Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Folder label: LLH to Carrie and Everett Lane (parents), primarily from Chaochowfu

Dates: 1917 Jan-Feb

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Happy New Year, dear ones.

I imagine that you would be very much interested if you could look into this place this minute. There are about 6 Chinese girls ranging from 8 to 16 yrs. and they are standing, or sitting on benches, each one reading in a loud tone of voice from something they have been studying in this class with Miss Traver. The youngest girl about 8 yrs. has a baby tied on her back. One girl leaned her parents' (who are destitute) so long and so hard that they finally allowed the girl to study, but they do not want us to come near their house to call!!! Their feeling is very bitter.

I am sitting in this chapel on the end of a low country cot, my feet on a cold tile floor. Doors and windows are open so that one needs warm clothing to keep from taking cold. The gray umbrella is my constant companion.

Later. We have just been into the chapel for a little service; now all are here studying or reciting. There are 12 or 14 men. A Bible woman sits here only to help, and 2 women and 2 children have come in to listen.
Pan- Khói is a large village (10 or 12000)
about 4 miles from Khãochonhquin. Here we
had a chapel there and a number of men
have belonged to the church but no women
has ever been baptized here till yesterday
when 2 women and 1 bright child were
baptized by Ellisen - also 3 young fellow.

Miss Tracey said that the other evening
they had the best prayer meeting she had
ever had in China with one exception.

The whole church is given to prayer and
of course that is the secret of the interest
and awakening that they are now having.

The village is given over to the making
of pottery - some very coarse, but some
quite pretty although none of it is very
fine. The coarse is brownish and
which one can subject to heat, but there
is a large amount of blue and white
ware made here.

I came over here by chair last Friday
afternoon Dec. 29. On Sat. we called on
families all day long; we also had made
a few calls on Thursday Pell, and we went
out again on Sunday after communion.

Ellisen came over on his bicycle Sun. and
played for baptism dinner and
communion. Sam going home late today
and Miss Tracey goes tomorrow from
here she goes to an island on the coast
where she will do just about the same
kind of work. She has a splendid Bible
woman with her.
One very interesting place which we visited at Pang Khon was a prosperous school started by an unmarried Chinese girl of mature age. She is a vegetarian which I suppose means Buddhist. The building seemed new and was freshly painted. Things were very neat and attractive in comparison with the dirty, smoke-daubed homes where we usually called, and the girl herself seemed the most intelligent woman I met in the whole place. Although she had been very cordial to Miss Parker on a previous visit, this time she seemed a little distant and somewhat incredulous and sneering as she asked intelligent questions. Very few people ask questions. It would be better if they did.

The Christian people were very grateful to Miss Parker and the Bible Worker and also for the shorter time that Elliot and I spent there. They insisted on a short service and a feast today to show their feeling. So I had my first entirely Chinese feast. Our boys did insist upon our boiled water on the table, but in other respects everything was very Chinese. I cannot remember all the dishes she had but some were as follows.
1. Shrimp
2. Noodles or vermicelli
3. Sweet boiled fruit of some kind I did not know
4. Duck and boiled blood
5. Pork, diced and peas
6. Dried fish and shrimp
7. A very little lobster with macaroni
8. Fat pork jellied on sweet and rice
9. Pork, a vegetable (much like Swiss chard)
10. Rice
Pomelo, Orange, Pumkin seeds (Greek-hard) Lime
Tea
Of course there was only a very little grea except the rice.
He had individual chop sticks, and a china soup spoon each, as well as a little dish of a salady relish. Each one had to dip from the central bowl and ask some one else to eat, before keeping herself. Then other people threw their bones and refuse on the tile floor and let the dogs come in to eat it, but I could not bring myself to do that.
The women ate alone in one room and the men in another.
Poor Mrs. Sawyer is not supposed to eat anything starchy or anything fried, and as she did not have much to eat especially as we do not ordinarily lunch Chinese food in these regions.
One of the new members of the
Khai said during the middle of the week: 'I prayed for rain last Sunday, but it has not yet rained.' His workmen ridiculed him, but he said, 'Let us pray again for rain' and he not only proceeded to pray, but ordered his men to bring in all the uncovered pottery in the yard.

One of his workmen refused to help him and said: 'If it rains, you may drag me out into it, and if your prayers are answered this way, I'll enter the church too.'

That night for the first time for more than 3 months, there fell at least two inches of rain, and they lasted at least ½ hr.

Each I should say: as I slept most of the night there may have been more at any rate the prayers seemed to be definitely answered. I think the Christian (who is very droll) did drag the workman into the rain, and I do not yet know whether he will become a Christian or not.
Happy New Year, dear ones!

I am sure you would be very much interested if you could look into here just this minute. There are about six Chinese girls ranging from eight to sixteen and they are standing or sitting around on benches, each one reading in a loud tone of voice from some things they have been studying in this class with Miss Travers. The youngest girl has a baby tied on her back. One girl stood near the parents (who are heathen) so long and so hard, that they finally allowed the girl to study, but they do not want us to come near their house to call!!! Their feeling is very bitter.

First, about this Chapel. I am sitting on the end of this cold country cot, my feet on a cold tile floor, and doors and windows open so that it is one needs warm clothing to keep from being cold. The gray weather is my constant companion.

This paper I am handing on a magazine on my left hand as I write...
Lately we have just been into the chapel for a little service now and all are here studying or reciting. There are 12 studying or reciting all out loud. Also a Bible woman sits here ready to help and two women and two children have come in to listen.

Now about the place. Peng Khei is a large village (10,000-12,000) about four miles from Chechau. We have had a chapel here and a number of men have belonged to the church, but no woman has ever been baptized here until yesterday when two women and one bright child were baptized by [illegible]—also three young fellows.

Mrs. Travers said that the other evening they had the best prayer meeting they had ever had in China with the exception. The whole church is given to prayer and often one that is the secret of the interest and awakening that they are now having. One little girl has just come to me to hear her say the Lord's prayer which she has just been learning.

The village is given over to the making of pottery some very coarse, but some quite pretty although none of it is very fine. The container is brownish, which one can subject to heat but there is a large amount of blue and white ware made here.

When I bought a pretty jardiniere a tray for little round dishes with covers, 3 mugs, and a crocked jar similar to a small cracker jar.

Please excuse the lack of coherence as a note. It is quite a task to keep any definite line of thought definite in such a note.

I came over here by train last Friday afternoon Dec. 27. On Saturday we called on families all day long, we also had made a few calls on Tuesday afternoon, and again went out on Sunday 10 P.M. after communion. Elliam came over on his bicycle Sunday night, and stayed for baptism, dinner and communion. I am going back late this evening and Miss Travers
goes to morrow. From here she goes to an island in the coast where she will go just about the same kind of work. She has a splendid Bible woman with her.

In the evening - at home again.

One very interesting place which we visited at Pang Hie was a prosperous school started by an unmarried Chinese girl of mature age. She is a vegetarian - which I suppose means Buddhist. The building seemed new and was freshly painted. Things were very neat and attractive in comparison with the dirty, smoke-filled homes where we usually called, and the girl herself seemed the most intelligent woman I met in the whole place. Although she had been very cordial to Miss Fraser on a previous visit, this time she seemed a little distant and somewhat incredulous and querulous as she asked intelligent questions. Very few people ask questions. It would be better if they did.

The people (Christians) were very grateful for the services of Miss Fraser and the Bible woman - and also for the shorter time they spent there. They insisted on a short service and a feast to-day to show their feeling. So I had my first entirely Chinese feast. The host did insist on putting out boiled water on the table, but in other respects everything was very Chinese. I cannot remember all the dishes we had - but some were as follows:-

1. Shrimp
2. Noodles or vermicelli
3. Sweet boiled rice of some kind I did not know.
4. Duck and boiled blood.
5. Pork, dried - nasi.
6. Dried fish and shrimp.
7. Very little lobata - with some tough mucromi substance.
8. Hot pork-jelly or sweetened rice.
9. Pork or vegetable (something like Swiss Chard).
10. Rice.

Onice I had a cup of tea.

Of course there was only a very little of each except rice and tea.
We had individual cheer-sticks, and a Chinese soup
shovel each, and a large plate of a salty relish.
I asked them if they could get the Chinese to make
more dinner. They, however, would not refuse on the
tile floor and let the dogs come in to eat it, but
I could not bring myself to do that.

The women sat alone in one room... and the men
in another!

Poor Miss Parker is not supposed to eat anything starched or
anything fried, and as she did not know much to eat
especially as she did not ordinarily touch the Chinese food
in these regions!!

It seemed good to get home today. I
want to go to some country stations, hospital
and hope that I can.

One of the new members of the Church at P'ing
Kai said during the middle of the week-
"We prayed for rain, last Sunday, but it has not
yet rained."

He worked on his rice field. He had
ordered his workmen to
bring in all the pottery that was uncovered in the
yard
(Continued on the next page)

The night (Friday) of the first time for
men these indoor meetings, there fell at
least two showers that I was conscious of
and they lasted at least half an hour.
Each cloud should say, as I slept most of
the night: they may have been may. If
any bright the prayer seemed to be definitely
answered. I think the Christian (who is very
dull) did not pray the workman and into the rain,
and I do not get know whether he will become
a Christian or not.
Chow chow -

January 9, 1917

Dear Ones All, Monday evening and so cold as can be, after you would probably think it warm. It is about 59° in this room with a fire in the grate.

Tuesday evening - Still cold. Temperature 56° beside the fire! We were heavy clothing, and manage to keep quite comfortable. I can accomplish much more work in this cold weather than in the heat. For this by evening I must want to go to bed, but now I want to sit up to write or work. I let my cook go home a week ago Tuesday (or Wednesday I guess not) - and since that time I have been very busy in the kitchen. It takes me twice as long to do things here, as it would at home in America, for we are not used to the fires, and things are not placed for convenience, as the cook has only the cooking to do, and does not have to save time as we do.

Wednesday evening - A little warmer. Temp. 58° by the grate fire.

E. and I are home after a day spent in the city, and it is so cozy as can be. I'll make a rough sketch of room as we have arranged it for comfort now during cold weather.

The table and fire wire table are here only for a meal of Steve, as E. ordinarily works in his study.

My machine I fell in the other day and I am just to have it in that out of the way corner.

My deal used to be here, but now it is much more comfortable and warm.
I had the boy bring in a lunch for us of hot soup, peanut butter sandwich, stuffed eggs, jelly sandwich, graham cookies and oranges with flesh coconuts. I cut up on them. When he went to give them 50 Mexican and told him to spend 15 for oysters and 40 for oranges. The oysters made a most delicious affair for our supper, and he bought 3 nice big juicy oranges for that 40. Isn't it nice to be able to get these things?

Then just taken the quickest bath I ever took in my life. I had a little cold but thought I would try a bath in the bath- room. (Last week he brought the bath-tub out by the fire.) But it was awfully cold and the water was not very warm and so I simply rushed through it. Elicion did the same with his and I think we'll bring the tub out here next time. This is none too warm at 58°-58°. My hands are chapped with the cold. They were used to at home. They are not bad, for I have put glycerine and cold cream on them.

Well, Miss Sullivan goes home the first of March and I am to have charge of the girls' schools in the city from that time on. It is a big undertaking for one who knows so little of the language, but I'll try.

It is 10:10 - and I must stop - but there won't be a minute to write to-morrow for I have for Miss Jeni at 2:10 P.M. with bible, bedding, food, kitchen utensils, and clothing. That means a good deal of planning to be done to-morrow. Of course all big plans are complete but the little details must wait until the end.

Last Saturday we had rain; we also had a nice new year's dinner on, at the Presbyterian single lady's house. Elicion wore decked up and I felt quite out if it not to be in evening dress. But my new dress was pretty and everyone liked it and it was much more suitable, as we had to cross the river in cold and rain. Mrs. James kept us one night.

When my 3rd cold of the season and doctor is treating it
up. Dr. Ross is back for a few months, and he advises me to take a vaccine for it next fall. I am taking cold sponges and eyewashes every day. Gold that helps a lot, but I tried to reach my hair level much and in spite of drying it before the rice goes free — I caught cold.

In a week or so I am expecting a lot of company to be with me over quite a length of time. Hope I can write better then.

Thanksgiving letter has arrived and I was so glad to hear from you all. I wanted to write John immediately, but have no time as yet.

Very much love to all — Lottie.
Dear Ones All:-

Tuesday morning of already the middle of January. I can hardly believe it. The cold weather of last week has abated somewhat and we can manage to keep very comfortable. Temperature is nearly 60° now in this room where I have a grate fire.

When I wrote last, I believe we were about to start on a country trip—our first together without older missionaries. We had the boys roll up the big bundle of bedding holding two thin mattresses, two pillows, and several blankets; our big piece of oiled cloth with a rough mat for an outside covering; we prepared a large basket of kitchen utensils including an oven, and tea kettle, as well as pots and pans and knives, etc. Then we prepared a basket of food—putting little portions of baking powder, corn starch, salt, cocoa, sugar, cereal, rice, etc. In small time, as well as carrying dishes for the table, oranges, a paragon, a boiled tongue, some canned fruit, some fresh shredded coconut, tinned milk, butter, tea, fat for frying, etc.—etc.—vegetables. I mention these things so that you can see how many details there are to think of and how easy it is to forget some little important thing. Then our personal clothing and toilet articles and necessary medicines had to be packed, a lamp and a lantern made ready, the bed poles tied together, and we were about ready for the start. We put in a small rug which was a great comfort in the cold, dirty shelve floor.

When we arrived at 5:00 P. M. we found that they had made very little preparation for us, the preacher being away, and such a dirty chapel.

The floor of cement was so badly worn and pitted that it was almost impossible to sweep it—dirty, black, dirty school desks almost filled the big room. The kitchen behind (about 6X6) was worse than the chapel—dirty pots and dishes all around charcoal stoves, hardly fit to touch; the preacher's small room was just as bad, and one other tiny room with an old bed in it used for toilet was unspeakably bad.

Well, it did not take us long to clear out a great many things from the kitchen—so that we could arrange our things nantly, and then we did the same by the chapel—but still we could wash several desk tops clean for our own use, there was no hope for the floor.

The preacher returned that night with the new preacher and so had to go thru the big room where we were to sleep in order to reach or go from his room. That was not convenient at all, especially as he walked in twice without knocking. The Chinese have no idea of privacy you know. I scolded him and it did not happen again.

We also talked to the brethren about the condition of the floor and the dirt. They want to repair the floor, but it will cost $40.00 less to do it right, and so we advised them to mend it this year, and begin gathering their money together for a permanent tile floor later.

On Friday we began calling—end calls which took us to scattering villages for a fort night. The time spent in walking was equal to, if not more than the time spent in calling. It was a long day and I was so tired that when we came back, I almost refused to go to one place near by—but I soon relented and made that call, but I went straight to bed in the evening after supper. Altho' I had hardly time to undress before the brethren assembled for prayer meeting (in the same room.) In spite of their singing and talking, I went sound to sleep.

In one place what do you think they called Ellison in speaking of him to me—"the old and honorable grandfather." I had a good laugh on that.

We saw many, many places where men were gathering the tall sugar cane, crushing it with the help of buffaloes, and then boiling it down into a form of dark blackish sugar. We saw others milling the rice by primitive methods—two women working a long log that turned on (stone?) or piece of wood upon another. We saw other women weaving the cloth by hand, and so everywhere there were interesting things to see.
E. and I took a lunch, but also partook of the Chinese dinner, which the others had. E. ate of more things than I did. I contented myself with rice and eggs.

The next day, we took a two hour boat ride to Long bus and there we visited among small villages, but not so far apart as those of Friday.

One heathen woman hailed her child in very quickly and shut the door tight, probably frightened to death for fear of our evil influences. On the other hand one other woman gathered her three children around her and came up to us where we were sitting. I was just about to pat the child’s head when the Bible woman made the woman stand quickly saying, "Don’t do that; these are men, not God," and then I realized that woman had not sat down to worship at our feet instead of to show me her baby. So there are the two extremes all showing ignorance. Just think in all these villages where we visited (at least ten I think) there was no place where a girl could go to school. Isn’t it awful?

Some of them are so nice. One little wife who already believes but does not yet wish to enter the church, said that she was so glad we had come. "And these are true words," she said with such a tone of sincerity that you could not help believing it. She wants to come to a two or three weeks school which we hope to open later somewhere in this region.

At Long bus where we went on Saturday, ten women want a short class to study the Bible. There is no Chapel there, but one very warm-hearted family offers its room for a place of prayer.

Miss Sollman goes home on furlough this spring. That leaves Miss Traver tied to the school, and so there is not a single foreigner able to take charge of this class, which is so much wanted. I wish I could, but I am not competent to do more than help a little as yet. That shows how much we are in need of single women workers. We need a woman to develop the school work in this city very much too. It is thru the schools that we are able to teach the most lasting lessons.

Well we did not get home until 7:30 Sunday eve. Ellison had baptized four people in the morning, as well as spoken quite at length, and he also spoke again in the afternoon and held communion. The baptism was in the river and you would have enjoyed it, I am sure.

Yesterday was a busy day for us getting our things settled. I had a slight attack of malaria in the afternoon, but Dr. Ross got hold of it at once and I hope for no further trouble.

My cook is not yet back and it is a great temptation for me to spend a good deal of time in the kitchen, especially when I find how much nicer things taste and realize what has been the matter with his scollop oysters, or scrambled eggs or baked custard.

Ellison has gone to another station today to make arrangements for an old man to be taken into the old folks home.
Dear Ones All,

Tuesday morning—already the middle of January. I can hardly believe it. The cold weather of last week has abated somewhat and we can manage to keep a very comfortable temperature is nearly 60° now in this room where I have a grate fire.

When I wrote last, I believe we were about to start on a country trip, our first together without other missionaries. We had the boys roll up the big bundle of bedding holding two thin mattresses, two pillows, and several blankets in our big piece of oiled cloth with a rough mat for an outside covering; we prepared a large basket of kitchen utensils including an oven, and turetelle as well as pots and pans and knives etc. Then we prepared a basket of food—putting little portions of baby food, corn meal, salt, eggs, sugar, cereal, rice, etc. etc. in small tin as well as carrying dishes for the table, oranges, a papaya, a boiled tongue, some canned fruit, some fresh shredded coconut, turned milk, butter, tea, fat for frying, etc. etc.—vegetables. I mention these things so that you can see how many details there are to think of and how easy it is to forget some little important thing. Then our personal clothing and toilet articles and necessary medicines had to be packed, a lamp and a lantern made ready—the bed rolls tied together, and we were about ready to start. We put in a small rug which was a great comfort on the cold, dirty chapel floor.

Thus we arrived at about 5:10 P.M. I found that they had made very little preparation for us, the preacher being away, and having a dirty chapel.

The floor of cement was so badly worn that it was almost impossible to sweep it—dirty. Black dirty school desks almost filled the big room. The kitchen behind (about 5 by 5) was no more than the chapel—dirty pots and dishes all around, charcoal stove hardly fit to cook on; the preacher’s small room was just so bad—and one other tiny room—with an old bed in it used for toilet was unapetably bad.

Well, it did not take us long to clear out a great many things from the kitchen so that we could arrange our things neatly—and then we did the same in the chapel—but all the crockery and several desk tops clean for our own use, there was no hope for the floor.

The preacher returned that night with the new preacher and we had to go through the big room when we met...
to bed, in order to reach or go from his room. This was not convenient at all, especially as he walked in tune without knocking. The Chinese have no idea of privacy you know. I scolded him and it did not happen again!!

We also talked to the brothers about the condition of the floor and the dirt. They want to repair the floor, but it will cost 400 yen to do it right, and so we advised them to mend it this year, and begin gathering their money together for a permanent tile floor later.

On Friday we began calling and calls which took us to scattered villages far apart, so that the time spent in walking was equal to if not more than the time spent in calling. It was a long day and it was so tired that when we came back I absolutely refused to go to one place near by, but I soon relented and made that call, but I went straight to bed in the evening after supper all the I had hardly time to undress before the brothers assembled for prayer meeting in the same room. On spite of their singing and talking I went sound asleep!!!

It is very hard to remember their hard names and to distinguish the faces which at first seem very similar. How would you like to remember these names?

This last syllable So, Sim, mi means wife, or aunt (older brothers, younger brother's wife). The Chinese do not use names very much, but they distinguish every degree of relationship.

I once place what do you think they called Ellison in speaking of him to me - "the old and honorable grandfather!!!" - "Tai a Hong." I had a good laugh over that.

We saw many many places where men were gathering the tall gournd cereals, crushing it with the help of cows and buffaloes, and then boiling
it down into a form of dark, blockish sugar. We
saw others threshing the rice by primitive methods—two
women working a long log that turned on a (stone) apron
of wood upon another. We saw other women making the
cloth by hand, and so many other interesting things to see.

E and I took a lunch but also partook of the
Chinese dinner which the others had—E ate if more
thing than I did. I contented myself with rice and
eggs. The next day we took a two hours boat ride to
Long but—and there we visited among small villages
and not so far apart as those of Friday.

One heathen woman held her child in very quickly.
and that the dog barked from a distance.

On the other hand one
other woman gathered her three children around her
and came up to us near a rice sitting. I was just
about to put the child's head when the heathen woman made
the man stand quickly saying—Don't do that; these are
men, not God—and then I realized that woman had
not been to worship at our feet instead of going
home with her baby. So there are the two extremes
all sharing ignorance. Great think! in all these
villages which we visited (at least ten I think)
there was no place where a girl could go to
school! Isn't it awful!

Some of them are so nice! One little wife
who already believe but does not yet wish to enter the
church said that she was eager to become.

And there are true women, able with such a tone
of sincerity that you could not help believing it.
She wants to come to a town or three miles school
which we hope to open later somehow in this region.

At Long but where we went on Saturday
ten women want a short class to study the
Bible. There is no chapel there but one
very warm-hearted family offers its room
for a place of prayer.

Miss Sallman goes home on Friday this
spring. That leaves Miss Tannus tied to the
school. And so there is not a single foreigner
capable of taking charge of this class which is so
much needed. I wish I could, but I am
not competent to do more than help a little
as yet. That shows how much we are in
need of single women workers! We need a
woman to develop the school work in this city
very much too. It is thus the schools that we
are able to teach the most lasting lessons.

Well, we did not get home until 7:30 Sunday eve.
Ellen had baptized four people in the morning
as well as spoken quietly at length — and she also
spent again in the afternoon and held communion.
The baptism was in the river and you would
have enjoyed seeing it, I am sure.

Yesterday was a busy day getting our things settled.
I had a slight attack of malaria in the afternoon,
but Dr. Warne got hold of it at once and hopes for
no further trouble.

My cook is not yet back and it is a great
temptation for me to spend a good deal of
time in the kitchen, especially since I find how
much nicer things taste and realize what
has been the matter with his aceto and tawing
or scrambled eggs or baked cucumbers.

Ellen has gone to another station today
to make arrangements for an old man to be
taken into the old folks home.

We found a nice mail awaiting us yesterday
in which was a card from Mother (Nov 23) (the
letter of which had arrived the week before), and a letter from
Mother 1st.

I have just opened an orange from our own orange
tree — (it had three oranges which we managed to save to ripen)
It is good too, but a little sour. Guess it should have stayed
on the tree a little longer but I was afraid it would be stolen.

It was nice to hear all about Thanksgiving. The days
must have been nice in all the places.
With a lot of pies you find mother. Our cooks
never will make pie crust for more than one or two
pies at a time.

I am anxious to hear from John at Milwaukee.
Hope it is nice there.

Another big fat pile of magazines and newspapers
have piled up this week. Came some nice music from David Dana, a book from Jan Adler,
Memorabilia from the proceeds of the Shanghai and a bit of Mrs. Whitehead.
Dear Ones,

There is just a little time before bath-water will arrive, but I want to write a few lines to-night. Yesterday came a nice full envelope via Jenny via with a little note from herself which I was glad to see. Christmas gifts keep coming along too, & is that each mail is a surprise and pleasure. Today my 2nd egg came three pieces of music from Aunt Fanny, Valianty, pretty modern things that Ellison and I shall enjoy daily since their arrival. Then there were a pretty handkerchief from Katherine Kendall, and a pretty crocheted necktie from Helen Bartholomew Ripley; to-day came a nice little parcel from Auntie Gail containing not only some velvet which I think I shall hang to get, but two more pretty handkerchiefs, and the handkerchief pink ribbon frill with black crochet ends. I really have been showered with beautiful clothes and pretty neckties and I am almost home for you people to wear. This pink one is the prettiest one yet! So delicate!

There is the water so I must run, but maybe I'll be back again to write some more.

Here I am—now tea's been set in the cold rooms. And now I am all ready to read in my cutting flannel nightgown. Elthe's sup-me-tight, Jennie's just here, Belle's warm bed body some lamb's lilac sleep that I gave her and the bacon was sold that made my little manner to set all at my dish, but all the rest shall have to hand. Such is life in the tropics! We have not made a fire for more than an hour or two to-day either, for it was quite warm in the sun-out doors. The house is usually colder than out doors these days.

shall I tell you how I spend yesterday as a sample day for the week? I have taken full use of having 3 boys in the house for a short time, and have made them clean with a will, moving all furniture except the biggest heaviest piece. Then they are acting as cooks and to me had met with such distiles working for anybody else, & & &. I told Ellison, I thought we always suffer for such things cleaning, but even then it red more to do.
Well, yesterday Mr. I alternated from kitchen, where the cook substitute was working, to bedrooms where the attic boys were cleaning. I made a bread pudding for dinner, as the same time having the boy make lemon butter and start preparations for dinner. I was not out of the kitchen when Mr. Ross called to see how Ellise was getting on. He returned during day in the country, feeling like grapple. On that day luckily the cow sent a calf. He had taken away nearly two roos without one. Ellise conquered the grapple, but was attacked with diarrhea—perhaps due to the very nice quahog oysters and creamed oysters on toast that we had. (ten cents worth) —

I had a slight attack—but it lasted two days I guess and made him feel mean.

Well to go back to Friday, Mr. Ross called as I said. Then I had no sooner got some self-stuffs than an old cookie the one who had malaria as long, came to call. By that time it was dinner hour.

Immediately after dinner was Bible woman and her niece who used to be teachers here, called on us. Then I wrote 3 letters—one to missing girl, one to me. Deedie wrote that she would not arrive to-day as expected but next week. Thursday. (shall send the key to Swanton, especially to buy vegetables for her coming!) and one letter about doors work. Then I needed 3 pairs shoes and it was too late.

We were just about to go out to the garden to begin preparations for planting. Mr. Ellise announced that the boy had brought home a fine live lobster. I had told him weeks ago, if he ever saw a live one in the city to buy it for me, but I did not think he would choose such a time when we had been on a diet—please! Well, the lobster was not quite like a harbor one, and as the boy had very often, one I did that much after the had called it. It had delicious meat in the body and in two small claws. But the part where the small claws was had practically nothing but to eat—and instead of (small?) it had a yellowish- substutent quite bitter to the taste.

Found much to my surprise and die appointment that Ellise did not care for lobsters after he dined with pleasure of the well-fed clams which he had for supper t'night.
Had a short time for daily chores - with amant in AM, by myself at noon, broth & in evening - and an evening with E - lent in trying to prepare the lettering for the little stone we want placed on the grave - and the day has gone - with so little accomplished! They are not all like that - but if it is not one thing it is another.

That one day gives so many hints as to the rest of the week that it is hardly worth while to go into details. I have welcomed the time to settle down after our numerous fittings, and get the house in order and keep my deck a little more systematic, to try to regenerate my wardrobe a little for immediate needs, and begin to attack the Christmas correspondence. Perhaps it is just as well that Mrs. Thomas is coming a few days later. She says the new doctor (Dr. H. E.) is a woman, seemingly capable and experienced. She has had over 50 obstetrical cases. Some quite complicated - so now it is this looks as if we might go to Rich Church by the middle of May, and have her. There will be a good chance then, and plenty of other doctors.

Now I must say Good night - with heaps of love for each one, and want to write John, where is he at?

Sunday.

I believe I wrote last - last Tuesday. I did have malaria that afternoon, but Ellen went to see the doctor very afternoon and I took quinine that night so that I had not had much since. I am very glad, and sincerely hope that it will not return.

On Wednesday I sent the hay to Swatow for vegetables. Of course I had to do the cooking in that case.

On Thursday, the boys cleaned again, and helped give directions and cooking. We had some cookies made by Mrs. Knowlton's recipe - and they were delicious! We made our own molasses from dark brown sugar. Several come to account with the boys, a long process.

On Saturday - cleaning, cooking, sewing, writing letters. After tea, the two girls from the other side of Miss Thompson of Swatow called. He had some nice music - and chatted till dark when they hurried home.
This morning (Sunday) Ellwood preached here as his teacher has sore throat. I walked into the city and played the organ there and walked back. I certainly was ready for dinner when I returned at 12:30. I was late to the city this AM and I am at home so that all three servants may go S.S. Two of them have not yet joined the Church.

Much interested in Ruth's letter via Jennie in which she tells of Billy Sunday's sermon and the visit of the Maine Superintendent.

Also very glad to have a note from Jennie. Those are much prized. I am surprised at your request for an Xmas present from you had life! How could you choose such a thing as that!

That letter about Ruth's financial condition never reached me - probably lost, but either so far as I know have come and I am very grateful for them.

Much love to all.

Lottie.

Here some drawn work for Ruth that has not yet sent. I expect Elinor will go to Swatow about Jan 20 and I'll send a package or two then. We do not lose quite as much in Hong Kong. Cheeks now and so that will help in buying a little.

You gave me a list of the cooking you did in one morning Ruth and I don't see how you could do so much. It takes me about a whole morning to make ten or twelve things. What is your recipe for a peanut loaf please? Also Tophamson pudding.

Has Father a copy of our ancestry? If so Smith I could see it at some time.

Tell Ruth I didn't know you were such a good palm reader!!!

Did you hear Mt Holyoke tuition and board is now 500.00 per year! Isn't that awful.

I think Carol might like Birmingham if it is as good as formerly. Han for write for catalog.

Finished Jan 23, 1917

Much love Lottie.
How you will all miss little. And she surely will miss Rockport. Please tell me the name of the place where she is going.

Are the new neighbors good? The name hardly sounds propitious!

I am very glad Ruth has been invited to Y P. That is great!

Mother, if you mean by the Cæsarean Method the taking of the child thru the abdomen, well, I have heard that there are grave reasons against using it unless it is absolutely necessary. I don’t think any doctor would advise it if a natural birth could be obtained with safety. Otherwise it is a very old method and dates back to the times of Christ.

Father’s good letter me were awfully glad to see. Shall be glad to hear of the Chirnman renting the Washington Street house. I can’t remember where it is. Hope George sold his dog for that good sum.

Hope Uncle George is well and strong and at home again.

Letter from Geo. John, Ruthy, Carol and Ripley girls all gave us different glimpses of home! It is great to hear from each one.

We saw wild geese on our trip down the river. The other day Aid they were too far away for a good shot with the rubber ball. That Ellison had...

I think that John ought to have a vacation this next year don’t you? Are the English politics in stick? John? Ellin bought some that found them difficult to wind really.

Yes John, your seal has a character which might be used for fun if you came out here. There is no exact translation of course.

Will Ruth please tell the Ripley girls that enjoyed their Thanksgiving dinner too. It was awfully nice of them to write.

I was glad to see Rachel’s letter. Egypt’s baby must be very bright. Think of holding its head up so young!
Aunt Helen's letter of Dec. 1 came this week and I was so glad to hear of Thanksgiving. I'm so glad you all liked the foods. I was particularly pleased with your Aunt Lil and hope it will prove useful as well as ornamental and that the irons are suitably sized to use.

I am anxious to hear how you all liked your Xmas things. I was particularly pleased with your Aunt Lil and hope it will prove useful as well as ornamental and that the irons are suitably sized to use.

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I think if Dr. Warren knew more of medicine he might have approved. Almost every doctor differs in his treatment. Some disagree of taking it in the way we wanted to start labor pains - in the next day during labor when the pains stopped for a while. There was some question for both.

Doctors differ so much. Dr. Barber says that if he could have had me suffer more and not have given chloroform he might have acted differently if he had been on the spot.

I hope that all the babies arrived O.K. If any child was omitted please let me know. I am afraid I shall have to list birthdays (children) this year for I have so many things to plan and this being so much better. But I expect I shall think of them all - I thought of Dick Jan. 11.

Chinese women act as servants in the lnaba country, but not here among the Indians except as nurses in amah's as we call them. I don't know what to do with these home journals. I feel that we have more magazines than we people for at home and it doesn't seem right for me to take it. Besides you have done so much for Ethel, Ellicott and me!!!

Will write again in a couple of months for arrangement and new rates. Much love - little
Dear Ones All,

This is the week of visiting and a visitor— and hence much to do and enjoy, and little time to write so far and already a whole month of the New Year gone! Time does fly faster than it used to.

Some just about to go or visiting whom guest arrives— Mr. Weems goes to country— about 8:30 P.M. so we had to rush around to get supper and prepare the room for him. He has come down to get two calves from Hong Kong and take them back to his mission station where some day he hopes to have plenty of milk and butter as well as plenty of cows.

Feb. 3. Saturday. Mr. Weems stayed only overnight and he has promised to get half a ton of coal for us from Sutro's so that we shall be very glad for this coming.

Last month the cook was here only five days and so I had to spend practically every morning cooking in the kitchen. I told you I think that he went home on account of a bad cold which settled on his lungs. I don't suppose it was bad enough to keep him home all that time but he was afraid and he has been as faithful to us, that we did not feel like finding fault. Paid him for two weeks of the 25 days he was away and made him pay his brother for the rest of the time for substituting. As a matter of fact I did the most important part of his work. But he made very very nice bread.

When I last wrote, I was just getting ready for the Rehearsal. Well, I was busy preparing the room, and bidding and making some candy, etc., getting the boys to clean thoroughly.

Mrs. Leach and Isabel arrived on Thursday. In I worked doubly hard for my cook, for I had to spend so much of my morning in the kitchen that I couldn't visit very much.

We went in to the city shopping one afternoon and later called on Mrs. James at the 36th Gate.

On Saturday I had the people from over there come...
Here for tea and before we went the Dr. Leech and Miss Travis arrived. Dr. Leech was all wrong out. He had had 42 cases during the week which is supposed to be the lightest in the year and he had allowed his Chinese Dr. to come out here. They had no nurse. The case was a hard case. One obstetrical case which had been going on ten days before they called him - a case of taking out an eye caused by stone throwing a village custom at this season of the year near there! (3) - an abdominal round which had caused the intestines to protrude so that no Chinese could hope to succeed in treating the case - etc., etc.

On Sunday we had union service at Cuddytown compound and the people there insisted on our taking dinner with them although there were six in the family and we had prepared a goose. Well they insisted so strongly that we had to stay 3 days each house and 2 courses and enjoyed it - and still had our very delicious goose for Monday dinner.

This week Monday began our week of visiting. The Leeches went Tuesday. Miss Travis & I had dinner as early as 11:00 some days 11:30 others, and then I went the rest of the day calling. I was two days in this city. But the rest of the time on this side of the river and in the that or neighboring villages. It has been most interesting and I think I had time to write - but it is already time to prepare to start to-day.

than a good letter from Rockport also from Auntie Celi. But will not try to get another until I have time to read carefully. I write 49 letters in January! !

Much love to each one -

Lettie.

I'll try to write again by Tuesday. We are both very well.
Dear Dad,

This is to wish you a very happy birthday on March 21. I have here your letter of Dec. 19 and I was very glad to see it and also the enclosure about your brother George and the Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine. It also tells of the diary and shirt buttons which I am expecting to arrive any day now, much indeed! I had a letter saying that at Christmas was over the feet of snow where we spent our summer, I should like to have it.

This is Japanese paper. Do you like it. I am enclosing a silk handkerchief which I have had made for you. Then you have a cold you will find it soft and Mr. I hope.

Here's lots and lots of love to you. Tell me some things you want - books or clothes or anything and I should love to try to get it for my very dear Father.

With much love to you and Mother, Ellison sends much love, too.

Yours truly,

Jul 5, 1917
Dear Alice,

Ellen has been working on mission accounts and on our household accounts nearly all day long — and it is now 9:40. I certainly was out-priced as I looked at my watch just now to see the hour, for I thought it must be a little after 5:10! I am disappointed too, for I wanted to write a little more than these few lines. But I'll be good and say ‘Good Night’ — with lots of love to each dear one.

I must wait to say that to-day came the knapsack parcel from Father mailed in Nov. (Nov. 29). Wasn’t it a long time coming? But it came beautifully and brought just what we needed. My five-year diary will just be finished up this year, and now could you know that I mailed another one. That is very remarkable! I am very grateful. It is a much nicer one than I ever had before. Many thanks, Dad. And I shall love it all the more because you gave it to me. And Ellen was not minding the collar buttons and clean buttons, but she would never have had such nice ones if you had not sent them. Thank you again for him too.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 1919.

The next day came such a pretty calendar from Jan Blais of Glen Ridge, and yesterday came a most attractive bag from Mrs. Hewell, and a box from Ruthie. Ruthie, you simply must not send so much to me. It is too much. There were not only those delicious nuts here, and my modest has been wanting for candy and I have not lacked it lately for I made some chocolate dates and peppermints for Mrs. Decker’s visit, and not only did she bring some candy which her cook had made, but Miss Travers brought a tin box with Christmas candy of all sorts and delicious chocolates down in the bottom. Oh how good they did taste! Finally the other day when every last piece was gone. I made some butter toffee which is fairly good — and then when that is almost gone comes’ Ruthie’s taffy bars. You may think we eat too much, but —
just take a piece or two after
each meal).

To continue my sentence, "there were
not only these nut bars" but there was the
only piece of hemp wire lavender ribbon,
and the pretty hand embroidered apron. I
cannot believe that you had time to
make it. It certainly is pretty. Please
realize that I appreciate all this love and
thoughtfulness more than words can express.

But I don't do so much another year. Please!

Day before yesterday came also some nice
mail from home so that all in all this
has been a banner week. It has been a
busy one too, and I have much appreciated
the chance to come to my desk and
straighten out our accounts for last year,
as well as write some delayed business letters,
a few Christmas notes, and straighten out
my drawn work business, as well as clean out
my desk, air and re-arrange all our books
(yet small number). Mend a little, teach the
boy how to clean windows - etc. etc. mostly
odds and ends of work, but things that have
been on my mind since Dec. 31 if not before.
I still have a good many important letters to
write.

During the week we have received calls from,
and have visited the two free schools of
girls' schools in the city and here, and
have received calls from the several other Chinese
as well as a visit from Mr. Weiss who is
on his way back to his inland station. He
comes at such queer times, first arriving about
8:30 PM - without supper, and coming again
about 6:30 PM. Before he rose up!

We have also planted some more garden, especially
that delicious corn that Charlie sent us. I never
tasted nicer! We have also planted papaya seeds
and cosmos. Hope they will grow.

I have tried to teach the boy to iron and to
be careful of furniture and heat and tidy with
the food. That is a long process and great new
we really think we are strange, fastidious
creatures who are altogether too particular about
our food, and dishes and white paint etc. etc.
goes off and laughs almost always just
after I show him how to do a thing in a
particular way. It is most exasperating!

Thanks to, we had a slight rain on Fred and
more dampness on Thursday, but as yet the
heavens drip very heavily, and we have no
water in our cellar! Ho! The floor needs to
carry a great deal of water, but as the is
exceedingly lazy, we do not mind that
very much!

I put out Blaire's picture in my desk the
other day (a eng. school). Ellsie said, "Who is this girl?"
and said, "Who is this girl?" - it does sound
like Carol, as we left her. But how hard it is
to picture the change!

Ellison has done something for me this
week that I am very proud of, and it is the
greatest convenience. She has partitioned
off the top right hand drawers of my big
desk into seven compartments, so that I
can separate my letters and keep them in
order. It is the greatest help imaginable
and I am so glad to have them out of sight
and yet handy and over. I have written only
sixty-four letters so far this year with quite
a host of letters, and I have thanks to write.
I do not write regularly to anyone except
our family - with an attempted letter at
two or three weeks interval to Mother D.
It is often longer - and a longer and more
irregular interval when I write to come
over to my Glen Ridge girls. I cannot
understand how I can write so many and
yet feel that I write too few. They
then have been sent to stay at one day 20.
Thank you letter to the Boston Transcript
which came the same day, and we
had plenty of good reading with wonderful
picture. Glad the Mother appeared, so that we
had music too.

Mother dear, I am sorry I have not written
more fully about how well I have been for you.
afraid you have worried. I have hardly had an uncomfortable day, and not only that, but I have been in good spirits so that I cannot help hoping for the best. If I am sick the least bit, I always write about it - even that touch of malaria which lasted only a few hours. I write you about it ever since I wrote you about it. I have a variety of news now (let us assume it is not bad, and Mrs. Leach does not even advise me to find it unless it gets worse.

Dr. Mildred is coming to visit some time next week, and then we are going to talk about what going to Kitzang is for their zone provided she can handle a second doctor on hand. You see Kitzang is on the direct route to Thungyen, and so the teachers think it would be much better than Peckchik for me, and for all. There is also a foreign (American money) at Peckchik.

Nowhere Stella has gone by now. How you must miss her! I am so glad that John got home for Christmas. I am anxious to hear about his trip. David sent me a letter after John's visit, and he enclosed Stella's New Year letter which I was most interested to see.

We hear that America has broken off diplomatic relations with Germany, and wonder what it all means? Hope for the best.

I am glad Uncle George is at home. Do he much better? I certainly hope so. I wish I could find time to write him and Uncle Charlie. Please give them both my love. Some day I will think in time to get them something for Christmas or birthdays. I always think too late.

Our Dr. Ross is English Presbyterian. He himself comes from Scotland. So I doubt if he is a relation of the Dr. Ross whom you mentioned, mother. But he is fine.

Letters from Mary, Esther, and Lucile were very nice indeed and much appreciated. I shall think of them on their birthdays. Sort to every one, Lottie.
Dear One,

How fast the winter is flying away. Already we are hearing more birds which shows I think that they are beginning to take their northward journey. I read that they could stay for they are the nicest birds we have the whole year long. But the rainy season has not come and everything is very dry. There was a little shower last night, but this morning all seems fair again.

Ellison had to go to Swatow yesterday with some of business enough to cover two pages of note book paper, and plenty of Committee meetings sandwiched in; I wanted to go with him and he urged me to go, but I finally decided it was wiser to stay at home. Then when Mrs. James invited me over here, I picked up my letters and started and came on.

He will receive more the goods which the helpers have sold us, and bring them home except for the two cots which will be sent to Hayshing in preparation for their journey to Thaing this summer.

I told you I think that a week ago Sunday we had over sixty people at our little S.S. here. This Sunday we had over forty which is much more than usual. One group of women had been the week before. This week they came both morning and afternoon and asked questions, and also asked about books (tracts) to buy. We hope very much that they will continue to come. I gave the kiddies bright colored S.S. cards again, but I very much fear that I shall give them all away this next week. Then I gave the children to picture postcard cards and such things. I tell the children on the streets that I will not give them a card (they are always asking me for them) unless they come to S.S. and at S.S. they must behave and be quiet if they want a card. They don't know the meaning of the words behave and be quiet.
It is good Chinese custom to throw remains of food or tea on the floor; also to spit on the floor; etc., etc., and the streets in the court yard and on the streets are the public toilets, so that you can see that we have a good deal to learn.

Miss Dollman and the new woman doctor (Dr. Leach) came up on Wednesday and stayed until Thursday a.m. Miss Dollman is to start for home in about two weeks and will be at that big conference with missionaries this spring in Boston. No like Dr. Leach very much; but plans are not yet definite.

Mrs. James had us all over for tea that day. She is a dear! There have been great celebrations in the city and among all the people for nearly two weeks now in connection with their New Year! At night one could hear fire crackers and see rockets all over the city. The streets have been crowded with people in their new clothes, for almost everyone has a new outfit at this time of year (first aid). There have been processions of all kinds. The day (Feb.) that we went to Mrs. James's, we saw a very interesting collection of miniature floats for a parade. Wax or painted wood figures of high class people in beautiful silk and embroidered robes were placed on very large sedan chairs without legs. Sometimes the seat would be replaced by steps with figures on each level. Paper flowers in which candles were placed decorated each group, and withal it was a most interesting thing to see. Maybe than mitten, fit before.

Perhaps I wrote you that the custom of having these floats of figures was discouraged, in fact, forbidden, at the time of the Revolution, largely on account of the expense and also somewhat on account of the unpopularity of old heathen religion at that time. But this custom is being revived by big firms partly as a means of advertisement.

We have now taken charge of the ten schools.
for girls here, but I tremble at the responsibility. There are always affairs of serious moment liable to come up. I have written to Glen Ridge girl and asked them to hunt around and see if they can not find some responsible girl (well trained and capable and knowing about kindergarten and primary work) who will find her own salary and come out here for four years to organize and start the kindergarten and primary work for girls on a firm basis. I think they could find someone. We need someone very much indeed.

Mrs. James came over on Friday to spend the day with me and we enjoyed her and her talk very much, although we had a scene with the book-keeper boy.

He (the house-boy) wanted to resign and we told him he must give us six weeks notice. So in truly Chinese manner, he tried to make it as unpleasant for us that we could not stand it. He began with sexual minor offenses but when he finally told me I lied, we dismissed him upon the spot! Not realizing fully until afterwards that he was merely playing a game to get away!

Aunt Celie dear, would it be too much trouble for you to forward money (dinars 75) to Ruth to order a lawn shirt and a pair for my son that opens in front of course. Also, I should like a pattern for a dress-medium style—not extra but some everyday serviceable thing. I should like these to reach me by the end of June and to be addressed to Swanton. All mail which will arrive after May 25 should be addressed Swanton. If you do not already address my letters that way, I shall send you a pattern and know that could be used for a street or afternoon dress.

Good letters from Ruth (and Jan) arrived this week. I shall answer soon, especially as I send a package of drawn work to her by Ellis. This week. I hope it will reach her all right at Rockport.

Glad to get letters from mother with news of
vestry, Sueie P, and the family.
I am sorry you are troubleing to buy candy. I great thought that if Carol had no moes of Helmers, there might some time be a surplus - and then certainly, I would appreciate some, but I am probably better off without it. :)

Hope Stella had a comfortable journey to Maine.

We have been having mild weather too, for two weeks or more now. Very comfortable indeed.

Glad to hear of Hazel's singing in Gloucester. Wish you could have heard her, too.

Nice little green ones. Can agree too, but the beans are not pure ivory - that would be angrily expensive and turn yellow. There are small ones; it may be elephants' feet for all I know. At any rate, they are nice and come from Canton.

What kind is your match? Has it black figures on it? What kind of case?

What color is your wife's coat?

Can't you get the right side of the Miss O'Brien photo so eccentric? Try your best. Shall be glad to hear of framing them.

Not only the system, and send her gone up again to $500. Think---

I guess there are more in Senate. Good feeling very good in China. Better, I suppose still. I guess I have a copy of your adding? family and general account for December, will you? I had very much like to see them.

It takes me about 30 minutes to dress properly too.

Much love to all.

Lettie.

I am making three little silk shirts - hoping I shall have a chance to use them.
Dear One(s) All,

It is Saturday night. Ellison came home about 2:30 P.M. and you may be sure I was glad. He has been gone since Monday. I think I wrote you the other Mrs. James's name, or I was spending some of the days while he was away. Mrs. James is 30; Mrs. and her baby, Albert, born in late January 1915, is as beautiful as a picture could be very active and lively. She was amusing himself with a big cigarette one day, and coming to me a page of pictures of his was asked by his mother, "What does Daddy do?"

He immediately began to puff as if he were having away the smoke.

Sunday-

Nice letter came from Daddy and Mother B. yesterday. Mother B. has been quite sick. Had to go to hospital for a week, and I guess she is very delicate. It worries me. I think she has been in bed three weeks.

Alice's little girl Dorothy, who weighed only 4 lbs. at birth, is gaining nicely, and Alice seems to be recovering nicely.

The whole family had a lonely Christmas gathering with all at home except the son-in-law. Alice, of course, was at the hospital, but all could not be.

But I am sure they will send one clock home by the expressers to be repaired. When they reach America, they will mail it to you at Rockport. Please have it repaired. At first I had intended to have it sent back by steamer but as there will be only 1-1/2 yds. so we after their return, it may be better to keep it to home and let Aunt Cele use it until our return. We shall need a clock then, I think.

It may decide to have Beth to bring it back this fall. Did not think much. Please let me know expense—also expense of repairing watch.

Will Mother have any pags to have one or two more rag rugs made for me. I think I care about the time when I shall need one or two more, for I do not dare
use the matting on account of white ants.

I have engaged Mr. Leebron's amah for the time while Mrs. Leebron is at home. (in case I need her!)

It looks now as if I should go to Kinyangi Hospital in May - middle or later - board with Dr. Mildred and Miss Esten, the nurse, until I then go to the hospital, and then have the best room there which has been especially endorsed and has nice furniture. Convolvulus - I should be at the house again.

Dr. Leech would be with Dr. Mildred for the occasion. This is not entirely definite, but I write so that you will know plans as early as possible unless you have something different, you can be quite sure that this will be the plan.

Kinyangi is on the direct route to Thayong, and I'd like to make that trip much sooner. We hope to keep house by ourselves at Thayong this summer. In time we hope to add a porch on east and north of house so that we can have a little establishment by ourselves, but financial situation is too unstable at present for us to do anything more than perhaps to lay the foundation pillars for a back porch.

I think Ellison will go to Thayong first with as much of the baggage as possible and get the house opened and cleaned. Then if all is well, he will make arrangements to divide one of the down stairs rooms so that we can use it for a kitchen.

Downstairs is like this:

Proposed division for this summer.
My ideas are rather vague about the division of the room. I can't quite remember spaces.

After dinner, Miss Ellison brought home such a nice letter from Aunt Alice. I was awfully glad to hear, and to know that the arm was better, and the rest of the family quite well. I was also interested in enclosures -

the letter as we ate our dinner of

Soup -

- Canned beef, cooked in Leisure Cooker
- Mashed potatoes
- Fried cabbage
- Onions creamed
- Bambury Tarts

You see, Miss Ellison bought back some vegetables from Swallow, and we enjoyed these. Last night we had two tomatoes from our own garden, and they were delicious.

There has been a nice bit of rain today. The Chinese are looking anxiously for it, for they need it before planting their rice.

We have a most delicious cereal in Asia sometimes. Take the natural wheat, bake it a little, grind it in coarse knife of grinder. It makes very nice breakfast food and most wholesome. Wonder if anybody has introduced it at home. There's a hint for the business man.

I have read a little while Miss Ellison has been away - books to take up my attention, mostly:

- "Green Mantle" an exciting mystery by J. Buchan.
- "The House of the Wolf" by Stanley Fregman.
- "An Unknown in Arms" Series of very fine essays by Donald Hankey.

I have also spent some time on drawing work and on sewing. I have read a little for Mrs. James. Her lady makes a "pinata" -- or a little white cloth on my dress. I finished one of these stamped ones today.

By the way, I should like some time attention for Roberta.

So I had wonderful Victrola music, read Mrs. James's. Dr. Rogers had some Wagner, Schubert, Grieg. Recital came up on Wednesday this week.
Yesterday I made a few deliveries to send to the people who come for furlough this week. Hope they will have a good trip. Then "three years, !!!

Well, I'll close this up so that Ellicott can take to the city this AM. He has to go in twice today.

Are there some kind of yarn that will fit those knitting needles, aren't like? I thought I had a memory that they were about the size you need.

Sorry my letters are so long in coming.

No I haven had no nausea at all, this trip. Isn't it fine!

Dr. Griffith's book on "The Care of the Baby" - we have in the house. It belongs to Dr. Eilkins. I also have Hillo's book "The Care of Rearing of Children".

Yes, I think we have plenty reading material. I have written the Methodist Publishing Company to see about their magazine offers. Exchange is so slow here, that it will not make so much difference now as before. I hope the Board will adjust the difficulties about exchange, but it will make it pretty hard for them and can't be done for months probably. All the they probably are willing and want to do all they can.

The most educated women are not so curious as those we call on, but their ideas of etiquette are quite different from ours. Many of the Chinese one could enjoy socially if only one could talk freely. Of course they have very little in common with us in the realms of literature, music, nature etc.

You have seen this new little mom. I know.

Very much love
Fannie