Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Ellen and I came down from the mountain on Monday. That night the cookies dropped my bedding basket into the river, and so everything was soaked. We had no sooner got onto a big boat than a big storm came up, and the rain leaked in at the windows. It was of course very hot and close in a shut-up boat. Other things got wet too. We finally were fairly comfortable and we spread out Ellen's bed which is quite large and escaped from mosquitoes by getting under the net, but we found a malareal mosquito in the net in the morning and we should have been more comfortable in our separate beds.

We came down with Miss Jones and Miss Shoemaker to Tienchow which is about 150 miles from Shanghai (inland). We would have stayed there overnight but the girls were the first missionaries to come down to the compound and as they were moving into a new house we did not feel like troubling them.

This part of China is different from ours in that it is crossed an re-crossed by canals and rice goes everywhere.
The people on the streets seem very dirty indeed, and the streets are pretty filled with refuse and rubbish. At
Hudson in spite of the short time we saw Dr. Leach's big hospital - hurried through the Southern Methodist compound with
its wonderful girls' boarding school and saw the homes of several people whom we had met during the summer. From
Hudson we went to Hangchow where we were met by Daisy Woods, who took us in
rickshaws to their new grounds where they have a new house for 4 women, a girls
boarding school and a dormitory very attractive buildings in gray brick with
nice class rooms, offices - very much like a home building. After we dressed
we started in chairs for an all-day trip.

Hangchow is a great city of the Manchus
and the emperor used to have his palace there just the year Daisy came out the
Manchus surrendered with all their cannon
and ammunition. A large part of the city
was destroyed in the struggle and some
fire ravaged areas insisted on having
wide streets made. So there as in no other
city I have seen in China one finds
wide streets (a large number of them) He
went out of the city by West Lake a
beautiful long lake and what made our
delight to find it partially covered with
acres upon acres upon acres of the beautiful pink lotus blossoms. I should guess from 15 to 18 in. across and half-open flowers will 12 to 15 in. high. It was a wonderful sight!!! After a ride of about an hour when we passed several modern good Chinese hotels (unusual here) we came to the Temple of the Sacred Fish. Here was an artificial pond where they kept many many fish, orange colored, gray and silver white. These fish are never killed and they run from a few inches to a yard or more long. They have green snouts instead of mouths and it is a great stunt to feed them.

From there we went on and saw to a great Buddhist temple which thousands and thousands of pilgrims visit every year. Entering an imposing gate, we turned to a huge cliff undermined by caves in which they had placed statues. Bats clinging to the roof and in one place the priest pointed to a small round hole through which Buddha had entered. On one piece of stone were ancient Indian characters. We walked along a broad stone way to a huge temple, the roof of which was held up by great Oregon pines about 90 or 100 ft. high and so big that 2 men
could just stretch their arms around me. It was a great disappointment to me to find these great trees painted bright red. It was also a disappointment to find scaffolding around the great idols which were about 40 ft. high and find them being freshly painted but people went on worshiping just the same, burning incense and bowing, lighting candles and joss sticks and mumbling incantations. The most interesting thing however was the Hall of 500 Disciples near by. On it were all around some 500 gilt figures, mostly Chinese. (Strange name were not) one Marco Polo, several from Sardia. The figures were more than life size and the expressions were all different. It was really very interesting. Then we came home through the enchanted woods — the most beautiful woods I have seen since leaving home. Oh! we had lunch in the temple sitting at a table — it seemed very strange.

Read Dec 13 - 1911
Dear Ones,

Please, just look on the map and see where Ningpo is (South of Shanghai), on the South side of Hangchow Bay, and you will see where we are at present.

Such a big old city! All these large cities that we have visited are surrounded by most picturesque old walls, gray and turgid, and becoming ruined in the last few years. The wall around Hangzhou, some twelve miles in diameter and very high.

Some like this but others with different variations at the top.

In general impressions—I find there is a curious mixture of foreign influence in building (foreign style buildings at Nuchow, Hangchow, and Ningpo), and wide streets introduced into Hangchow after the Manchus fell a few years ago) with such filthy streets and dirty canals and poor dirty naked children as I have never seen elsewhere in China. I suppose the children have suffered with the heat of the summer for the majority of them. Huts that are a mass of filth and infections. Every third or fourth child has a diseased abdomen distended by worms. And when you think that the worms are not checked, being on blindness and a host of other evils, it is pitiful to think of this suffering country. The majority of the women here are Bound-Footed, and the practice is still continued. The men in the South have advanced beyond them in that. The houses are much the same except that they often build more than one story high here, and in general they seem cleaner inside. The graves are entirely different. Around here they build a little above the surface, with a stone cover, quite unlike the southern graves.

But, I will go back now to what we have seen at the different cities. I wrote Jennie of our visit to Nuchow, but I did not mention two most interesting cases at the hospital.
When we entered the woman's ward, I saw a child whose sunken rather old for her size. On a minute or two somebody asked her to walk, and the poor little thing hobbled along on two stumps of legs panting at the kick she had just learned to walk after having been there seven days. I think she had never walked in her life and she was the proudest little girl I have seen in a long time.

Another girl with tuberculosis knee was sitting on the bed. She had a very sweet face which lighted up wonderfully when she told me she went there that she had learned to read hymns during her stay at the hospital. She sang one or two for us making up the tent as she went along.

I left Kuchau on some kind of launch. All I know about it is that it was in.

That is a unique slateroom in my experience. When we had been in a few minutes, a man came around with a steaming towel. For us to wash our face and hands. No did not know how many had used it before us, and we declined.

In the morning it brought us a basin of dirty water which he declined for the same reason.

Dream of my trip to the Chusan Islands. Ex Mr. It is 5:00 A.M. and I will send this as I have not time for more. Both well and I send much love.

Latti
September 17, 1916

Dear Ones,

I don't know that I shall ever catch up on this wonderful trip so that you can enjoy it too. Then I am not one of those who think - being just arrived on Wednesday from Huchow. Daisy and I met you at the station; we got into cushioned rich chariots and rode out to their new grounds where they have a house for four women, a girls' boarding school, and also a dormitory, very attractive building in gray brick - with nine classrooms, offices etc. very much like a home building. After we had changed our clothes, Daisy called chair and we started on an all-day trip. Now Hangchou is a great city of the Manchus and the Emperor used to have his summer palace there. Just the year Wang came out, the Manchus surrendered with all their cannon and ammunition. A large part of the city had been destroyed in the struggle, and some far-away person insisted on having wide streets made. So there as in no other city have seen in China. One finds wide streets (Not all are wide, but a large number are) in midst of the city by good luck. A beautiful long lake, and what was part delightful to find it partially covered with acres upon acres upon acres of the beautiful pink lotus - blossoms. (Should guess from 15 to 18 inches across - and yellow flowers, tall 12 to 18 inches high. It was a wonderful sight! Later in a ride to a temple, when we passed several modern, good Chinese hotels (unusual) we came to the Temple of the Sacred Fish. There was an artificial pond where they kept many many fish, orange colored, gray, and silver white.
These fish are never killed and they swim from a few inches to a yard or more long. They have queer antics instead of months, and it is a great stunt to feed them bits of food.

From there we went on and on into pretty green country to a great Buddhist temple - Tenjii. Thousands and thousands of pilgrims visit it every year. Entering an unloving gate, we turned to the left to a huge cliff undermined by caves in which they had placed statues. Bets was clean to the roof - we place the priest pointed to a small round hole through which they had placed statues. As we piece of stone near ancient Indian characters. He walked from here along a broad stone way to a huge temple, the roof of which was held up by great Oregon pines, about 100 or 150 feet high and so big that 2 men could just stretch their arms around the one. It was a great disappointment to me to find these flats painted bright red!!! It also was a disappointment to find scaffolding around the great idols which were about 40 feet high and find them being freshly painted - but people went on making joss, just the same. Snaking down and bringing and lighting candles and joss sticks and singing, and praying, and the most interesting thing to me was the Hall of 1500 Disciples near by. It is seated all around the 500 gilt figures - mostly Chinese - but some not, some Marco Polo, some Umbrian, some the figures are more than life-size and the expressions are all different. It was really very interesting. Then from the temple with a talk - very strange, even more so at the Great Temple - sitting at a table.
Hingston

Rockport

Poljoke

Dear Ones,

We are at least started for Swatow just a year ago. To-day we were leaving Shanghai for Honan. We shall be interested to know how the weather etc.

Tell them El last wrote we were still talking about Nang Chou. We had seen the beautiful lotus, the sacred joss and Jen Yin Temple with its huge red, ugly and brown painted. When we got home that evening, the girls took tea toto and we took our supper including the ice-cream freezer out on to jet table. That was very nice indeed—alas! it sprinkled a little. Four single ladies, Mr. and Mrs. Cuss, and a New Kansas-City man just but from home were in the party. He came in by eight o'clock and had Victrola music then. Playing after we had all gone up for bed.

The next morning Thursday, July 18, left for work and shoreline the city. She gave us a day and a half of her very busy time and could let us stay only a few small hours of change. We came etc. We'll hope to do as well as she then she comes to all yes but I don't think we could find so many things in the South—not having our Enchanted city anymore.

Tell them morning we went to City Hall from which we got a very pretty view of the whole closely crowded city—and it is well with the climate. The wall which surrounds it is about 12 miles around and that does not hold all by any means. The wall is picturesque too—and wide as a road on top. All gray stone—with green growing half and there.

Daicy then took us to a native medicine shop one of the largest in the world. We spent three hours in the room and finally came to the place where they kept beautiful small spotted fish in captivity. Some of them were female and it was fruitful to see them there.
The Chinese believe the medicinal properties of the deep yellow good-natured blossoms to be very good.

They use every part of it, I understand, but especially the antlers.

They are making black nasty-looking pills and sorting herbs.

He bought a few little things on the street and called on Mrs. Smith, a Baptist, who is so busy in the world's immediate concerns that he has used his influence to build him a house — not very comfortable, and very hot indeed. The day he was called, the room in front of them was a great problem, and the president they are home in Paris, but Mr. Smith has charge of their absence. He was much interested in seeing their houses and the school building — poor in itself, but with a good sum to the scientific equipment.

Mr. and Mrs. Ufford joined us here and we left with them in the afternoon for Shoshong. The trip was most interesting. First we went aboard a ferry boat on the river. They are changed to chains which in turn may land on a big, awkward ferry boat on which one crossed the river. They were carried across the river into the house-boat which was to take us to Shoshong.

Along this river comes the great Yellow river — a swift tide which carries with it all the debris of sand. The eddies nearly killed themselves laughing because Elian could not sit up alone in the chair but must have the top taken off.

Bathing in the girls' school at Shoshong, the girls are afraid to sleep on the first floor.
At Shaoshing we struck hot weather—the worst place in the trip to strike it, too. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday were as hot as South China, so that we did not do very much. At this station are Mrs. Morris Afford, Gus and Esther, who entertained us, and Mrs. Goddard and two children, Grand Mr. Barlow and two children, old Mr. Goddard and Miss Uttman a nurse. They have a fine big hospital and a crowded girls' school as well as a school for the people who would come.

Ellen went out with Gus to his school and climbed City Hill etc. but stayed at home except for a delightful trip in the house boat. We got into it about 5:00 P.M. and were poled through the crowded, dirty, narrow canals out to a wider part where the view was very pretty. After the sun set, the moon came up and we dined supper. Finally we arrived at a village and walked a short distance to a temple that the Emperor used to visit. It was a beautiful place, and the huge idol looked almost human in the soft light. The bats were in huge crowds. We saw some very ancient stone—probably thousands of years old! Covered with ancient charactery. Then we walked a little further to a huge block of granite which told us that an Emperor is buried in the mountain.

These things were all different from anything we had ever seen in South China and they were extremely interesting. Everything about the temple was artistic, and grand. We gave some offerings about 30 feet wide. Approached the central temple.

Well on Sunday at 10:00 P.M. we again got on the Mission house boat and started for Ningpo—Shaoshing is very low and the climate is very bad, and we were glad to start for ocean. Before about 10 we had a most delightful visit with Esther and Gus. In the morning at 5:00 we got on to a train and rode into Ningpo—a three-hour ride.
Just before we got onto the train we passed a bridge half built - but stopped on account of lack of funds. The engineer was a German and had done fine work and it seemed pity to have the strong iron rails rolling away when so many thousands of dollars would have connected the railroad with that already completed on the other side.

Mr. Nykeltz met us at the station at Ningpo and here again my mind struck at the number of foreign buildings in the city. At Ningpo the mission houses are right on the river. We were entertained by the Wilcox's who came out the same year we did and had a fine baby boy born in January. All this week I have been interested to get ideas from mission houses. Dr. Barlow had just moved into his new house which is very clever indeed; perhaps Allison will tell you about it. Heard Mrs. Barlow are most interesting and most clever.

Well at Ningpo are the Wilcox's 1 child. " Nykeltz. Mr. & Mrs. (Child) Jones Mr. & Mrs. (Child) Graat Dr. & Mrs. Miss Zimmerman Crezy Hill Smith nurse.

You see these stations are much better filled than ours are. 

Hankow Mr. & Mrs. Sweet Mr. & Mrs. Crezy " Bahlman 3 children " Daisy Bordo Miss Peterson " Ravings Mr. & Mrs. Moore (Children) Home in house.

It makes for much better work and better conditions.
Cheechow. Sept. 26, 1876

Dear Mother,

We have been long waiting to write you some news of ourselves, and have almost got discouraged in the waiting, but finally we can say that we again have hope that God will give us a little one about the first of June next year. It is a wretched time of year, but we are thankful to have the opportunity of making the best of it. I hope that this will only make your coming seem more pleasant in prospect.

I wouldn't advise you to arrive much before the first of November, unless more convenient for you. Sometimes it is very hot way into the middle of October, as last year, and the boat trip has to be considered from the point of view of heat too. They advise missionaries to arrive about that time.

We hope you will write more about plans and ask questions too. What route should you choose if you came what steamship line? Boats from Vancouver come to Shanghai in very quick time, while those from
San Francisco take longer and sometimes come by way of Manila which is very ...

wasn't it nice that two of your letters which I read this morning had birthday wishes in them! Thank you so much. It was nice that they should come just today, for none of my parcels have arrived. Ellison gave me a leather wrist case for my watch, and had a picture of Della framed for me — and of course we are both as happy as can be.

He is very busy settling up the business of the fiscal year. We both have to go to Swatow Thursday.

Our conference is to meet Dec. 7 this year and I am glad it is earlier rather than later. We are both a little thinner than usual & weighing only 195 and only 128, but the heat and travel are enough to account for that. Hope to have some fish soon.

The mosquitoes are still with us. Ellison has asked you if perhaps to stay...
Payment on his birthday check for that check and letter never arrived. So bad.

I am of course writing the home folks the news too. Of course so far I have felt all right only tire easily.

The Bakers are expected back in December. He shall be glad to see them.

We have enjoyed the letters telling of the summer. The last one was from Gloucester.

We are sorry Father has not been well part of the time.

We have been having a typhoon and today so strong I could hardly stand against it.

Love to all - Father, mother, Aunt Tom, Jennie - Mary too.

Also to Westhampton folks.

Happy Lottie.
Dear Ones,

Well, Ellison has a light attack of gripe. Isn't it too bad? He went to Shanghai Wednesday, was very busy, and, too long to sit, only a Chinese meal, and that not a very good one. He was tired when he came home and opened the Montgomery Ward Box which had just arrived, for there are so many things that he wanted in it. The next day, when he came home, he felt the grips-acting and had fever. Since then, he has been abroad, the fever not going above 102° nor below 99.6°. Luckily for us both, those who had been away for a month or two, had just returned.

He has been awfully good and has come over each day, although he is very busy indeed. Ellison has been a most delightful sick person, perfectly good tempered, and not asking for enough things. The first day he showed off all his kit, digests and Coldwaters which had accumulated; the second day he worked on his card catalog, and I think worked too much, for although his fever was only 99.6 in all, it rose again in the A.M. and stayed up all night. He was very little cold with it, and has had very little headache, so that is an advantage. I don't think he has had much bad attacks as he used to have at home.

He is tired of eggs and toast now, but still likes soup. I hope I can vary those enough so that he will not turn against them. I will write you a long account of this, for it is the chief thing of last week. Just now the teacher is here, talking to him. The mystery came over yesterday. They are very nice!

I am reading him some of "Robinson Crusoe" and Agnes Repplier's "Essay on Art". Aren't they clever and interesting?

They have to spend quite a time teaching the new boy hair to iron. Think of anyone trying to iron when they have never seen an iron before. I use a charcoal iron.
They planted some more gardens, but the cows have killed off a lot of the weeds. I have seen goat tracks in the garden. The other morning the cow bit her thick rope apart, (she was tied with a rope so that she could eat grass in the yard) the cow boy was sick and couldn't lead her, then she ran and ate all my fresh string bean tops before anybody discovered her. !!!!

The cook is dysentery and so we are rather a lame family this week. Must go prepare E's dinner now, so far well for time.

Some Boston and Gloucester papers came from father this week, and a postal from mother. I was very glad to hear.

So sorry to hear of Uncle Hardy's death. She looked frail before I came away.

Tuesday P.M. 5:10 Oct 24

Well, while I was writing Sunday E's tempey was here taking over problems. It's temperature immensely went up 102°-103°—finally 104° 10%+ 81. Rainy and cold. James did not want me to have care of E— all night, and so they came over and one of them sat up with him all night. When it got good I was so grateful.

Tell the fever had gone down to 102° by 4 A.M. and has been gradually going down ever since. But E has been quite content to lie still in bed without doing any more work. To-day he has read a little and looked at a few pictures.

To add to this, my new boy, not liking the extra duties I gave him, ran away Monday morning early. He got the nearly two miles to work for which I had already paid him 75 cents.

The cook is still sick and the cook is just a pawn, doing the work I all.
three in so far as he can.

When I sent for the washerwomen (whom I sometimes hire) this yesterday, she replied that if I wanted my ironing done carefully (I had found fault with her extremely careless work the week before) I should have to pay her more. I was already paying her more than I ever paid in Stratford for much better service.

So here are some of our troubles which I have written about because they are about all the news there is and because I know you are interested even in our troubles. They aren’t so bad as they sound, we manage to get along very comfortably.

Oh there is one other thing. We have reasons at work, au pair and they have stolen fruit and pulled up our clothes poles and let the cow loose and nearly destroyed a rose bush--etc. etc.

I hope don’t be discouraged by all this, for it is all in the day’s work only that a good deal of it is bunched together now.

Send love to you all.

I think I will send this same letter to Holyoke asking you to forward at once (that is after family has seen it) to Bridgewater asking them to return it again if you wish to read more or send around.

Love Lottie

P.S. you see E--has been on the mind for 2 days now
Put the seal in your mouth between each time using (or at least be about from the heat) and it will not stick. L.

and I wish you good luck.
Dear Ones,

Hope that Della is having a happy birthday! I know it is cooler at home than here. It is still so warm that it is uncomfortable to be out at midday. Well, Ellner is a lot better, but not strong yet. Of course, he is taking a tonic and getting better every day. I hope he will have no relapses. Dr. Rexman thinks we had better not go to Dr. Newman's wedding in Swatow on Wednesday. We are a little disappointed, for we seldom have anything of the sort out here. Besides, there is plenty of business to be done at Swatow. I shall have to go soon to buy vegetables and make arrangements about coal.

Ruth's letter of Bob's visit sent via Jennie has not yet arrived, although it is due on the 1st of September since the letter mentioning that Ruth had written it was received. I hope it is not lost; for I cannot get a great deal of these letters, as Ruth does not have time to write me directly, regularly. I wish that you all would send me Ruth's or without any delay.

I haven't had written thank you notes for all my fine birthday. I wrote to Jennie especially to thank her again for the snap-shot and then I think failed to mention them. Ellner and I enjoyed them since he has been sick. I have looked over all the old photos. I have played a good deal, too.

I meant to write Ruth, Carole, George and John immediately but have not done so. And envelope is still addressed to Ruth now in which I have placed the Xmas presents for George and John. I must send that at once. I expected to do all little piece work when I went to Swatow, but now I don't know when I shall do.
So sorry Stella & Charlie are having such a hard time—will write some day.

Sam still shorthanded—has only the cook to wash. We had a deaf and dumb man three days this week but he could not help more. I did all the ironing but El's suits and had a queen woman to do the washing.

We had workmen here during the week doing a little white washing, some painting, a few necessary carpenter jobs etc. They have also been building up the walls on Bakers sides where the goats get in to our garden. They are going to have stables on our side. The Presbyterian across the river have been awfully nice coming over often to call, and finally Dr. Ross has called the climate by sending us his boy until we can get somebody else. Our teacher has gone to some nearby villages to hunt servants for us. The cook is still helpless as his dysentery has left him. He can't eat and seems weak. He refuses to try to do anything and if I ask him the least thing he tells the cook to do it for him. It is very annoying for both the doctor and we feel that he has not tried to work as he might have. But the cook says that he is an old man and so cannot put forth strength as a younger man.

Yrtr. R. M.

Dear Ills, It seems hard to get the letters written and sent. I suppose I had been running up and down stairs too much for that joint. The slightest danger of miscarriage, and this causes cautious steps. Doctor has put me in bed for several days. Good luck! Don't want to be in bed, but they are all adamant—so I must be resigned.

I can't comment on nice letters that have come. But please send in Ruth's letter. Don't forget.
C haow - chow-fun.
Nov. 14, 1916.

Dear Ones, I have just written a letter to Charlie and want to write Helen and George, but think I must first start my home letter. It is nearly noon, I have been unpacking trunks, and putting things where I could get at them most easily. There are so many things that I want to do before we go to Conference December 5, I think I shall feel very fine and strong.

To-day came such a nice letter from Mother, Dad, and Carol, telling of Mother’s trip to California, and of Father’s good luck in selling things and of the Welchells’ new auto. Everyone seemed happy and I think we were very happy too. My mouth did water for the peaches and apples and grapes you write all telling about in the letter. I and I want to come home at once to eat some.

In Mother’s letter was a nice little piece of narrow black velvet. Thank you very much. And in Ruth’s the other day was a pretty orange with cord for the neck. Thank you too, Ruth. Everybody is too good to me.

I want some chocolate candy, Carol, so the next time you have extra boxes in one week and just (if it is cool weather) — rev. Dec. Jan. Sat. — put a few pieces in a tin box and send along. Dr. Bacon had some lovely chocolate candy from home at Xmas. Let you want some, too, please? Envelopes! How dull! Please don’t deluge me with them — that I would be glad for perhaps a pound a year in cold weather! Perhaps it is only a transient desire, but I imagine they would taste pretty good.

Ted. You know yesterday, I said my mouth was watering for home fruit. Well, last evening Ellision and I went to the railroad landing to meet Miss Campbell of Kaying, who was taking her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Buckett, to their stations.
They had just come from America and what do you think they gave us. Three big Oregon apples!!! My, we were pleased.

Going home I said, I’m going to eat one right now. (At tea, past our supper time). Ellison said, “you had better wait until you can reach your hands. You’ve been around here for an hour or two and don’t know what germs are on them.”

I waited a few minutes. But I couldn’t stand it any longer and so I said “here goes.” Next time. “No germs, no germs!” And I bit into that nice red apple. No apple ever tasted so good before, I do believe.

Ellison soon lost his fear of germs too and we went along the narrow dark streets, ultimately biting that good apple. Then much of the core left, I assure you.

Wasn’t that nice that we should get some apples, just on the day I was longing for them so!!!

You remember perhaps that Mr. & Mrs. Campbell had to go home last spring because Mr. Campbell had a stroke of apoplexy. It is nice now for Miss Campbell that her sister can come out. It is nice for them now all live together. Mr. & Mrs. Burkett have a dear little baby about a year and a half old. How the Chinese did crowd around to see her!!!

He wanted them to come visit us for a few days, but they were very busy with travel and I don’t blame them for wanting to get on to their final destination.

Another fortunate thing happened yesterday. A National Catalog which Ellison had ordered to find out about Cardigan jackets arrived just in time to give me some ideas about a dress and waist that I must have made when I go to Kachchh, Dec. 5. I have found very many nice ideas when before I was almost in despair.
I think I will write them to send me their fall and spring catalog annually also.

Mrs. James improved rapidly last week and is all well now. Dr. Ross came over for supper with us on Thursday. He left the city on Saturday. We are very sorry to lose him. Another English physician will come up twice a month, until as we shall not be without medical advice.

We have been having nice weather; temperatures between 60° and 72° for a large part of time for several days now.

On Saturday also I went into the city and with a reliable woman and the school teacher called on the parents of some of the pupils.

I am sorry I did not get birthday card to Eilzabeth Ross - but either I did not get your letter or else you forgot to ask me. Should have reminded myself, but was travelling around Shanghai till then - and it is very hard to attend to such matters when travelling.

I am so sorry about Mrs. Stoddard's baby and hope Mrs. Smith will get along all right. Do you mean that Dr. Emeny will perform the Caesarian section, where they cut the abdominal wall and the woman take the child? I should like to know.

We have invited several people for Thanksgiving, but so far, none have accepted definitely.

The letter from Rochester with recent stamp arrived safely. I am glad to say. It certainly was worth waiting.

I was glad to get Carol's letters. How is Miss O'Brien, the English teacher? Any better? Do Miss MacPhie and still in C. H. S. I was glad to see your schedule, Carol.
When I came home, I shall expect Carol to make me a hat, and Ruth to design me a dress, &c. &c. &c.

It was interesting to hear that Carol has a motor cycle—but is it wise to wear trousers on it? You would have to wear some kind of belt. Are those not ladies' suits? With the price of a motor cycle, I could just about have an auto—but I prefer rather have the mortgage off the orchard house.

I am mighty glad the wireless has been so easy, and so that they can take off for a little ride. It certainly is fine.

Has the Auntie appeared yet?

How nice of you, Mother, to collect the gift for Sue. I am sure she appreciated it.

So glad, Mother, saw Jack K. Hope he was better. This was a very jolly surprise party, too, Mother.

I shall be glad if Carol takes violin lessons again. Tell Mrs. that violin is more important than clothes.

What a lovely trip to Bethel, and yet how tired you must have been!

Too bad ear-fare has gone up.

Wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Lottie & Ellison
Chao-choufu via Suakin
Wednesday, Nov. 22
1916

Dear Family,

Just today came my lovely birthday presents, and I want to use this nice paper at once to tell you how pleased I am. It is real luxury to write once again on paper like this. The other things are just lovely. The collar is so dainty and pretty, and the tie is so attractive and "endurable," and the little package of pins so neat and handy! I think it was very nice of you all to remember me with these pretty.
things, and I thank you each one.

We have been made very happy yesterday and to-day. Yesterday one of Ellison's preachers who has been a great source of trouble to him in the past few weeks finally came to see his faults and to say that he would try to do better.

To-day more than twenty of the village people came to our house (at our invitation) to talk over reopening the little school at the foot of our hill. Last year when there was trouble, perhaps you remember that they were unwilling to guarantee that the teacher would be un molested, but now they have a very big mor
courage and faith and are willing to recognize that the school is theirs and to say that if there is trouble they will try to stop it. We are more than happy, for we have been praying about it, and trying our best to rouse the people to effort. We realized that the effort of the willingness must be theirs or that the school could not be a success.

I was calling in the homes with a Bible woman all yesterday morning, and while one feels that a few are sincerely interested, it is almost discouraging to
know how many listen, just because they are curious to see and hear the foreigner. Such questions as they do ask! I believe I have written a list in my home letter, and so I'll not repeat.

I suppose we appear to them as Albinos do to us! They explain one and over again that I am very white and wonder if it is because I wash so much! "Why her neck and hands are white as well as her face," they say.

We do hope to see you all next year, war or no war, and then two years from the spring of 1918 we'll hope to come to you again.

God bless you all. Many thanks again for the lovely presents.

Lovingly yours,
Dear One,

At last the long looked for letters arrived first one from Aunt Ale on Tuesday, the next day one from Mother and another from Aunt Ale, and this day an envelope from Joseph containing two fine ones from Ruth, and one from Marion. It was a great treat for it seems a long long time since we heard, and the fact that there are still from Aunt Ale, show that they have been a long time in coming.

As you see, Ellen and I are at Swatow for conference which began formally today. We are staying in the same house with Miss Butler and as the children are in the same house, it is especially nice for us.

We came down on Tuesday bringing the cook with us, for he was the only servant we had left. Perhaps we told you in the last letter that our new day was bad, and and home sick, and cried so much that his father took him home. Then, the cook and his son decided, that since we could not hire a man to do the old man's work, that while himself held the job as a figurehead until he passably, that they could choose no better time in leaving than Monday, the day before we were to leave for Swatow.

It was hardly a man of them to choose that day, and they insisted and there was nothing to do, and it made us some work to find up someone to guard the house. We finally asked E's teacher to come for three days, hiring another man to carry water for the garden and to water the garden flowers. The cook helped us out again by bringing his brother to come and be our boy while we were here at Swatow. So today (Thursday) the brother came to work for us temporarily and the cook could return to the city to relieve the teacher.

Friday P.M.

We had session this A.M. and I played the organ. E has been made vice-president instead of recording secretary, and is elected statistician for another year.
At the conference yesterday we did quite a little business, but to-day we have had a more interesting session with five minute reports of the year's work from the adults. Dr. Ashmore has almost completed the translation of the Old Testament into the local dialect in two years. Some of it had been done before, and had the help of translators in other dialects, but even so I consider it a great feat.

From me here there comes the news that there have been four Christian weddings during the year—that means a wedding in a Christian rather than a heathen fashion—in two cases the families were quite wealthy and will have a big influence in the community. The four girls concerned had been trained in the girls' school, and so will bring Christian influences into their new homes, as well as increase the prestige of the school.

From Mr. Boardfeld comes the word that he treated 5642 patients during the year, although he is not a regular physician. He evidently has natural skill.

At Kaying Miss Campbell is aiding only four needy pupils out of fifty, whereas only three years ago every single pupil was receiving aid.

Reports here only just begun, but this morning gave such reason for encouragement that we started right in the middle for a prayer of thanks.

Several women are not here, and everyone feels sorry about it. Mrs. Giffin, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Adams, because she is even expecting a little one. Cannot be here.

We had a very pleasant Thanksgiving, I don't know whether I wrote about it or not.
We had Mr. & Mrs. James, Mrs. Rick & Dr. Heyworth who was visiting her. Did I give you menu.

Green soup.
Braised pork w stuffing.
Baked potatoes.
Cranberry sauce.
Tomato soup.
Spring peas from our garden.
Salted peanuts.
Banbury tarts.
St James pudding.
Fruit.
Coffee.

Had a cold all the week, but it is better now.

Bought Xmas presents for people on the outstation - but still have several to me to prepare.

Then we go back, at the end of next week I hope.

Thank you, mother dear, for the very pretty pink and blue crocheted tie which you put into your last letter.

Haven't time to comment on letters, and so will send at once with nothing further except our love to you all.

No news from congress as yet. Nobody knows definitely when the Redkess will arrive, but they are expected in January.

Very much love to all, and thank you for the good letters.

Nurse Della is better and that both she and Charlie can be a little relieved.

Lottie.

Your little blue sweater is of great use. Aunt & Ale, and very much admired.

Will 2nd half later of magazine. Soon order in Shanghai.
My dear, dear family or families, I have been wanting to write far as many days as I am confused at to where to begin first. I believe it was last week when personal notes to Aunt Celie and to Mother and did not have time for a full general letter.

Well, I think I will begin telling you about our Christmas first mentioning that when we reached home for PM Ellicon found at the P.O. a huge stack of mail. He brought only letters and parcels and they amounted to 37 pieces. How many happy and sat at the supper table reading until 10:30 PM. It was such a feast— and it was so good to smell of those fresh berries, Ruth, and munch a few. They are pretty well dried, but they had even a stronger odor than when fresh. Did I write a letter recently asking if sometime some one would send me a few dried huckleberries, a few for you, some of that sea stuff you make “blanc mange” (or whatever it is called), and— was there one other thing or not?

At any rate, Ruth must be a mind-reader for I was just longing for some forsythia!

Last Saturday, the Choochow meetings having closed on Friday, we went to Choochow finding the boat go unable off time. This time it was an hour late, and all did not miss it. Vanged to say he had no sooner than arrived about 4:00 PM. Then Ellicon was called into service for decorating the tree and room. We are resolved to stay at Choochow next year, and hope that we can have a tree.

The next day there was a baptism and communion at the church early in the morning and afternoon. One old deaf woman over 70 years old was baptized. They shored out the question, “Did someone tell you to do this, or are you doing it because you yourself want to?” She rather afraid of the answer lest she answer up strongly that she was doing it of her own free will, and it seemed true.

The next morning we had the tree after breakfast and worship with the servants. It must have
taken us more than an hour.
I'll make a list on a separate sheet, since you are so far away and can't see the things.

We had a wonderful dinner at Mrs. Sears's.

Soup, Baked Ham with dressing.
Apple sauce.
Potatoes, turnips, cauliflower, corn, beans.
Pickled figs (straight from their garden).
Tomato salad.
Bread made with American flour!!!

Pudding, Delicieux lemon sauce.
Coffee, Candy (home-made)!!!

Now, wasn't that fine!!!

In the afternoon the school had exercises and stunts.

Then the next day, I had scarcely time to look about Mrs. Sears's summer purchases, help her plan for new dresses for home and buy a few things from whom who we had to hurry for the boat which was two hours late! So we had to cross the rough bay to Ketchiech, when it was already dark!!!

The next day we came home.

We bought from the Seekers:

2 folding cots for Tha Hung 10.00
1 stove (body broken zone) 5.00
1 matress (used 3 months) 1.50

Also some small things and household supplies such as starch, beans, venger, butter, dates, figs, etc.

Oh, I forgot most important, we bought their friedel cooker for 10.00.

This is all Mexican hang - so we feel quite glad to have got so much.

We have no decent beds at Tha Hung, and it will be fine to have a comforted cot.
Very glad of Mother's portrait of Dec 15 and 20. I am so glad Mrs Smith has her baby.

By the way there is a big conference of missionaries with the Board in April 25 - May 3. Our delegate Dr and Mrs Bohman, Dr. Grebeck, and Miss Rollman will be there. Also the teachers and Bakers are very likely to be there as listeners. I wish some of you could meet them. Perhaps Ruth could most easily.

Have I told you that the Bakers can not come back before next fall - and even then many in the mission must to put them in to institutional work in Swatow city.

Hope all who could hear Mr. Sunday in Boston shall be glad to hear about it.

Ruth, you really should not send us any more for Christmas when you have already sent so much in the Xmas box. Eliza very much appreciated the nice soap, and the bag full of candles are full of memories and happy associations for me. The little kitchen only feels very dainty and nice. That is much more than we should have, and it was so nice to have them on Christmas day.

I am going to try to pick up an envelope of things to send you, just now I am full of business.

I am reading "Crushed Yet Conquering" (by Deborah Alcock), a historical novel - that things in the time of John Huss. I find it most interesting and well worth reading.

I trust by now you have read my letter about Dr. and Mrs. and my health. I have ordered a large amount of goods. Duty is 20%. I believe I have told you about sending money.

I am glad that Ruth & John can get out together. It is fine. Glad you called on Mrs. Lygger. Yes Mrs. Dr. & Mrs. Leach this summer and then dear little boy.

Sorry there are any difficult problems in schoolwork.
Glad to have Aunt Celia’s letter of Nov. 16. So glad both of you had some of that nice venison and that Miss Clark liked it.

Aunt Celia, will you send me once more your recipe for salad dressing just as you make it? I have one but there seems to be a mistake in the amount of seasonings required.

Don’t worry about me and my lane. I have hope and fear, too. I have absolute trust. I have almost everything I need. I think I shall make a few quilled top hats of every color and some little silk chiefs to go under the bonnet in the hot weather. I have not had a minute to sew yet, but I should like to make a short dress or two. I shall want two more pairs of white cashmere or wool stockings by next winter, and white wool or silk shirt dress of the second or third size but I will send more definite order a little later when I know whether all is well or not. If all is well in June, then there will be time to order so that it arrives before November or December, I think. Oh, I shall probably need slippers, etc., or something to make a coat and warm cap for next winter. That, I believe, is my entire list of needs, so you see how well supplied I am.

The Christmas things were lovely. Ellinor already had that much appreciated knit book when the boot came too. That is surely too much. The tiny packages for me have not yet arrived. Since it will come soon, all the more reason for all your work. The blue and white is just lovely!!! and the handkerchiefs are much appreciated.

I was very glad to see Uncle George’s letter. George’s letter of Nov. 21 was fine, yes, certainly had ready packs for ND. Now lucky to get that deer! What a clever idea to put meat into cold storage.

So glad Father has sold the house! It was lovely!

Marion’s letter much appreciated! Glad Dick has joined the boy scouts. Hope he will get some out of school work to earn a little.

Prices of coal and flour make me frightened. I think coal is high here at 15c per box in Swanton, and about 22c in town! But we do not use quite as much in winter, very much less so? or else.

With love, Mamma
We have only a little tiny stove about 3 ft high for this house, 1 ctt 7/40 Mex. So you can be sure we are glad to have the larger which is a good one from the it has a few holes

We have one bed without a mattress, and so are glad to get that too.

My bath water is waiting, so I'll go.

Tomorrow I go to Pang Khoi to stay for 5 days with Miss Tran who is holding a class and doing evangelistic work. I hope to learn something.

Very much love and Good Night.

Lotte.

Wish I could comment on the lovely letters that came the yesterday. - but no time now.

So glad Della went to N.Y. & Charlie too.
So glad Marion's aunt was so nice - that Dick helps with the children.
This will be rather jumbled order — sometimes first as the things come from the tree.

E. gave me Mendelssohn's Song Without Words. (38c each)
Beethoven's Symphonies 4 and 5.
Thomson lottos
This gives meuffles that I like so much — I enjoyed it to hear a go.
Some little things.

I gave him a large double brass inbroider
a piece
" book in carpentry
" pencil case of pencils.

He always likes home — things not arising, and so I explore each
of us tried to her the other have a lot of things.

Ruth gave me 2 boxes of colored soap
2 boxes of soap in 2 boxes, 3d each & 3d a box
2 boxes in s. 10.00
2 boxes in s. 11.00
2 boxes in s. 11.00

Barbara gave me a beautiful white collar.

Paul and Mother (package on the way)

Leo & John. a dress.

Aunt Bette gave me a white knitted abdominal band.

The hand of the Master. Forde's, another.

Gave me a beautiful blue knitted annex.

2 linen nightshirts.

Offer of Ladies Home Journal — $1.00.

Jennie gave me a small black & white nightie.

Letta gave me 2 beautiful crêpe paper lanterns.

Helen sent me a pretty crêpe de chine saioiffer.

Mother &c. magazine & parcel coming to me.

Aunt Filene $1.00 to E. & me

Mary $1.00 to E. & me

Helen Story Goodrich's Bk. on Prayers to E.

Very deftly, pretty place cards to me.

Betty Littie a very dainty callier and helbot. E. & me.

Miss Richardson — (must be book coming out) a book. H.

Jacob Shearburne, Photo. 7 Baby.

Mrs. Smart card & photo of little girl.


Mr. & Mrs. James Box of candy.

Drawn with woman's silk handkerchief for E. & me & a nightie.

Mrs. Ashmore, guest cord.

Mrs. Capen 12 apricots from their tree in a basket.

Mrs. Arley, they gave saioiffer.

Miss Cularly Cushion cover (novel cloth)

Mrs. Adams very small brass bowl.

Miss Diana, Brine in Amber by O'neill.

St. Mildred — Little Book in Friendship.
Dr. Bacon. Right. Mr. Calendar.
Miss Milholland. Lacquered small box.
Mrs. Crossbill. Small doll.
Dr. and Mrs. Leake. Carved toothbrush.

Silver tea-ball. (Nature silver).

Muskrat & peanut candy for E.

Lots of cards & some letters.

Many from people here in mission.

Other things are on the way of course that we have not heard of.

So - the missionaries are loaded with lovely presents.