of mail!

Ellison and I have spent some time on the flowers this week. We have several pots of crotons - a bright leaved plant. They are becoming root bound and so we took them from the pots, made some cuttings and then planted them in the earth. They will do much better I think. We have had two beautiful pots of murrays and now we just wish to hold them as narciscus or something of that kind. The roses are lovely most of the time. Ellison picks them every morning and take care of them on the ground floor. I take care of them upstairs. That means that we arrange them to our own taste.

Changes are just about gone. By the way we have some beautiful orange flowers on a tree in the yard. Our pears are ripening slowly. They are something like apple but plums. But if different consistency. The pluots are green on the tree. We have at least a dozen mulberries, but our fig tree is almost killed by the flies.

You see to what I am driven for lack of news.

Chaochow, China
April 20, 1916.
Monday April 24.

I shall have to take back that statement about using blankets at night. One is the limit now.

Yella Ellison started for Java this morning to go one night probably, and the reason for this going I heard and wrote in full in a letter to the Belduths which I wrote last night for him, as he was busy making preparations.

There is a threatened scandal at the school at the foot of the hill concerned with the girl who comes to sew for me once in a while. There is no need of my writing any more there is in the Holyoke letters.

Now there is another interesting bit of news that happened to the teacher then she went home to her husband. It seems that he has gone to Singapore to do business there. But before he left, he fell into a quarrel with his younger brother. The older brother asked the younger for his share of money towards supporting the old grandmother, and the younger brother replied that the older brother already owed him money for the Chinese business in which he had failed during the previous year. This younger brother tried to take out his wrath on his wife when she went home, and so on Sunday noon when she was in the church afoul, he entered and beat her and kicked her very badly.

So goes life in China! And there are supposed to be fairly enlightened people! Wife beating is a very common occurrence. I guess, and a young wife has to stand it much more than her husband.

Yesterday was Easter Sunday, but they take practically no notice of it here. Went some flowers over to the City chapel (I went to church on this side), but I don't suppose they had any idea why the flowers were there.
Perhaps you have heard by now of the sad news of Eugene's death which came to me Friday. I take it that she died about the middle of March from septiemetamy. She was sick about a month. Her life was so steadfast in faith that I feel it would be a sacrilege to allow myself the privlege of grieving for her, but I don't feel right in grieving for that mother who has lost one after the other her first husband and all the five children.

It seems strange, too, that two of Eugene's best friends have lost their baby girls as we lost ours and very soon after us. It was the second child in the case of Raymond Stowell, but the first in the case of Howard Newton who married a Bridgewater girl. Perhaps you remember that E was his best man at the wedding and that I was there too.

You remember perhaps—now, for one of this in the other letter.

The matter is very moist and everything in the house is molding including the table cover.

Yesterday our Chinese friend (graduated at high school) was here for dinner. He had very well—mannered, but not entirely at home with a knife and fork when it came to cutting a rather tough chicken.

Mr. and Mrs. James and Miss Fish called on Saturday, and Ellison and I were over at their compound on Thursday. The baby is growing well, but the cage boy is having a hard time with food. We have not heard from him since Dr. Newman was here.

Mary Robert is here. Mrs. Fischer made that long way's trip fairly soon now.

We hear that the rebellion is spreading north and that Peking can do practically nothing. Japan
is killing out in every possible way and is allowing sending in ammunition and guns
without pay! That looks dangerous.

Mrs. James gets a piece of meat for us at Swallow every week and that helps
us out wonderfully in our menu. I don't know what we'd do without it. And
if you want to know how good roast buffalo
takes, just go without any meat except chicken,
or goose, or duck for several weeks!!!

And big fat envelope from the Railroadmen
this week, as well as the nice one from Rockport.

Congratulations, Dad on your prediction. I
hope it will be true this year. That's a tedious
journey home in that snow-storm! My!
I wish we got a good deal to see it. We have
not even a frost here!

Glad Rachel could come home for a little
visit.

Mother, do you have to give an item of interest
on music at every meeting, or not?

Do you find eggs in that liquored that keeps
them, until summer, now or not?

Glad to hear from Carol and George too, and
to see John's card.

Wish a vacuum cleaner be nice!! Birthday.

Hope Ruth had a nice vacation.

I made some Brownies the other day. Carol-
and they were great!

Have one shoe off now. Everyone else gets
shoes and then both in this hot matter and
it is not very comfortable. When I come home
I shall have such big feet and much
big warts line (Don't have 1seeds in warm matter)
that you will all be ashamed of me!!

Awfully sorry that George has been ill, wish
so much. It certainly is hard luck! Haven't
Dear Ones,

There is a fire in the stove and it would not be quite comfortable without it on this April Day. Today it is clear enough so that I have had the house washed, but it is still cloudy and damp. We really have had very little sun for a month now. I hope all the members of my big family are feeling well now. I hate to think of you as sick.

Friday, April 7, 1916. Evening.

Ellise is reading Irandou and I hearing bits of it am recalling all its exciting events. Our Chinese cat keeps up howling all the time and it is very annoying almost as bad as having the rat. Almost all Chinese cats seem to be built that way—like spoiled children they cry when they want anything. The cook towsh the gives the cat all she needs to eat, but I am tempted to believe it sometimes until I see her dish half full. The cats and here eat rice and fish. We have so little milk these days that I have not tried to all whether he will eat it or not.

We were expecting Mrs. Leakey to come up yesterday or to-day, but as the Finance committee stated she was going to attend at Kakechick did not meet. She decided not to come until it holds its meeting.

Mrs. Campbell (who is starting for home and Mrs. Cushing sister "also"... after a winter's rest) came in unexpectedly yesterday about 4:30 and so we had a pleasant visit with them until after dinner. Then E. and I accompanied them down to their boat by the river where Mr. Campbell was waiting for them. Mr. Campbell says he is waiting for them. Mr. Campbell—yes, then a stroke of luck for the fall and so they are going home sooner to return as expected. It seems sad. Mr. Campbell is in fairly good condition now, but could not get there and the summer here.
I have invited Mr. Cheng, the chinaman
who studied at Lehigh University (where some of my older
buddies were studying) to come here for dinner
the morrow, and we are to have goose and
apple sauce!!!

The revolution, I suppose is going on, but we
don't hear anything of it and Stiikhy are just as
equal. Hope there will be nothing in the papers to
alarm you.

I have been studying all the mornings except one
this week. I am hoping to have them begin graded
Sunday School work next week at the little Sunday School
at the foot of the hill. So I prepare the S's lesson from
English into Chinese. This next week, the teacher will
come to me on Wednesday and we will talk it over. Then
she will teach it.

In the afternoons, I rest, read, work for a short time, then I
mend, or sew, or prepare orders, or write up or put things
away, or do general housekeeping until time
for tea. Then maybe work some more, or
go out to inspect gardening and servants' quarters.
Or go to walk— or over to see my James.

We have played violin and piano several
evenings this week and enjoyed it much. Alice
Ellison helps my rusty technique.

I have had the sewing girl here for a day
mending stockings, bed sheets, etc.

Ellison has been re-reading Ivanhoe and
we have enjoyed it ever so much. For she brings
the copy to tell and we talk it over a little.

I am so glad that Mr. Stoddard has come
to Rockport and is interesting the people.
It is a great privilege to have him visit us.
When Orange was near Glen Ridge Mother
lived there in several of the orange— there
were So. O. & East O. leaders etc.

So sorry to hear of Mrs. Hymaner's death.
It must be very lonely for her. David
What was the matter with her— shock or what?
Dear Ones,

It is evening with a beautiful moon. I have sent my messages and also received them from Army White. Moon this PM was visible at 6:00 PM. Ellison is out trying to catch all the June bugs that are eating his beautiful rose. This is evidently the time for the June bugs to come around for I ran against several when I was out about 2:00 PM. They are as blind and clumsy as bats as you probably know. They go whizzing thru the air like a flying machine and I found one in my newly washed hair with both hands as I ran to the Bakey yard to find Ellenson. I was afraid they would get knoelled in and cause me health trouble. Ellison has been out more than half an hour now, and he must be finding a great number.

Well that must seem like a strange occupation to you people in U.S. We came in at 8:50 - having been out killing them for just about an hour!!

We have had one perfectly beautiful day - the first for a long time - and although the temperature in the house has not been very high above 70 - perhaps 75 - it was felt like quite a warm summer day at home. The sky was run deep blue and filled with feacy clouds - and the hills and high mountains have been too beautiful for words.

Tell you promise not to laugh if I tell you how I am protecting my ankles - the vulnerable spot. Ellison has some old cloth made into shoe bags to travel. They are big enough for me to put my foot in, shoe and all and draw them up sufficiently high for a splendid protection. James happy as can be over the discovery for my ankles are usually encircled with a rub anklet of bites by Red Time.
What's the news? - Nothing to speak of.

Canton they say revolted about a week ago and so the Cantonese people are beginning to open their shops again - not fearing interference from Kuking so long as they have Canton to deal with.

Our Chinese friend, Mr. Chang (who studied in America) could not come for dinner last Sunday as he was called away on a few days' business, we hope to have him here some other time, however.

The boat on which Dr. Bacon was going home went aground whilst entering Hong Kong harbor. (Hope no mail was lost.) She had found difficulty getting passage on another steamer and hopes to go home with the Campbells, sat in Ellisien is now re-reading "A Tale of Two Cities."

How has the boy gone? Why I need and missed on the machine most of the morning. Made myself a night garm and patched El's trousers. Talked to the hanging girl the sewing on the Christmas presents. And I can't tell you what they are either.

We entertained an Englishman of the American Tobacco Co. last night. He was in the city for the first time and is starting out on a three or four month's trip. I don't envy him - with his old cigarettes. It is awful to see baby children and women smoking as they do. He had a rain storm today to break our three day's sunshine.

Yesterday after 5:00 PM we played tennis on the other side of the river. I wish there were something to write about - but things are deadly dull - stock - letter.
March 31, 1916

Dear Ones All,

I am sitting at such a neat, clean desk in such a neat, clean room that I hardly know myself. We had one grand cleaning yesterday—scrubbed the high walls and ceiling with a feather duster, dusted behind the pictures, washed the white painted Venetian shutters, washed the windows, took the big rug out, and all the furniture, put furniture polish on plants and desk. Still you it is worth while to house-clean like that just to get the fresh smell and the tidy look that one enjoys afterwards.

Ellen also cooperated and made his study equally neat except that we have not had paint and windows washed there yet.

In the afternoon we had the Presbyterians over for tea. Only three of them could come, but Mr. and Mrs. James came over later and we had a real nice tea, and talk and sing.

Did you tell me that we are having a revolution in So-China? It seems so absurd and minute—I of course knew that the south does not like Yuan Shi Kai, and that the North had things pretty well their own way, but our people seemed so philosophical that it seemed on the surface that they did not care whether U.S.K. was President or Emperor. But on Monday we found that a hundred soldiers, perhaps a thousand or more, had come up to the city and asked to be quartered. The officials as the story goes started to make arrangements for them, when the State Peterson of the yamen and declared the city independent. The city gates were closed and nobody was allowed to go in or out for two or three days. There was a rumor that the revolutionary soldiers met the imperial soldiers about 3 miles from the city but that most of the imperial soldiers were secretly for the revolution and so very little was done actually beyond the death of the leader of the imperial soldiers. There has been actually nothing to be afraid of. They say even if this should be trouble among the Chinese that there is a strong desire in both parties to protect foreigners and foreign property. I hope there are not wild rumors in the papers to frighten you. I have not concealed anything but have told you about it just as it is. We expect to go over to the Jambu's to play tennis and have tea this O'N. Oh, I forgot to say that Cheongyang and Nitjang
according to hearsay, have declared themselves independent--also Nanjing--in fact I suppose most all of the big cities. I don't know about Suuen yet or Canton. Poor old emperor! But perhaps he'll be better off with a smaller territory to control.

Ellison will probably write more in detail as he gets all the news from the Chinese and try to get only the big things.

He says gone to a funeral of one of the Christians To-day, at least this is the preliminary ceremony of putting the body in the coffin.

My servant and cookie are cleaning the guest room thoroughly to-day. Really it is an awful job as the doors are so high that I can barely reach the top when I stand on a ten-step ladder or two-step jack ladder. I hardly know what to call it. The white paint needs a good deal of scrubbing too--five doors and two windows in the room and bath-room together. It has not been cleaned for over a year!

Dr. Newman could not get away on Sunday as he had planned, so there was no train, but he got down by chair on Tuesday by paying an exorbitant rate.

As our teacher could not come out on account of the closed gates, Ellison has taken the opportunity to write many long neglected letters, and I have written some 20 and done house cleaning, and mending, and all sorts of odd jobs.

The price of rice has gone up 20%. This is hard on the poor people.

A proclamation has been issued that the city gates will now close every day from 10:00 until 7:00 for business. The Post Office is open and I imagine the train is running again.

Bill at 7 now--with very much love for everyone.

Lottie.
Dear Ones,

Well, the mosquitoes are dying off a little, and Miss Rollman and Miss Cybley who have been here to-day say that they have been very bad indeed at Kachchh, this year and that is unprecedented; furthermore we have just ordered a fifty-foot roll of wire screening which will screen our bath-room and bedrooms or make us a large mosquito house for the porch as we prefer. So imagine us quite happy over the prospect.

It is Saturday night and I can imagine you all—so you will be when it is Sunday morning here. Oh, I was so pleased with the letters this week—especially Ruth's which told me so many intimate details of the home.

Well, I'll speak of the letters later—except I must say right now I do hope Marion's rheumatism is better. I can't bear to think of her suffering from it. "Be careful of exposure" is a maxim that people subject to rheumatism must be very careful about—\(I\) believe, since Mother Bartholomew's awful experience. Such nice letters from David Cele and Marion this week too!!

Ellen has just finished typing our annual Montgomery Ward order. She has been working at it all day; minutes most of the week. It is really quite a job to buy even from a catalog!!

Sunday.

I told you, I think, that we had our supper on the porch every night. Here in the highlands the 6th is our last evening to get out working but I simply couldn't accomplish anything because so many bugs came attracted by the light. Just in the 'Throwdown': Mother B. goes to bed and then
I just sat and watched them. It was mightily interesting. There was a one-legged grasshopper that kept jumping up from the table toward the side of the house. There were great black baths, countless bugs like squacky bees, flies, and moths of all kinds. There was one particularly beautiful large moth that had red and brown and black, and the grasshopper delighted in disturbing it. That night there was so little wind that we didn't need the lamp, but kept the light on the table outdoors without any disturbance.

Not to tell you, mother, how useful a former present from you has been. Long long ago you gave me a dainty luncheon set consisting of a tablecloth, napkins, and plates. Well, when we first started to eat outside on the big table which Ellin had made, I had no tablecloth which fitted nicely except my very best. Although I did not want to use that one, I did want a nice-looking one for me and company. So I finally got out this cotton crepe paper set and found a tablecloth just the right size. We tacked it on and used it at supper for two weeks or more with great pleasure. And it did look pretty and cheerful. I was very grateful for it.

Another incident that goes to prove that everything I brought to China has been of great use. It is surprising to see how necessary some of the things are that I hesitated about bringing.

Well--4 years now I shall try to be living in America about this time. And if I don't know more Chinese than I know now, I shall be ashamed. It is hard for me to get hold of this back-handed way of saying things. And I like to use an English order I wrote. For instance, if they want to eat there, many kinds of birds and fish, yellow, blue, etc., The Chinese say, "Birds and fish. Red color have fish, yellow more have blue more have." It is hard to learn.
The other night Ellieson killed a great big centipede in our room. It was four or five inches long. Our teacher says that the bite of the centipede is not poisonous. All you have to do is to hold a chicken's body near the bite, and then it gets better.

Then had the servants take up the matting in the big bedroom and it seems quite bare now. Soon will have the curtains all washed and then after a few other tasks are done, we shall be ready for the summer. Mrs. James goes for Thanksgiving Wednesday June 1. She will be in their new house this year.

At prayer-meeting for two weeks now they have asked me to pray, and it is awful in mind!

Had the school come up for gymnastics on Friday, but I am awfully weak in it. Wish I had had Ruth's training.

The school teacher is an awfully nice girl and she has slept here twice—had each time then found fleas in the house after she has gone and so I don't want her to come again.

When Ellieson ails in the school those few nights we aired all his bedding and he changed his clothes and took a bath immediately upon his return.

What the Chinese suffer from bugs of all kinds would drive us wild I suppose.

Ellieson has made a tough cupboard (out of box) to put my mending in. That will be a great help.

Then I see how my mending keeps ahead of me. I wonder how Maude and Della can do anything else except mend.

Mrs. Waters' flattered me greatly the other day by picking up Carol's picture and saying that it might belong to me. **&**. Don't feel too badly, Carol.

I am anxious to hear if the Christmas box arrived safely and if the duty was very high.
Tomorrow is Memorial Day and I suppose that Ruth and Carol will be especially happy. Glad Mother has so many flowers.

It was so nice that Aunt Bla, Della and Ruth went to see Dr. Franklin and Mrs. Safford. Dr. Franklin is a peach. And I am more glad that you saw the panorama of Cape. I saw it before we left but I didn’t realize that our house was in it, and so I didn’t notice! Aren’t our views beautiful and isn’t the entrance to the house pretty!!! Which should see those pictures!

I am sorry that you were worried about us; of course it was natural but still there was nothing to worry about, and there doesn’t seem to be any indication of any trouble. I’ll tell you, I should try to consider that all was well, even the name of our city does get into the paper— for the spirit of the people seems so good— and we are far removed from the city, and we have a coolness near— and he would call us in at any fear of disturbance.

Yes, the Canton trip made a new woman of me and I have felt fine ever since.

My letters really are not fit for other people to read.

I am so sorry to hear that Marion’s rheumatism has hung on so long and I was to hear that it has gone. In the next letter. How Mother’s mammy is all gone? And does Della still feel twinges of rheumatism— and does Della ever feel neuralgia these days?

E’s school does not require much of this time. He preaches overlooks it and the teacher teaches. He hopes it will be permanent.

Dr. Newmann was a long history here in China and it really is too full to tell in detail— but people hope the mill settle down now in this district and make good. I urge athletics to write bit if you are interested.