Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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My Dear Lottie:

Your sweet letter was very pleasant to receive. I assure you, I am so glad you feel almost like a daughter now and shall certainly hope that when the time comes, you will no difficulty in calling me "Mother." I thank you for your love and am glad you can give it.

Your time at Dr. Hadley certainly seems to have been full, and you could not have done more than you did. I suppose it is too early to expect to hear any result from your interview with the appointment committee and
Pres. Hoosley. If you are to make a change in your work one should I suppose hear of it at the right time. What concerns your interests, etc.

I do not know how well informed Elizabeth keeps you of the home doings. We are busy as we always seem to be. Mr. Hildreth is particularly so just now. He can never be depended on for dinner at home, because a great deal of his work is looking up titles and that takes him to Springfield, or Northampton, to the Register of Deeds office. From the much he is in, one might think it meant a big paying business, but there a great deal of work for small returns, and a great deal comes as charitable work. It is surprising how many widows come to him for help in their business affairs, and he is always ready to help, though it takes much of his time.

He had a treat last Tues. eve., when the literary clubs of the city were invited by the Thursday Club, to hear Marshall Darrack give the "Merchant of Venice." It had been
knowing from Mon. night till Tues. 9 P.M. and started again Tues. eve., but, in spite of the snow, High School Hall was well filled. The mere repair for the erection of scenery, for his rendering was fine—his portrayal of Shylock was wonderful and the whole thing was enjoyable.

I should have enjoyed going the next night to the Hall, to hear the Amherst Blue Bells concert, but—instead, I entertained Fannie’s teacher and Mrs. Taylor and Helen, after school hours till 9 P.M. Mrs. J. and I are planning now to entertain all the teachers at the Elmwood School home eve., the did this two years ago at her house and the teachers seemed very grateful for the pleasure they received—they had never been so entertained before.

Since then, Fannie has wanted them here and we are trying to arrange it. It is a triple difficult, because of Lent. When we realized it would come in the Lenten season, we supposed the Catholic teachers (about half)
would object to coming, but the principal said they
would come on any night except Wed. & Fri. —
as Thurs. is m’o Prayer meeting and Mon. & Sat.
are poor nights for company, we are reduced to
Trees. Feb. 12 is Business Meh’s Banquet, Feb. 19
Pittsburg Orchestral concert, which we want to attend.
Feb. 26 Mark offices daughter appears here. You
see it’s hard to find a free night.

So I have not heard from you mother,
but it’s all right. I hope some time we may
meet and perhaps we can talk more easily.

Hope I may write to Ellien so here’s
love and a goodby from

(Mrs. John)                                      Kate B. Biederman
Letters on engagement.

Miss Lottie R. Lane,

Emma Hillard School.
Dear Lottie:

I received a postal from Mr. Bildert this A.M. He says the nurse said Ellen did well through the operation--he went up to see E., but, as he was asleep, he could only look at him and then had to leave. This time between trains was short and he lost ¾ of an hour looking for the wrong car, that is why he told me to wait till he wrote before I went up. He says go to the Subway and take a Reservoir car or a No. 10 Boulevard car--the cars are not marked "Beacon & Brookline." go to Jordan's Stairs--these stairs are a rather hard climb, so he advises me not to carry any luggage at all. Are you planning to go up this week or next?
Although I should be glad of company it seems to me it would be well if we could go on different days, so she need not have all his good times at once, don't you think so?

Hastily,

J. K. B. Hildreth

I want you to take this to your Father if he is not at the Bank she will mail it for me.
Dear Lottie:

I was very glad to get your letter today. I think I am scheme of having Ellice read to us part of it. We used to have letters a good me. The two letters had a Round Robin and the letters were sent from Holyoke to Ellice, then to Northampton, Gloucester, and then to Northampton, Massachusetts, to Marion in Boston. In this way we heard from each part of the family, and so kept in touch with them. He wrote a letter for this Robin, then, if we wanted some private message...
for its next in line, we wrote that in a separate slip and ate me to whom it was sent, kept that part. Aunt Jan always sent it by R.R. to me and almost always sent it separate but, then I had me for Elliron, and Helen me for Marion, it seems to me we could do the same now. But is, when Elliron wrote to me he could send the part of your letter that was open & return the rest, and then be open & send my letters to you if you cared to get them. In that way, I should certainly feel a little better acquainted than me do now—shouldn't I?

I do not wonder you feel troubled over Elliron's not-writing. I have—it seemed as if he was growing more careless, but from his last two letters, I am sure that is not the trouble. He
says this new work has kept him busy, and since he began it, he had no time to write, but after the Feb. account is ready, he feels sure he shall find the work easier, and then I hope letters will be more regular and explicit.

Ellison says he wrote to the Board, but has not heard from them yet. She says Mr. Haggard told him he felt sure the Board would advise waiting till 1911, and he feels sure also, that if I can take the trip with his father, I am glad that they can go together, even though it means I do not have as usual, I think it will do both if it is good. Mr. Hildreth needs a change and if Ellison works as hard as he says, it will be a rest for him.

I think it natural you would like to be nearer home next winter, but I agree with the others, that for you it is better to keep a position you enjoy, rather
I have take a new one. It is always harder in a new place and for a year it would
hardly Fay, it seems to me.

I am about commencement. I shall be only too glad to have you here then,
using this as your home, to care and go,
as your plans at the college make necessary;
and if you care to share your bed with
a friend, and have her company back,
I shall be glad to receive and
entertain her too. Then there is Ellinor's
room free - up in the third story - if
you care to use that for two little girls,
you are welcome to do so, and I shall be
glad to have them here until you. The two
rooms are at your disposal if you want them
and I will gladly do all I can to make
your little visit a pleasant one. It is a half
you hope to return to Glen Ridge - stay here
as long as you can - and of course let me
know when you can come. Lovingly,

[Signature]
May 19, 1874

Dear Mother Middlety,

Just a line to tell you that I am getting along nicely. Since the sixth month I have had that nauseated feeling, although I have had very little nausea and it destroys my life and ambition. But I am hoping that this stage will soon pass. People are urging me to go to Canton to visit one of my friends, Harriett Allyn, for the change, but I do not want to go unless I absolutely feel it is necessary.

Thank you for sending underlinens. I hope my second letter did not confuse you, and that you sent them along, for they will surely come in handy. I hope too that you could get the shoes for one's feet are specially bothersome in this country and more so than usual during pregnancy. I was thinking of that when I finally decided to have them.
I know & have you for his shoes and shall own you for mine. Perhaps you had better send me the exact bill this day, and then that will enable me to make out an exact check and settle our accounts for the present. Many thanks for all the trouble.

Hoping Fannie's gift present has arrived safely.

Love to all,

Lettie.
Mrs. Everett Lane
Rockport, Mass.
Box 207.
Thu. May 19, 1911

All well and happy here. Bob has just started for college, and I soon leave for Paterson, N.J. to hear that fine concert with Jane Eldor. Then tomorrow I am to go to the Bliss's to stay while Mr. and Mrs. B. are away for a few days. Mr. B. returned from college last night. He had a great time and was glad to see Ruth. I am glad that the C.B. are doing carpentering in Stoughton? How is Carol? Much love to Synthet, and Papa too - Lottie.
Dear Father and Mother and Aunt Fan,

I cannot tell you how surprised I was when I found the beautiful real lace collar last evening when I came home from the evening service. I was overjoyed, but it made me feel happy and rested at once. Such a beauty! Oh, I can just see it on a beautiful dark blue gown — such as Mrs. Currie wore the night of the farewell meeting — (Oh, how long ago that seems!) I never expected to own such a lovely one, and I can hardly express my appreciation, but I thank you all very much for the gift itself and for the love that I feel behind it. I meant to have told...
you before I came away that I am going to try to take good care of your boy. He has been indispensable to this party and such a help to everybody—myself most of all, of course! He has stood the trip and the care very well I think. One reason is that everything has run smoothly. We have seen a great deal of one another and are getting better acquainted every day.

Ellison has already written you a full letter I think and I have written a full one to the Bartholomewes which I have asked them to forward to you finally. I shall write another as soon as possible and have that forwarded too.

Three letters reached me at Amore.
last evening, and that helped to
make the birthday pleasant. The
some mistake some of my birthday
gifts were packed in the suit case that
went to San Francisco, and so I was doubly
grateful to have yours with me.

Los Angeles, Cal.
Sept. 29, 1913.

Later

We arrived at Pomona about
three hours late after a wonderful
trip thru the deserts and mountains.
They had had four automobiles to met
us at 3:33 when we were due - but
alas! we did not get in even in
time for the chicken and ice cream
supper which they had prepared, but
we did get there in time to 'speechify'
Mr. Rider had met us, and so took us
of the responsibility from Ellison. We hurried right on to Los Angeles Saturday morning and rested all the afternoon. In the evening we called on Mrs. Page - a missionary from Swatow China, who showed us many interesting pictures and books and told us of the people and place. Ellison and all of us spoke Sunday. The group going to different churches but he begged off for me on the San Diego trip Sunday afternoon - I was so glad. Instead of taking that long hot train ride and speaking in the evening, I went automobileing with Julia. Florence Wilson in the afternoon and attended a church service where I heard an orchestra of Chinese children in the evening.

Today I am still with Julie. It is warm but comfortable. I have
washed all my handkerchiefs and collars and stockings, and am soon going to iron them with an electric iron.

We are in sight of the mountain. A palm tree is on every lawn on this street, and beautiful flowers are in blossom. I wish that you could all see it with us.

Very much love to you all, and thanks for the beautiful gift and the love.

Lottie.
Oct. 21, 1913.

Dear Father Hildreth,

Ever since we started on this trip I have intended to write you specially. In the first place, you didn't have any special note to thank you for our wonderful wedding present— and I have been waiting all summer because I wanted to write you from the boat.

You know of course how much it means to us—and how much it will mean as the days go by. I realize a little bit what it means to earn the money and be able to give it. That is, my appreciation is deeper since I know what it means to earn.
It means days and weeks of work!

And then I have learned that you have had a birthday while we have been sailing the broad Pacific, and that I realized that we had not been so thoughtful as you all were, about remembering. We hope that the day was, notwithstanding happy, and that it will be still happier in that the good wishes keep coming in.

We are enjoying the letters each day, and feel grateful for the time spent and the work put on them, they somehow seem more near as we remember that we were
wise by when many of them
were being written.

You will see from the long
letter how our days are being
spent. We are really having a
delightful honeymoon, and it is
such a pleasure to have
Ellison feeling well. He is so
surprised, he doesn’t know how
to act!

Ellison is asking you to
transfer a certain amount of
outfit
and mending present money to
my bank in Bloomfield so that
we can get interest and still
have the money available in a
check account. It will be
all right to assume, I suppose,
that the money will be in the
bank by Dec. 1. When you
write the bank, could you be
willing to ask them to send me a statement and all the returned checks which they have on hand? It will save time I think.

We are looking forward to reaching Yokohama to-morrow and seeing friends in Tokio. We have been invited to a tea party by the President of the steamship line, but we have thought it safer not to accept, since our plans depend upon Mr. and Mrs. Green.

I hope that this year will be full of joy for you and that good health will be yours for many, many years.

Your loving daughter
Lottie

Finished Oct. 23, 1913.
Dear "Daddy Kilduff"—

F. T. Kilduff

Sounds a little too Roman Catholic,

And as I come to the Daddy which I

have become familiar with in my

old age this the Bartholomew.

If it sounds too queer, you

suggest something you like.

But this little note is to thank you

heartily for my big Christmas

present. So much I can do with it!

For here you know it becomes

ten Mexican dollars, and that

seems quite a fortune!

Very lovingly yours,

Senator Ching Lottia P. H.

January 11, 1914
Father
Dear Mother Hildreth,

It was very dear of you to send me such an interesting book as Pollyanna. I had until nearly midnight on December 31 and did not want to put it down even then. I have not finished it yet, but may at the next sitting.

How I wish you could come and visit us. It is so easy and nice that I love it, and Ellison is just as good as he can be to me. He couldn’t be better.

Much love and many thanks.

Lottie.

Swatow, China

January 11, 1917.
Mother
Thailand via Suez
August 3, 1914

Dear Mother and Father Hillsent,

It was very good of you to remember our wedding anniversary so generously. It is said to be a paper anniversary, and so Ellinor is inclined to buy a dictionary (oh, I forgot that she has her birthday money to which he wanted to use that); but we are both wondering if we could not use our gift to buy something to protect our papers (i.e. box) and that is a bookcase which we have already ordered from Sears. Does that please you? We ordered one and although it is large, it doesn’t hold more than half of our books, and we must have another at least. We are a little sorry that we bought quite so many books for they are a great care, and we had some that we do not really need. We appreciate your gift very much, and shall get much enjoyment, I am sure, from this new bookcase.

We are entering upon a month’s vacation, and in all my experience I can remember looking forward to such a length of time so free from care and duty. Of course we have many little tasks which we plan to do, but there is no house work—no housekeeping—and no necessary study.

Today is a beautiful day. I have walked up to the Hill House to arrange with Mrs. Baker about an exchange of left over stores, and received a call from, sunned some of our clothes and written some letters, and it is clearly nearly dinner time. It does seem so good to have some one else planning meals.

Hope you will come to Gloucester when we shall look forward to news from the two families. Have a good rest and drink in some salt air for us. Be not averse to smell the salt air as we do at home.

Very much love to you all,

Lottie.
Dear Mrs. Hildreth,

We are sending a little drawn work cushion cover as a birthday gift and hope that you will have a very happy day and many more to follow. Our teacher did not come this morning and so we had a busy morning. Ellison cleaning his carpenter shop, and I cleaning...
corners where the boy is careless, and attending to the wash. This is a busy life!

To-morrow we expect Dr. Grosbeck to stay one night and the next day after Dr. Bacon comes.

He had a very pleasant look and with them. (Grosbecks)

Your good letter came this morning — so glad to hear! I have looked at all the letters
Eagerly since you went to Gloucester to hear of my family and I have been so disappointed not to hear a word. What is the matter I wonder. Perhaps you forgot to mention it, but I thought that you would be so anxious to see one another that hardly a day would pass before you were talking over news etc. It makes me almost homesick this morning. Auntie Alice mentioned seeing Fannie on the street, and said she expected to
see you all soon.

Well, I'll hope to hear long before I get an answer to this letter. Hope you had a delightful time. Glad to hear news of all friends and the Mervells especially. Did you hear anything of Marjorie?

We planted some seeds yesterday, and hope they will come up.

Very much love to all of you, and especially to Mother for the birthday.

Lovingly yours,

October 6, 1914

Swinson, China.
Dear Mrs. Hildreth,

Here are a few clippings E. has laid aside for you, and a letter of Aunt Celie's I thought you might be interested in as well as a little envelope of snapshots which somehow did not get into the box which we sent. We hope it will arrive safely.

The little package you spoke of sending for my birthday has not arrived yet, but I am expecting it any day and know that it sometimes takes a
Very long time to get things. It was very dear of you to think of me, and I thank you very much.

We have put everything possible for a week or more now, preparing for our examination which came off yesterday for E and me alone. Of course it was very much nicer to be examined by ourselves, and we got through it in a little over two hours and a half. To celebrate we went to Swatow in the afternoon to see sports at the Anglo-Chinese
College. We have enjoyed the letters and clippings very much. We were especially interested in the account of Miss Emma Bates' trip. Then, too, I was so glad to hear of your call at Lane's Inn. Did you know that Marion called on you the same day at Rocky Run? It is too bad!

I am afraid Ellerson and you and Aunt Lee all misunderstood what I meant about 20 letters. I feel ashamed to death as the Chinese say when I think that perhaps you all think that I would urge him to copy my poor efforts—but I guess you understand. I didn't want him to change his original at all—but I did want him to add or insert a little personal...
communication - enough so that you would know that he had read your letter, and also so that he would be sure to answer questions, but I am afraid his habit is too strongly formed, and he forgets to answer it. It seemed as if, if I were far away I would be comforted by the expression of a little of his inner feelings, which I all knew as there.

He does appreciate Jennie's letters and he certainly appreciates everything that is done for him, but you all know this better than I do. I was just wishing that you might receive a little compensation in personal communication (for the long and hard separation). I believe I should pine away without it.

Very lovingly yours,

Lotti.

Dear Fannie, Is it Miss Mignon Tallbot or Miss Tallbot Senior in your house? Thank you for your letter. Best wishes for her last year.

Lotti.