Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Ones All,

It is about 9:30 A.M. Ellison is picking up his things to go into the city where he will stay for dinner and afternoon Sunday School. Then he expects to go in again for the evening service and the night until he is lucky enough to come through the wall with Mr. James's friend.

I am all ready for the chapel service on this side of the river. Have on my pretty new khaki and dark blue serge shirt. The sleeve is made like the picture of the white green and white Viella flannel with white flannel collar and cuffs.

The other sample with the blue stripe is some native (?) cloth which I bought in the city for pajamas for Ellison. I am quite pleased with it.

The Viella flannel I bought at Shanghai.

This has been a rainy week at least for three or four days. The river is a little fuller. The floods have a few droops in the bottoms. But best of all, everything has been thorough. The citizens have a little rest, and the trees and dead grass are refreshed again.

The Chinese can plough their sun-baked fields, and we are all very thankful indeed. I expected a heavy rain of rain, but yesterday it cleared beautifully.

The sun was bright, the sky was blue, the mountains were encircled with white fluffy clouds. The views were certainly lovely to look upon.

Today is overcast again, but no rain as yet.

We entertained the Presbyterians from across the river at tea yesterday with their two guests Mr. and Mrs. Dale. I had a nice tea:

- Cinnamon rolls
- Butter
- Millet and raisin jam
- Mulberry jam
- Graham cracker sandwiches
- Cookies with iced jellies
- Sponge cake with fruit preserves

Later, I have been to church, and am now waiting for the S.S. time to arrive.
I have made Judge and Hemitch this week— and both E— and I have enjoyed it. Daddy B— writes that he is sending on a bunch of chocolates. Then if some comes from Rockport, too, won't we be rich!!! It was good of brother and the boys to send some.

I have read some, and studied and planned work, read a book—skipped it really— The Sign of the Cross by O'Connell. Made and accounts for February and played checkers evening. I have a very exciting life, not so interesting as I would like to have it, but what can I do when the doctor tells me not to go into the city, unless it is some urgent need— and that means my activities confined pretty much to this house and the little school at the foot of the hill. I hope to start a class in gymnastics this week for the scholars. They able to now— first number making accommodations hardly sufficient.

E— goes to Swatow again on committee work on Thursday of this week. I am expecting to. Mildred and Miss Stock to spend the rest of the week end here.

The people whose furloughs are due this year started this week— rather a hazing start, too.

This letter from Father and Mother yesterday. I am afraid my letter (with their slow mails) did not reach you in time for the anniversary. Sorry! I have asked Ruth to buy some things for you and hope they will be good. I was not particularly pleased with the birthday gift I sent my mother, but I was not counting time quite right this year and had to select hurriedly and something that would go in a letter.

Thank you, Dad, for the new dome. It is very pretty! Mrs. Ellis saw mine (his father's) and liked one. It will be sure to have some money when we come home on funds.

I am glad Mother could go to Bridgewater. I am sure she needed the change. I was surprised at Mary Walker's marriage. Maxim will be interested!!!

It must be lonely for stills at first. Much love. Letter.
Dear Amr. All,

Well I had another surprise this week! I was calmly expecting Miss Dick and Miss Wells from the other side of the country, but one night, a young man walked in with Dr. Mildred to stay all night. I was especially glad as Ellen had to be at Swatow that night.

He had a real jolly time. First we sang all the opera murrels he could get hold of from "The Bohemian Girl," "Sunnyside," "Patlets," etc., etc.

Then we had a jolly supper:
- Creamed chicken on toast
- Mashed potatoes
- Peas
- Tomato salad with creamed Oil dressing
- Raspberry whip with soft custard
- Coffee.

Then we sat before the grate fire, and ate some of the sweet chocolates you could imagine! We then came to the place where we have to limit ourselves to one slice after midnight: the bottom of the tin is very painfully empty. 😊 I know I have eaten all that is good for us, however, and it is better that our systems should have a little rest from the sweets. 😊

I had guests for tea on Monday: Dr. and Mrs. Field. Mrs. field is a very bright and attractive and sympathetic. She is the wife of a Presbyterian doctor who has been very successful.

By the way, I did not mention that Dr. Field came over to talk over a change in plans for June. Dr. Lach, the second doctor, could not come to Kitang, so early as Dr. Mildred wanted him to, and so both doctors decided to change plans and go to Swatow instead of Kitang. Then Dr. Mildred would come down to Swatow. We should probably live there at that time at the Bahmrie house, which is one of the best and airiest in the mission. We should be within call of expert Presbyterian physicians, as
well as our own mission physicians. If Ellieson happened to be at Chaochontou, we could reach him easily by telegram, and he could use train instead of slower boat to come. However he would expect to come to Swatow to stay by June 1. I think he well as to go down with me about May 16.

So there are many advantages to be thought of, and most of the disadvantages are for Dr. Mildred. But she says that she can arrange things all right.

It seems absurd to go down a whole month early, but it is the thing to do in this country without a doubt. We can go from Swatow to Haiping, alight at Katyang, we should have been a little nearer.

Next week Ellieson expects several of the evangelistic men to come up here to the city to talk over their problems in the work.

We are having a few roses these days. A few sweet English bulbs open daily, and I have hundreds of nasturtiums from one single plant which seemed itself!!

From the garden we are getting only lettuce, all the bean plants are blooming, and some tomatoes are almost ripe. The corn is a few inches high.

I send in last week's letter a list of the grain you sent to Hulie in parcel IV. I hope that the parcel will reach her safely and that someone will be kind enough to forward the list to her. I suppose I really ought to send two separate lists for safety.

We are troubled at the probability of America's war with Germany.

I am sorry to hear that Mother has had neuritis, and I do hope it has all gone by now.

The program of Vannie's concert looked very attractive!
Dear Ones,

I have got ready for bed and found refuge from mosquitoes under the net, while Ellicott depending on the efficacy of some burning joss sticks is sitting up outside, writing. It seems real sociable and pleasant.

We are having a big flooded chocolate-colored river as we usually do at least once in the spring days, and the week would have been dreary and if we had not had guests. It has rained every day beginning last Saturday, all the yesterday. It was the most persistent for rain. You know we had had a long drought of months and months, and we were all glad when it rained on Sat. PM, Sun. PM, and again Mon. PM. On Tuesday it began to settle down to the job, and grew worse and worse today yesterday (Thursday). The crowds had begun to show a tendency to fall up by Tuesday by Wed. night, they were about normal to our great pleasure. Then on Thursday. Our word came that everybody was preparing for a flood, and that the school teacher wanted assistance in moving things up to the new upper story. Ellicott, the coolie, and later the cook all helped, and even most everything was played in the loft. There the school teacher, her two children, and the old lady caretaker must live crampedly for days to come, until the water recedes leaving a muddy film over everything it has touched, even the stalks of rice in the rice fields.

This is the week when Ellicott and the evangelistic workers were to talk over their plan and form a working plan for a three or four year's campaign. Mr. McGowan came then, too. Also Mrs. Foster, I believe, wrote that Dr. Foster was determined to stay until Dec. 1st. (Mrs. Foster is near mother age, and I was glad to have her company.) Mr. Baty did not arrive until Wednesday last time then we had had a lot in the family, and it has
seemed nice.

Mrs. Foster was married when she was thirty and had six children, the youngest of whom is about twenty's age.

We had a social time Mon. eve, but every other day, the men went over to the Baker house and had their conferences, morning and afternoon. They met once here and let us listen every evening except Thursday.

They intended to go home by the early train this morning, Confin, Mrs. Frost planned to go yesterday, but the flood was big and the village demanded 2.00 for a boat to cross the river, the boat limited to three passengers; usually the fare is 10 and no limit to number of passengers. Finally after a long time of parleying, they hired aboard a boat to take the whole party, servants and baggage to Swatow for 7.00. It is a long ride down from nine or eight hours even when the river is in flood, but it insured that the party would not have to wade this muddy water or meet flooded tracks which might prevent them from reaching home to-night.

My eyes are tired. Guess I'll say good night for now—will write to Lottie.

Sunday, 10:50 A.M. April 15, 1917.

At my deck.

Still overcast and dull, and we had rain again last night, but the water is receding gradually. Eventually the school teacher came down from the left, for she sent up for a fromoon this morning. Such a mess as the school must be in!

Ellison has gone to the city by boat to hold the communion service, but I shall be at home all day, for I cannot hold any services in the hall yet.
We had invited the people from the other side to come over for the day, but they could not get here on account of the flooded river. It is quite a sight from our house, I assure you, and it is a mighty volume of water that passes swiftly by! If the mountains were needed, there might be a different story.

I have been sewing a little this week. Han made a baby bonnet for Mrs. Griffin, and a short dress for Mrs. Lewis, also a sheet, some little thin Japanese flannel shirts (not quite finished) etc. etc.

Ellison got Mrs. Foster to teach him how to knit!

I have played the 2nd Sonato of Beethoven this in a halting way since dinner, and now I'll turn to some other letters.

Enclose the other half of this piece to Marion. Hope it arrives safely?

Much love to all.

Lottie

Set me know if Conference photo reaches home (Rockport) safely please, and the other pamphlets - conference reports etc.

I am going to send a panoramic view of the city from by ray of California when it exhibits in the church that supports us.
Dear Ones All,

It is 8:00 P.M., and as I am alone for a little, I'll write a few lines.

In my last letter, I spoke of the rain, which today is the thirtieth day that we have had rain or heavy mist, but today we have had some sun, and everybody all over the city has been mending clothes. The cook says that all his things are mildewed. I have been tempted to have a fire to dry things out, but I am afraid it would be uncomfortable for the average temperature now is 60° or 70° and we are still wearing flannel on account of the chill of the mornings.

Our rose bushes are blooming beautifully. These are not the beautiful roses that we had at Ranelagh, for most of those died last summer, but they are bushes of fine flowers. When we came, Ellison pruned them closely in the fall and now the roses have more petals and longer stems, and they are in such abundance that we cannot keep them cut. We must have cut more than a hundred or Wednesday, but by Thursday, all early the bushes were full of fully opened roses. I gathered a huge handful for the coolie to give away today. He gave him roses and dark red ones. The dark red ones are beautiful, but the stems are weak — not strong enough to hold the many roses.

Have you seen or do you see "The World's End" this week? (Number 76) I am extremely interested. Never a dull moment. I am anxious to hear how it affects the country.

The mosquitoes are pretty bad now, but by keeping citronella on our ankles we managed to keep fairly comfortable.

I had just a little typhoid, my ankle exposed the other night.
found thirteen bites on it when I went to bed. These are not the kind of bites that swell up, but there is a central blister surrounded by red. They are not as annoying as the bite which swells up.

Mrs. James has had two girls from Waking for visiting her for two weeks and they spent the day here yesterday. One of them is Marie Thompson who reminds me of Bette Little, and I was delighted to have her here last. She had a most jolly day, seeing and playing, and you may be sure I tried to feed them good things to eat.

Pea soup with rice toast
Roast beef
Biscuits and gravy
String beans from our garden
Bean salad from the city
Banana salad with peanut dressing
Nut pudding with nice sauce and coffee

Then for tea we had cinnamon rolls, walnut bars, doughnuts, and mocha layer cake.

Now Ellison is away for a day and a half, and I have all the refinings of the feast, when I don't care to eat over much.

Never mind! Most of it will keep until he can help me out. And he usually stays in the city for Sunday dinner, too, and eats rice and sandwiches, and cookies and hot cocoa, and thus has heartburn.

I think I'll urge him to take the long walk home when the weather is decent rather than develop indigestion. He has been staying only a few months in all, now.

Some nice mail came yesterday—a lovely long letter from Mother, and one from Ruth.

I felt what movies at Ruth's assuming such a heavy task.
for the summer. I'll write her soon. I still have a few small pieces of dream work for her I believe.

Guess I'll go to bed. It's stupid to sit up all alone. Tried to find some good reading and picked up a collection of Dickens, only to find ghost stories and such, which I was not at all pinning for. It is safest to turn to some things I know about. I remember being so disappointed in Stephen's stories two years ago. They seemed so bloodthirsty.

The cook has been sewing for me this pm and I have served coffee, too.

My gymnastic class came, but I do very little with them now, just the simplest things. I let them play a game at the end. They had great fun passing clothes pins to dry.

Good night now. God bless you, everyone.

I was so pleased to receive Etta's picture this week. Must write her. I do, every time, and do it now. But I get bored sitting at my desk and sometimes it seems an awful effort to start a new letter with the mosquitoes buzzing around!

Saturday, Aug. I was in bed by 9:00 last evening and slept till morning. The boys thought warm water at 6:15, and I went to sleep again before getting up at 7:15. Good work! Then I dressed leisurely and went down to breakfast. First I stepped into the kitchen and said to the cook: "Good morning. Please warm up this potato cake and poach an egg for me. Also make a cup of cocoa."

Then I went back to the table, had my fruit and cereal, and then the things I had ordered.
It seems so luxurious! But when one considers the enervating climate and the busy days one must have when one is able to be active, and the lack of kitchen conveniences, and the big house necessary on account of heat, all these considerations seem to justify it. But I hate to get into such a state that a day's work will tire me when I get home.

I thought it had cleared yesterday, you know, but in the night there was rain again, and today it is cloudy.

For the last two weeks I have put a piece of letting in each letter. Hope they arrive safely. Both are in Marion. Hope she is well. I take it that they have not moved.

Oh, Aunt Julie, the box containing balls of cotton string for mask clothes during safety. That it to keep ones leisure minutes busy.

What a beautiful dress Ruthie made for Carol. I thought you learned to make dresses in school, Carol?

If Carol does not want to teach at all, she could not go to So. Framingham, could she? Will you give me an answer, please?

Too bad about George's cold. Sorry! Sorry Mrs. Cunningham and Mrs. Daggett have been so sick.

What was the matter with Mrs. Bellie Methwell?

You must be careful about getting on trains, Mother!!

Elsie George's knee did not bother him for very long.

Love to Uncle Charlie and Uncle George and also to the pioneers in Maine. Hope it is more comfortable by now. Very much love to all.

Lettie.
Dear One,

Sunday evening has come around again, and still we have had rain every day. To be sure the rain came so early and late one day that the sun could shine during the daytime, and you may be sure we made the most of it and sunned everything we possibly could during that time. Today is the 23rd day; question is, how long can it continue? It surely has been a blessing to me to have it cool and comfortable during these days of packing and preparing the house for my absence, even if the dampness is annoying and harmful to property.

The weather or something has made our roses bloom profusely! Ellison picked over three hundred roses of the bushes the other day; he gave away heaps and threw away heaps of their stemmed ones, keeping only the half opened and longest stemmed ones. You remember I said there are beautiful roses, spot our loveliest ones. Still they are lovely.

Our houseboy said that he had to go home for his summer clothes and morgulite net, and as I let him go on Wednesday 6:30, he had a substitute, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday and was to have returns this AM. I do hope that he will return tomorrow with a good excuse for to-morrow is wash day and he knows that I need him badly! While he is away, the cook waits on us at table. He is as slow as a snail, and when we told him to light the lamp to-night, he called the cook to light it, claiming that he didn't know how. He needs a pair of straw slippers all worn down at the heel as all Chinese slippers are. They always tread them down. I don't know why unless they are easier to get into.

These slippers go "flap, flap!" every time he takes a step! Can you imagine the scene and the sound?
Ellison told me a most interesting thing to-day. He said that he wanted me to visit the church with him some time. When I pressed him for the particulars, he finally said that he wanted me to see the preacher's room. On the main wall is a row of pictures mostly framed and most prominent in this row was a picture of one of my friends. I was all curiosity and finally learned that it was the picture of Donna Paul Neygar!

It seems that in looking over my pictures a long time ago, I had thrown out all that were not particularly good or that had been attacked by white fish. This one was among them. The preacher had evidently visited the house when the roost was being emptied and had begged it from the servants. He told Ellison that he knew it must be some great personage, and so he put it on his wall.

How little I knew of its destiny when I threw it away! Suppose there is many a scrap thrown away that they are glad to get hold of.

Today I held an examination at Sunday School. Last week I announced that I would give ten cards to each pupil who would learn all the Golden Texts. I happened to be only given three. Don't know how many persons would learn them, but I prepared three sets of cards, postal and Christmas and magazine pictures.

What was my surprise to find that eleven pupils knew them perfectly and three more made a very little mistake. Not only had they learned the words but most of them had also learned the book of the Bible with the chapter and verse! I'll bet only half of them knew or could explain the meaning. To learn by rote is the Chinese method of study. They...
usually are not required to think and are
non-plussed by a thought question.

Today Elliston was prepared to preach at the
that. When he arrived, he found the old men
wrangling over a piece of property which one
of them had given to the church. (He had given
the land for a cemetery, but allowed his nephews
to use part of the land to plant.) Hence the quarrel.
Well, Elliston instead of preaching the sermon
he had prepared, quelled the disturbance
and then preached an entirely new sermon
about "We are the light of the world" etc.,
making very apt and pointed application to
the past light in any church where there was
mending land contrasting the ideal condition.
I feel as if it is quite a feat to preach extem-
oraneously in Chinese!!!

He came home about 5:30, but is off again the
evening for an evangelistic service in the
city. He and Mr. James make a bargain with
a gate-keeper to hold the gate open and so they
can come home at night instead of sleeping in
the city. Last week the gate-keeper went
back on his word and the men had to climb
over the display wall with the help of friendly
Chinese and a ladder! So this week he has had his bed carried in to the city,
but he expects to be back as usual.
However, the bed is there in case of emergency.

During the day I have written some played
portions of Beethoven's symphonies and
It while Aunt Fan has sent me, and
had a little of Stevenson--one thing being a
most clever letter he wrote to George Meredith
from the island of Samoa.

During the week I have prepared things on
packed some nearly every day? It seems foolish
in one may to begin so early, but it is much
easier to be made slowly, while it is cool,
and be prepared!

We do not hear news of how "Declaration of Men"
Has affected the U. S. Should be glad to hear. Hope it will not bring distress to any of you. The prices of food are awful! How can you live at that rate?? I am sorry!

You will all have to have wireless cooks so that you can make tough cuts of meat tender, and take turns to use meat substitutes, or produce your own garden stuff. Do you buy cereals in bulk? It is much cheaper. Buy 5 or 10 lbs of several varieties. This increase in prices will have an influence in Ruth's tea rooms too, I fear.

It is 8:30. Mosquitoes have not been as bad as usual to night, but they began to hover too near for comfort and I suppose my ankles are bitten, although I have kept them very moist all the time. I did not use citronella to-night. I hate the odor of it.

Tell very much love and Good night for now. I have lovely letters from Ruth, etc., and Rockport to comment on later.

May 1. Tuesday.

Yesterday Pm. the weather cleared for little but this morning at 6:30 there was a heavy white mist over everything. The sun has burned it off now, and the machinery is going on. The boy returned this Pm. about 8:30 very much to my relief! The sunny side of the porch is covered with winter clothing and drawn work for Nena and some bedding.

Elian has gone to a country station for the day.

I am going to watch a few delicate things I don't dare fill the amount handle, write a little aged finish the work of preparing supplies for Thayong. I prepared nearly everything yesterday, but there is still soda, spices, coffee, tea, mustard, vingares, and a few more stuffs!

Glad to see Ruth's letter of Feb. 11 and one from Stella. Much love to all the dear ones. Sat. 17.
May 1, 1917
Chao-chou, Swatow

Dear Mother and Dad,

I was so glad to get your good long letters of March 11 and 12. I have enclosed a postcard for Papa with some kind of stamp that I don't know. I shall get some Hong Kong stamps very likely when I go to Swatow, but they cannot be used here. They may not be used now in Swatow, as I believe that the Chinese are taking over all the Post Offices and improving their system.

I was so sorry about George's dog, and hope that the new one will prove good.

Prices of food seem awful!!

The new dime and the dollar arrived safely quite a while ago. I wrote at once, and trust you have heard by now. Also you must have the letter which spoke of the diary and shirt stove.

I have written a postal to Elizabeth Ross. It is wonderful that she keeps up so long. I'd like to hear her talk for a while.

What does it mean when you say a stamp with value overprinted?

I'll keep my eyes open.

Now, the cook has brought me warm water, I must run make few things, then I'll finish later.
Dear Mother,

To make a very good marmalade out of one pomelo grapefruit, one orange, one lemon. Being only a very little skin, we manage to get a result that is not bitter at all. I wonder if this is Rachel's or Carol's recipe.

Glad John is to have a raise in salary. Did Pater's handwriting arrive safely? It is to be used remember.

It seems so good to see the sun today.

How are you for summer clothes? Are prices of clothing as high, I wonder, as prices of food?

We have bought 124 cups of milled this month, at 62.65 per. And from the mill we got all our butter and cream enough for at least one meal and sometimes two.

Did I mention that my boy came back all right at 7:30 this AM? I haven’t seen him yet for he has been washing clothes.

The cook said he delayed his return in account?

Roin: Very much love,

Lottie

Continue to address all mail Senator thru the summer, or all time if you prefer.
Sunyow, China
May 6, 1917

Dear Mother H,

You’ll see by the heading that I have come to Sunyow at this early date! You see, Dr. Ross, the Scotch doctor at Chaochowfu, was to be away for four or five days in succession, and we felt a little nervous about being there without an M. D. He did not think anything would happen, but so far as we personally were concerned, we wanted to take every precaution, and could not have forgiven ourselves if any emergency had arisen that had made a doctor necessary. So Ethel and I and the servants did in a day and a half that we had intended to spread over about four days; that he had made so many preparations beforehand, that we really could do so quite easily. However, I can’t help telling you that your son was a model of help, and tenderness, and patience, and I am more thankful every day that he is my husband.
Mrs. James, in her dear thoughtful way, insisted upon our coming over to her house to have our last meal in the city, and a little rest, before the railroad trip. In that way, and in several other ways—(Elliscus taking a camp chair from me in the train, and traveling in the cool of the day)—we found the trip very comfortable and arrived in safety at the end.

Elliscus went back to the city yesterday afternoon. It was unusually hot, but by evening a cool breeze and rain came, so that I hope he has had a comfortable day in one of the country chapels today. (The rain had stopped by morning.)

I am wearing that pretty white silk (and violet figure) maternity dress, the material for which you sent me two years ago. I have been so glad to have it, especially since Iraso coming here to the part for the last month.

You can imagine my pleasure yesterday afternoon when I received the two parcels which you sent from home in March. I am
only sorry that Ellison could not stay to see the contents.

The parcels are usually longer in coming than this. Such a pretty blue ribbon, so dainty and cool, and I had no thin one at all. And I certainly was pleased to have that bonnet of Ellison's. It looked so fresh and white that I could hardly believe that he had worn it. Do not bother to send band strings, as Aunt Alice sent me several and so far I have used only one pair.

The things Aunt Fan sent were beautiful. It is so dear of her. I will write her and Mrs. Collingswood later.

Wasn't Mrs. Collingswood lovely to be interested in the first place, and then to send the pretty pins.

Jellies.

The pieces look very good to me. Some of the cretons are so pretty that I am tempted to use one or two of the pieces for trimmings.

I am afraid the pieces of silk will not keep in this climate — for silk and ribbons go
into rhinos in no time — unless they are unusually good quality. But everything will be of some use you may be sure.

The pencils came safely. Are they for Ellison or the school? And the leads like mine?

Thank you for getting the notions for me. I think they all arrived safely. The hair-pins I am using today. I had a motley collection. Mine seemed to break all at once suddenly, and I filled in with different samples (none very good) which I bought for me in Swatow. Those you bought, I like very much, and I will let you know later if they have any particular faults.

The elastic, basting cotton, silver polish have all come in the nick of time. Thank you so much for doing all these errands in your busy days.

In the same mail came a nice Gertrude jetterio-at from Mrs. Bartholomew, and a pretty chemise for me. The National Geographic and several other pieces of reading matter came in the mail, so you see it was much like birthday or Christmas.

We are sorry to hear of Mary’s gripe and hard fall, and hope that she is all recovered.
Dear Ones All,

You will wonder that I am in Swatow. Well, Dr. Pross was to be away for four or five days from Chaochow, and when the I do not expect to be sick for six weeks perhaps, I did not feel like taking the responsibility of staying at the city without a doctor for go days in succession. So the servants, helped, and Ellison gave me all his time and attention and patience for two days, and without much difficulty we made the few final preparations to come away. It was mostly a matter of packing as I had been gradually getting things done a little at a time, and already had five or six of the big baskets all packed. Really I am to have to be away from home (in this packing) for about five months, and yet leave things so that Ellison can live comfortably at home at least two or three months, and use the house as a base for country trips longer than that. So set up some separate establishments of servants and food is no joke at all I assure you. And I am so afraid that the white ants will get a foothold in the house while we are away. I think that we have found more this year than ever before.

Amy Jones, with her usual good heart, insisted on my coming over time to have lunch and tea and a rest on the day that I came away (Friday). I had not been over for meeh and I had not been over for meeh and I over the rest I wanted to see her and chat, and see how much Baby Milan had grown. She is a bouncy chil, goes about as a dollar, and walking around. She had just received an order from the National Cloak and Suit Company (for me) and to my great shame and disappointment, there is something the matter with every piece of foot men she ordered - morecasinos for baby, slippers for herself, and slippers for her husband. I am so sorry. She defends the thing one can least afford to have wrong out here!!!

What is this. I hear about abates being 8- and 12 dollars a pair now at home?!!

I had a comfortable reclining rocking chair with one foot...
from the Presbyterian Compound. Ellinor had the
happy idea of bringing a comfortable camp chair for
me to sit in the train. We traveled in the cool
of the day, and so made a most easy trip, out
of one which can be very hard and tiresome.

Dr. Leach took us in at the Bunglow to live
with her until my goods come by boat next
week. I hope.

I am in Miss Sullivan's big comfortable
room. She is home on furlough.

Ellinor went back yesterday afternoon, and is
at a country church this day. Yesterday afternoon
was very warm, but toward night a high wind
began, promising rain. To-day is cool and
comfortable.

Yesterday came a surprise—three parcels
from home, and you may be sure I was
pleased.

There was a dear Exadude Guthroce, beautifully
made by Mother B—, who also sent a nearly chemical form
in the same parcel.

Then there was a parcel from Polycye, containing
several surprises—a very pretty embroidered long
dress from Aunt Jan, also a little pink ribbon
arrangement to adopt the size of a bonnet—very
aging! Mother I— sent one of Ellinor's very first
bonnets and a pretty blue cotton wrapper which
will be very nice to keep, as I had only a pink one, or
flannel ones in the trousseau, and they may be too
warm. There were two gold rings from Miss
Collingwood of Polycye also. Wasn't she kind?

The other parcel contained some nice pieces of
clotth and embroidery zelks for a future sewing
class that I hope to instillite, someday, as
well as some little things I had asked for—beads,
brooch, polish, elastic, beating cotton etc. They are
wheft in the front and tencl. They are, it is fun to open
parcels! I am writing from memory, and as
I may have forgotten something.

We have seen the latest papers and magazines
here, and that is good too. It makes my head boil.
to read that we shall have conscription! I suppose it is better in the whole, but I can not bear to think of George or John being drawn into this horrible war!

The mosquitoes are very few here, too, and so that is a comfort!

The Doctor from your father arrived yesterday, and we have received it, and sent it around for others. The National Geographic came too, with most interesting pictures of immigrants.

Hope you are all well and happy. I am expecting letters from you as the latest, and from Bill and home are March 7 and 13th, but we have received letters from Holyoke up to the end of March 4! Hope nothing is lost.

I am very comfortable and well and strictly under the doctor's wing, so do not worry. The moon has carried some love messages to you all.

Sottie.

Tuesday, May 8.

A good letter from Auntie and she arrived yesterday, and I was so glad to hear.

Has Charlie received the silk handkerchief for his birthday? Don't ask him so that it will remind him, but just let me know, as you surely would know.

Told I had my mail catalog here so that I could look at your dress, but my taste is at Choo choo Jan. However, Mary blue crepe de chine sounds very nice.

Sister Marion could send me a pattern for a dress for Bill, one that would fit her six months later, I feel very badly that she has not already sent it, after my repeated requests. I know she feels, but I added it and I still want it. Little kimono style seemed like best.

Yesterday May 7, arrived a letter from Daddy B sent from New York on April 27. It came by the English fast steamer "Empress of Russia", by way of Vancouver.

It brings the war home to us very visibly! We enclosed the
President's message, and said that Bob was taking

... write very bravely—after some introductory

... when he would like to serve

... Aviation Corps of the Signal

... Wednesday. (Physical and mental exam) which he passed, and will go to the training school at Newport News, Va. as soon as he gets the order, which he expects in a

... The training will be for six months. Before he begins to hope to have him home a few days—probably he will come to monow and to here for

... Douglas's troop (Douglas's school cousin in C.P. about Bob's

... has not yet been called out, and doubts will be in a day or two for service, he does not know where."

I confess my heart trembled when I thought of war

... and 13th, and I determine to hold them—I trust God protect them, and

... It is harder to be a

... to go myself as to send my loved ones with a brave heart."

... I will try to remember to send another letter.

... She has been sick again, I worry for her. She writes

... that Alice's husband's father (Mr. caption) is very

... and cannot live more than a few days!!

... Kechichi here, the American nurse is Miss

... and the year we did I am

... very fond of her. There is also a very nice Chinese nurse, and I am so glad. Mrs. Lehen's good amah for a

... permanent one.

... 4 of my books here, but it seems to me the balance

... you mention to my credit is too large!

... meet close now—wilt you much love

... Sottie.
Dear Ones All,

It is not long since I wrote you last, but I'll begin another note. Hope you are all well and happy.

I had a very quiet Sunday writing in the morning and reading from "Ann of Avonlea." Have you ever read it? It is most interesting. Written by E. L. White.

When it came afternoon, I just reversed the order, reading and writing a little and then writing. I can't that lazy enough in anyone! In the evening Frank foot came in and we had some Victrola music. I especially enjoyed Aunt Cele's dear hymn: "Lead, Kindly Light."

Tuesday A.M. May 28.

I can write only a little, but what shall I say? I just can't allow myself to have feelings just yet. They are too deep. Don't pity us. I know you know best even though he does not grant our dearest hope.

I wonder if I have done wrong in me, that must be righted this way—whether I am needed for work I could not do if I were bound up in my family as I surely should be! But just think of poor Ellison and his family!!! They have no grandchild at all!!

There is no explanation this time more than before, but this