Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

Yale Divinity School Library Record Group No. 15

Finding aid for collection available at:
http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.015

Series: I. Correspondence

Box / folder: 6 / 69

Folder label: LLH to Kate and John Hildreth (parents-in-law), from Chaochowfu, Chaoyang, Thaiyong

Dates: 1915-1917

For copyright information see: http://www.library.yale.edu/div/permissions.html

Originals of collection held at:

Yale Divinity School Library, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511
(divinity.library@yale.edu)

Scanning and computer output microfilm prepared by Conversion Service Associates LLC, Shelton, CT with financial support from The Center for Christian Studies, Shantou University, 243 Da Xue Road, Shantou, Guangdong, China 515063
Jan. 11, 1915

Dear Mother Wilderutte,

So few letters I have written that I am sure you cannot realize how much I appreciate your regular letters, and so slow I have been in getting around to Christmas notes that you will be wondering if things have been received (before you get this word.) The comfortable, not only arrived safely and made our Christmas happy, but it was put into immediate use and I do not know how we could have got along without it. We are very grateful for it. There is nothing that I can think of that our house needs more. Then too, it is so pretty. I hope that I can have a pretty blue room some day.
This week, too, came my much-travelled bag, and you may be sure I was delighted. It was very, very dainty and yet so well protected that it will not soil quickly. I certainly am very grateful for it and the love which is so full in your heart. I know it would please you to know how happy Ellison and I are.

I often look back on those worried days before we were married, and wish I had not worried so much. It is so good to me and we do not enjoy one another as much as the days go by.

I wish I could write more, but I have to depend on the long daily letters to do a great deal of work for me, and I hope they carry the news your daily doings. Very much love and many thanks for the lovely gifts. Lots.
Dear Mother Hildreth,

Can you believe that May is nearly half gone! I can just smell the sweet boughs of Massachusetts and see the fresh flowers and ferns and budding trees. How glorious it all is and how we shall appreciate it when we come back to you - we hope in the spring of 1920 - in time for college reunion - it will be Farrie's too, will it not?

Ellison and I are enclosing some little medallions to be used in trimming a dress and hope that you will find pleasure in them at some time. Sorry we could not get them to you at an earlier date.

Today is a beautiful day here. After days and days of heavy rain which have made the river very full again. The sunset last night was wonderful. We are fortunate to have such beautiful scenery.

I am feeling very much better than for the past six weeks and can now work with a little zest and interest and have been able to eat too, since my return from Chiao-yang. It is a blessing I can assure you.
It is a little hard to get materials out here. I am sending 

to England for materials for a little kimono - to someone for shirts and 
flannel and to M. W. & Co. for shaker flannel for both on etc. 

It will delay the seeing on those things, and I am sorry.

Perhaps I shall be able to get somethings from Shanghai and 

Hong Kong. I am most disappointed in the little nighties. I was told that I 
could get the material (either cotton flannel or Mum's Veiling) for the need in work) 
in Swatow, but I find they are out of everything there. Well, I don't 
know whether this is interesting to you or not, so I'll 

pass on to your letter.

Perhaps it would be well for us to get Swatow for our 

address for everything except letters. All letters really go 

there too, but there is a Chinese P.O. at Chao-chow-fu 

and we send a man there every day.

Glad Aunt Jan is a little stronger and hope the good 

work will continue.

Jannie's new dresses must be very attractive. 

I am sure Jannie could teach Latin with ease. 

Thank you for sending shoes. We shall hope to 

receive them and the flannels too, soon.

Now we still owe you for E's shoes. I think they 

were 5.50. I will send check - or order on Mr. Butter 

What a cold Easter you had! It will provide water

However.

Are you going to Atlantic City this spring? I wonder.

You may be there now even.

Glad Mary's illness was not very long.
Much love to all.

Than had a letter addressed to Helen Tyler for a long time but unwritten as yet. Also Ellen means to write the Randos to thank them for a pretty calendar and to write a long general letter to show his appreciation of the many Christmas cards. Opportunity comes slowly.

In a month now we shall hope at least to be making our final preparations for Thayong. I shall not keep house until the end of the summer.

Love again.

Best wishes for a happy Commencement.

The Reunion at the House on College Street about opposite Rochefellers. My mother told me this is a very popular meeting place.

Virginia
March 18, 1915

Dear, dear Mother Hildreth,

What I have longed for so long, is finally so nearly assured, that I think it is safe to write you, for I could not wait another minute before writing mother.

The great wonder of parenthood may come to us toward the end of November. It makes me so happy that I smile.
and smile, and smile until I wonder if I shall give away the secret. (It is practically sure now). By next week I think I can be perfectly sure, so unless I write you fit in next letter I think you may be absolutely sure.

Perhaps it would be best not to tell the family until the next letter, but do just as you think best about it.
quiet another minute considering the distance between us.

I have some thin white cloth and a few other things which I am mighty glad I could bring out with me.

It is too bad that so much time must elapse before we can interchange our happy thoughts.

If for any reason it should be necessary to cable at any time it would be better by far (as you probably already know).
to telegraph the board at Boston as they have a code.

I have enjoyed letters from you and Jennie.

Very much love to you,
Lottie.

Please don't tell outside tell
Jennie summer-time unless some special reason—
Dear Mother Kelkthus,

So many good letters have come lately that I must write at least a little especially as I have more time since I am visiting and I feel much better than when at home. I am enclosing sheet that I wrote April 19 to enclose in E's letter, but I found that he had already sent it — and none has gone since then I fear. Most of the things I say are of no account now, on account of later information.

Did you know that the Misses Ainsley of Bama whom you mentioned is a friend of Miss Harris's and was at Swatow visiting her for several weeks on her way home? It was some time after I came to Chings I think. We found her very pleasant indeed.

"The Death of Dom. Work at college must have been most entertaining — So glad Fannie accompanied.

It seems like news from another world to hear of your varied life with its concerts, missy meetings, conferences, visits, lectures, plays etc. Too much of it is tiresome I know, but I natural we shall be glad to get a little — especially the music — in that wonderful time when we come home. It was awful red to stay here and see the Bechere leave for home. We just wanted to pick up and come — just for the summer, but it is such an expense. It makes one shiver to think of it.

We thought of you, Fannie, on the day of your recital and wished much that you could hear it too. Do send us the program. And we are so anxious to hear about the school.

I am so sorry that Miss Mignon Talfort had to suffer with gallstones. It is such a painful disease.

What was the story of Mr. Hewitt and the chocolates, Fannie?
Most of the houses have living rooms up-stairs to avoid dampness. The Parse Bengalines really built that way also; the lowest floor was only six feet high and could not be used for anything—not even for storing things.

The most of this nice new house is that it has no a room and also no room for a nurse, of course not needed yet.

We are so glad you have met Mrs. Smith. Do you suppose it would be too much trouble to tell the Rockport folks about it this summer. I suppose you are planning the Laurel Park and Lowell's summer as usual.

I have enjoyed both a good deal since I have been feeling rather miserable. I could often pick it up for a game of Solitaire. For a change, and quite often, and I could have a game just before bed time.

I have sent you a snap of E and I on the steps of Levin house at Unkap, have I not? If I have not, please let me know, for I surely intended to.

E did not have on my bracelet match but a little enginsoll which he bought 2nd hand from Dr. Scott when she went home. He was much pleased with it, but lately one day when he was going to the Station it disaffixed. The strap must have come unfastened or broken. Well, we supposed that some Chinese person is very happy in having found it. My midst match is at home now having a new crystal and being repaired. I tell the home folks not to send it out now as I do not need it.

It is so nice of you to try to get the flannel for me. I know it is a great deal of bother, but I shall appreciate it very much if I have some thing comfortable to wear this summer in that hot matter.

The flannels have not arrived yet, but may be in Boston when I go back this week.
Now for the Easter gift. I feel that it is altogether too much for you to do, but I do like you to want to do so much for us. And I shall not only accept with loving thanks, but shall wear them with a warm feeling round my heart in addition to their own warmth. But you really must not do such a thing again or I shall be afraid to ask you to buy things for us, and then it would be hard for us to be as dependent on our home friends for such things. So let me thank you again for the dear thought.

So sorry Aunt Eun had to be sick with such a severe cold.

Quite a clever way to make money for Missy Society.

I see by my diary that it is time for us to be thinking of your wedding anniversary. I am sorry that I did not notice it before I came away because I cannot do anything here, but send our heartiest congratulations and hope that the day will be full of happiness and good cheer. We do hope that with all our hearts, and shall think of you when the day comes. We shall probably be preparing for it the way than my best wishes for a happy wedding day and may God bless you.

The Mandarin coat I spoke of was only 5 Linen and the Linen was faded. It cost less than 100 gold.

I stay here until Tuesday, then stay with Mrs. Leacher until Friday when we shall go to Scranton for E's exam and the tailor. Then I shall stay with Mrs. Irley.

Heaps of love to each and everyone.

Lotie

Hope Northampton folks are all well. I think of them often, hear them in speech.
May 26, 1915.

Dear Mother Heldreth,

The underwear finally has arrived safely; sorry you had so much trouble with it. I am very grateful for it. Mine fits perfectly, and will work in very nicely as a light might suit between the heavy ones which I ordered from M.W. and Co., and the light summer ones which I have. So that I think it is just right.

I like the half sleeves and knee length too.

The lower part of E's seem to be skin tight and I suppose they have not been shrunk, but we think we may be able to piece them out if they get too small. He is quite a little larger than when he left home. He weighs 202 now. Isn't that good!

We send much love to you all and look for a pleasant restful summer for you. My shoes have not yet come.
Rich would go at Jamie's Commencement.

Love to each one.

Letter.

I was very glad to hear from you. I hope you had a good time and got along well.

Your love and care are greatly appreciated.

Please write back soon.

[Signature]
Thaiyong - Aug 2, 1915

Dear Aver, I just must put a

few notes in this letter when I hear

even of the bare possibility of your

coming to China!!! Such joy it

would be! We'll try not to count

on it so much that we should be

bitterly disappointed if you did not

come, but each day we think of it

and think how glad we should

be to see you and how you see

our home and family. What

It is all right to plan definitely

isn't it?

What time of year would you

like best and could you stay

a nice long time, and would

Fannie and Aunt Ida possibly

come, too? Now, I'll not take it

granted, but it is such fun

to plan! So write us more.
We are glad the house is rented provided the neighbors are satisfactory, and hope they will be so.

It was ever so nice to hear of the festivities at college. It brings 1905 back very vividly, indeed. The house party, too, must have been much fun! So glad Helen Taylor could go too, and sorry that 'Ray' could not get over.

Do there any news of Marjorie?

I believe that we have not sent money for Ellen's grippers unless you will take that out of his dividend money. Perhaps that would be the simplest way.

Sam quite well. Han had a little indigestion in the form of heartburn this last week, but Dr. Mildred gave me a remedy yesterday.

E. is very well; stout and strong and happy. Love to all,

Lottie.
in a manner between us seem with help one of

me and it will be some one of

yourself to understand

yourself and something plays you think

how out of this order with "that"

something to know large to what, that is

sentiment to some part with that given

Some 4,500 which about very clearly with that

particular is some part with that given


Milwaukee
Dear Mother Wildsett and all who were

so good as to put anything into that lovely package for baby:

been looking for the package all the week I have

until yesterday. That needs a little explanation of why
we were not in Swatow to get it ourselves. The last ten
days that we were in T’aiyæng Mrs. James was with us, and as
she talked of the case with which she was going to make the
journey, coming from Kityyang to the within six miles of the
city in the same boat on which we left Swatow. Wishing to
became persuaded that we were foolish to take the
hard trip by way of Swatow. So allowing the cook to come
by way of Swatow to do our errands etc., we came on by
boat to a little place called Puxing where we had a chariot
ride of six miles to the Presbyterian mission where
we were given by kind friends, for a dinner, a
good dinner and a little rest before we crossed
the river to our own place.

But I am anxious to say that when the cook
came yesterday afternoon he brought E’s shoes (of
which he was sadly in need) and that lovely package
in which I am so grateful—the two beautiful dresses,
the lovely warm coat, the nice nighties that your
own hands have worked on, the warm little jackies
from Fannie—and the piece of embroidery that
will be carefully treasured and most certainly used. Ellien was almost as much interested as I was, and that is saying a good deal! In fact he has not shown so much eagerness to see any other things. It was very good of you to do so much and the things will all be things that will be of use. May I thank Aunt Jan and Jennie too, for their kindness and interest. I know how you are looking forward with eagerness and anxiety for the actual event.

I am still hoping that we can send a cable to Boston, for I think it would be so much satisfaction to you all. If we send the cable, will not be dated probably, but at the same day I think.

I am having such a pleasant quiet birthday altho the package they had send from home (in plenty of time too) has not yet reached me. Ellien surprised me with a pretty penknife and a Chinese image at breakfast time, and has just been trying in every possible way to make the day perfectly happy. I hope to get out the violin this evening after its long summer rest.

We found the weather very hot after leaving Thayyong until yesterday when the north wind brought us a home and comfort. We really could feel the need of a sheet in our last night and that is the first time since we returned.

I send very much love and oh. so much gratitude for the dear love in the package. Letter.
Dear Ones,

It is so seldom that I find time to write that I am going to sit right down and answer one or two questions in this letter - because I don't see any hope of finding time to go thru the pile of letters since last November - and answering everything as I had intended. When not yet gone thru the family pile - and there is one other beside and I do want to do it so much! But I'll make sure of this, at any rate. One thing after another comes to interrupt - the latest thing is this malaria which I am so sorry to have because it makes it just so much longer for me to get full strength back. I have been up and around to-day except for a long nap in P.M. but of course cannot do much yet.

He was so glad to get picture of father. As I lay sick in bed I was enjoying all the pictures around the room but missed your and father's. Don't keep them in the study. Now we can have one in the bedroom too. It is a very good picture, too, I think. I didn't have good letter come to-day too. It always brings a bit of his familiarity with it. a great gift in writing.

Of things you mentioned we received shoes, magazines, check (the package is torn up) tortoise shell stick, more needles, collars etc. I've 2 poems in wood engraving at this time too. Wish all made up - a gift of much appreciation.

The diphtheria patient recovered after he had terribly badly afterward - but recovered from that, too.

Our long trip left we find him again on our return here - but dismissed him after a week or so - not satisfactory.
Yes we ate the Groebeks' big groce - a nice one.

I think of you daily and hope that you are well and happy. We enjoy the letters.

It is hard for us to decide about summer for all the weather already written to Motheran in North Pina room. We may have to go to Canton to have teeth repaired as they are aching and then five or six places needing attention. I hate to think of it.

 Blessings to hear of Jennie's vacation.

Very much love,

Lotta,

Many thanks for all the things you sent, and especially for the shoes. I was just wishing I had ordered some. I hope you won't think it impolite if I send back the high shoes and ask if they can be exchanged for lower ones. I know I have never mentioned that the frost burnout that so many of our missionaries have seems to be raised (in me at least) almost exclusively by wearing high shoes and the pain that I have already. I expect to last indefinitely as I only wear them very very occasionally, so if you will exchange the new high shoes you sent me for low ones, I shall be very thankful. Please send # E I think these are # D's.

I am sorry I can't write more, but Lotta has decided to go to Canton to see the dentist, and we are very busy getting ready. I have none of my own affairs too (aside from helping Lotta) to take up about twice as much time as I have.

Hoping you're the same,

[Signature]

Clemson
Dear Mother Leluth,

Your good letter of last week was much appreciated. Elion and I are so interested in your plans. Do write more questions, for it grows increasingly difficult for us to distinguish what is important and new to you, when everything has become matter of course and ordinary to us. I'll write about clothes on another page.

Thank you for what you said about the machines. I have used my foot-powers machine so much lately that I am inclined to feel that I should hardly want to sell it. Then, too, it is working much more satisfactorily than it used to, thanks to the loosening of a screw. I think haven't decided definitely what to do yet, altho I have several plans in mind, any one of which would be nice.

Miss Culley took the Thaifong photo and I think that the Japanese photographer developed and printed them. About reasons.

Excessive heat usually breaks about Sept. 15. This year it was later - Oct. 15; from Sept 15 until Nov. 15 it is warm, but nights are cooler, and days gradually much more comfortable. From Nov. 15 on to Feb. 15, one expects fairly cold weather so that a fire is desirable in the house - but there are warm days now and then. One is cold in the houses usually because the room are so big and feeling inadequate. The floors especially are cold.
From January 15 on one expects damp weather and
by March falls 2 from ten to twenty days of rain
and fog. As the heat grows more intense there is no
rain but the dampness in those hot sunny days is hard to
bear. Some years are much more sunny than others. By the
summer time there is little rain except in typhoons.

There is no spring such as we have at home.
The trees usually put forth new leaves but the old leaves
do not turn color as a rule and do not fall until new
leaves are fully developed. I think.

People do not seem to fear the Pacific and
come at any time during the year.

Mosquitoes are bad all the year but worse in
hot weather. We are hoping and hoping to be able
to get a big lot of fine copper screening and have at
least our bedroom screened to make one haven of
refuge— and perhaps we can get more some
day. The richer and sweeter have their whole
houses screened and it is the biggest blessing
imaginable.

Our house at present has two extra bedrooms
so that we could take in four people if they could
sleep together— oh, I forgot we could put up a cot too.
If we are ever blessed in having a child, we hope to
like one bathroom for nurse's room and partition of the big
bedroom so that it would leave a nursery and sewing room
combined. That would mean we would have a bathroom for our
of the guest bedrooms. But I probably could think of some way out of the difficulty.

We certainly could make arrangements for four. Bedding might be a little scarce in coldest weather, but we shall buy more as soon as we get opportunity.
I want to answer a few of your questions about clothing. It is a little difficult to think and speak clearly for individual feelings and tastes differ so. Then when one is here for the first winter one does not mind the cold so much as usually. Of course you know what you would want for the flat—at least one dressy gown, and beside that a warm dress and cool clothes suitable for Manilla and Honolulu, provided you come that way. All of these clothes would be useful here for when one is entertained, or at conference time one needs at least one dressy dress. I mean by that a silk or voile— or soft wool or Henriette. Then if one were to stay here a month or two of winter, they would want their warmest underwear; the dress suitable for Japan would do for afternoon wear, and Tyellow flannel waist with suit skirt or something similar would do for morning. Also the clothes for Honolulu would do for any possible warm weather. You can get very durable white silk out here and beautiful Chinese silks or ponges. If you run short or feel the need of something here the ponges cannot be bought at once usually, but must be sent for.

If Fannie came she would want tennis shoes and outfit except racket. We could provide her with that.
In this dress you would find white most satisfactory. I think for things fade quickly, but you could not wear more than ten unless you were for some short weather. One could still wear their clothes in November. All these had several colored dresses and most of them had.

About white shoes: If you wear them at home, I would certainly do so here. In the hot weather they are very much more comfortable than black I think. Our feet get to burn in dark or heavy shoes. Mine are burning to-night with just this one hat day.

You certainly can not plan very definitely about clothes until you know when you would start, where you should go and how long you should stay.

E. and I both agree that you are wise in not planning for 1916, although seemingly it has some advantages so far as he is concerned.

I shall be glad to hear even of indefinite plans, this and may be able to give some suggestions from this end that would help your decision.
April 17, 1916

Dear Mother:

We were much interested in your report of the conversation about self-consciousness in girlhood. I think I remember most the joy that I felt when I had a new and pretty dress. I can remember the way some of them looked even now — all the others have been fairly young. But I do remember how very self-conscious I always felt in the dresses with a large collar something like a sailor collar, which made me look not quite straight up in my face. I really hated that dress although it was a beautiful daily dress that Aunt Clyde gave one, and was trimmed with beautiful lace and was made perfectly by Aunt Clyde herself. I knew I ought to like it, but I never could think of anything except that profile view. I do remember too, that I was always ashamed of my feet when my clothes at all odd. And as to my face — what a trial my big ugly nose was. It was the one thing that any of my girls or boy friends did not dare mention even in fun unless they wanted me to feel very badly. Also I used to think that one side of my face was very ugly to look at, but that the other profile view was a little less unpleasant and I tried not to let people see that worst side. Oh, and I remember I never used to laugh with my mouth wide open because I hated my teeth so!!!

Quite a list of confessions.

Send to T. only.
Dear Mother Fielden,

Ellison wants me to write a little as he has had a very busy day and still must write several letters on the typewriter. In fact he has had a very busy 24 hours — if not well. The chief cause of being so busy just these last twenty-four hours is an affair at the chapel just at the foot of the hill. It seems that the seventeen-year-old daughter of the Bible woman who lives in this chapel has been very intimate with a family near by and has visited them almost daily. The facts seem to indicate that she herself has discussed marrying, becoming the second wife, while the first wife is sick in the house. This men of this family then visited her visiting the family so frequently looked bad in Chinese eyes. Her discussing her own marriage is quite scandalous in Chinese eyes, and her idea of becoming a second wife is scandalous in Christian and foreign eyes. So taken all in all there is trouble.

The school teacher who teaches at this chapel is so worked up about the affair and so afraid that scandal will be connected with the school that she simply got up and left on Thursday going home to her husband. We did not leave this until late yesterday afternoon when the Bible woman came up to tell us. So there was no school Friday.

Ellison knew that he must get her back to teach by Monday morning if he was to keep the affair fairly quiet, but he had to preach at the chapel on the morning and we had a men's dinner so that he had to be here. That's where the good old bicycle came in, for with that he could leave after dinner and see the girl in time to have her come back on the last train. When he arrived, he found she had been making a good deal over the trouble and after a good deal of persuasion he got her to start back immediately.

I shall try to get down to the school tomorrow to see that all is right.

But Ellison was tired when he got home for it has been a very hot day in the sun, and this matter is blistering enough out of the sun. Besides he has a tiny touch of sore throat and
The Chinese told me that Miss Selman was not to
be here last Wednesday. She was in her charge and I
learned that from her. I must find out still
more about that. I was thinking about it
yesterday.

Headache which I hope will not amount to
anything. For he must start off again by
the first train tomorrow to interview Miss
Selman about the affair, and arrange for
the girl to be taken away from this city for
ambulate. Her mother is a Bible woman as I
said, and has been away a good deal this
winter.

This girl is the one who comes and
sews for me some times. I am glad that I
have been so careful with her, and have
never left her alone when she has been
in the house.

Ellison may have to go into the country to
get the little woman (the mother) but I hope
they can send another messenger for her.
All this may not sound very serious at
home, but out here it is a serious
breach of manners I suppose to allow a
girl of her age to go outside the house
unattended, and shall certainly has gone far
beyond that. The proof is in a long letter the
man wrote her; all full of flowery language
in which he calls her "wee little sister" and
her letter is spoken of as "jewelled chapter"
in Jemima's spy.

Perhaps you know that on the same mail
that we heard of the death of Raymond's
baby, we had word that Ida Jerome Parley
had died, from baby from septic poisoning.
Can't it strange that my two roommates in
all 1905 are the ones to hear us since
graduation—Not that I would make anyone
believe dead!!!. But it seems strange and
unbelievable, just as it is hard to believe
that a little baby could be still born in Mrs.
Parley's house just a year and a week after
her own baby was still born—and the
little grandpa so close together.

On Wednesday, Ellison attended the
grand funeral of the mother of the chief
police man. As for as I know he attended
the ceremony of putting her in the coffin
but that was a small affair compared to the
fire
Carried when two or three hundred people were invited. I was invited but did not want to walk so far or stand around so long and both E. and I were glad enough didn't go. When we found how tired he was on his return.

He had started about 9:00 on time. They had had a grand feast at 10:30 followed by the slow, solemn, tearful procession to the burying ground and no more food until he returned home between ten and three in the afternoon.

Letters 7, 9, 11, 5, and 13 at hand. Thank you.

Ellison and I have been talking about our needs and have just decided that coffee screening is what we need more than anything else and that would give us more comfort than anything else. The mosquitoes are awful by night and just as the weather is becoming that we cannot keep the doors and windows open evenings because millions of bugs of all sizes and colors and shapes come in to annoy us. So we will put aside the $10.00 and present for our wall of copper wire. Hooray, it certainly will mean a great boon if we can get our bath room and bed room screened and if we can have living room and study as well we should feel very much blessed. There is only one objection to screens and that is that we have to have such a fine mesh that the wire keeps the air out and as the houses are hot. Also the doors are big at least 5 feet high. But we are both very happy that you have thought of this idea.

What a snowing season you have had! We both think that the picture of the golf links is splendid. We ran it framed.

E. is ready to go up steps. So a loving Ford right to all. Love to all. Elliot.
May P.M. I did have a nice warm ride down the road but I got the sleeping car and went to bed at the hotel on the train. I could get a word in edgewise and had him translate for me again the instructing letter. He was just finishing when the train came in to Chicago and off to buy my ticket while I put my bags on the train. I just took a look at the dictionary, not so good as able to translate it to Miss Selman. It's pretty straightforward. She will send a messenger to make sure the girl my mother told her to come along and bring the girl back with her.

Yours truly,

P.S. I had this all ready to mail at seven but I became infected with the idea of sealing every letter that I don't want opened. Of course, I couldn't seal down the rest, so I brought it to back. I certainly didn't want anyone to read this letter. You see, the Chinese can open a letter that is glued in the ordinary way and read it, and I don't want anyone to read it again so that no one saved tell whether it had been read or not. I don't know that the ordinary ones are much blame for such things but the new ones will fall into the hands of someone who knows English and wants to read it. So I have been adding the practice of sealing all my letters with sealing wax. And I am now about to write you to do the same. Whenever you write anything you don't want someone else to see, or the closed anything you don't want...
removed. I would like to send you a seal with my Chinese surname. It is like this and does very well for a seal. If your way won't be safe, I can reseal the impression of the whole seal. It won't matter if you will probably notice that the seal on my letter usually is incomplete. The main thing is to place it in such a way that the letter can't be opened without breaking the seal. I'll try to do it that way by this envelope. I was intending to send one of these to the father for a birthday present. I marked it 'Keep it'. He moved the letter (he doesn't like it) that I guess I'll send the one to you now. Any way I have a stick of sealing wax with a candle wick in the middle. Light the wick, hold in place and the melted wax drops down. Three or four drops is usually enough. Then blow out the candle. There is another drop about ready to fall. If you don't want it to fall turn the wax other side up. (I like a clean full of breeze. This wax is sold at the English stationery firm Stephens and is very convenient. I use the ordinary sealing wax, which I'll do and is cheaper but more bother.

Heaps of love

Eleanor

I'm April
Dear Mother and Father Uncle, June 30, 1916.

I want to write a few words to go with Elsies letter to tell you how much I appreciate your lovely gift &c. It came just the anniversary we had first the letter from hand than enclosing candy and then the nice letter from Mother. It was very good of you to send us so much and we still surely use it as you suggest for something we make but feel we cannot quite afford to thank you very much indeed.

You will see by the sending that we have come by Tuesday I to start on my trip to the north with the Pohlmanen, and Elsies to preach Sunday and see me off. We are to preach in English.

Today as we came back we heard a story that made us rather glad we were not on our way to Beijing (on way to Theiyong) just now.

July 3 - I am not had a minute to finish and so will leave this with Elsie to finish. Much love to all.

Send letters from later.

It is pretty warm today.

Dear Mother,

Yesterday was the Fourth of July and I hardly realized it. I was going to raise the flag, but Father had packed it away carefully, and I couldn't find it without tool much depending it. So I celebrated by going to Joel's house and supper with Mr. James.
Lot of things have happened lately. Not to mention the goat which got into our garden yesterday, and the men who came today in open daylight and cut down a big bamboo right under the kitchen, but glad at my approach (don't think either of them will come again soon) my wife went away and left me, uninvited, in Swatow. That's more statement than we've had for a long time.

July 3rd. She planned to go down to the boat, but she had to stay at noon. About 3:30 the boat was to sail at noon, and it was a clear day, and she planned to take the boat and ask about the same time to fix my accounts and after supper to go to bed. On the way, she asked me to stay, and there was more about the preparations for the next day. I don't think most of the day was spent in preparing work and the work was done by the day near anything. Because the large work wasn't anywhere near town, the large work wasn't anywhere near town, and there was a lot of my work not as such.

The work cost $3.00 less. Don't tell you know I am taking drawn work. The dealers get the extra money the work is done. We are expected to get a chance to buy and check a percentage, so it's mutual advantage. It will be some work for her. But it may give her something to occupy her attention during the month before.

I had gone on Friday because I was quite busy. Tuesday and Monday noon, but then...
were able to make a dignified, leisurely and comfortable departure. I didn't stay to see off the boat for I didn't know whether the boat would go at 3 or 6 or 8 a.m. and I felt it ought to come up here.  

[Signature]

Ellison
Send back to Holyoke Chaochaufu October 4th 1916

Dear Mother F-

You were right about Christmas and birthday presents. The thing which you received at Rockport was for Xmas, although I should not have minded if it had been given for birthday since the silk handkerchief Jordan did not get sent in time. You see the drawn work woman was late in making it and when I had given up all hope of getting it before our return from Mokameshan, it was delivered to me just the day I was going. But my list from which I had copied the names of all those to whom I was going to send things from Mokameshan, for that reason lacked father's name. I suppose I dream lacked father's name. I suppose I thought we should return early enough to get the handkerchief from the drawn work women and send then, but it was quite late as you know.

So I enclose the handkerchief for father with our great love, and hope it
will be just as useful as if it were on time. It is made from silk which I ordered from Haechow last year and the sewing of course is all by hand. They are too cold, they are especially nice to use.

I am also sending in this envelope one of the next one if this is too full, a little dress lace daily to complemet your birthday gift of the amber pendant. Did I tell you that the amber pendant is a conventionalized form of the Chinese Character for wealth? I hope that we explained that long ago.

Aunt Helen's gift is coming by mail as it is small and there was no need of paying duty on it. Mary's also is coming by mail. I kept out those that were right and then.

We are gradually getting our house in order. Shal a new to come for trial Monday night and
he has proved a jewel so far all this he is entirely without experience.
But I am not hoping too much all at once.

Mr. and Mrs. Water still with us over night to morrow on their way to a country trip.

E. and I are going over to see Mrs. James this day after 4:30. I have had a hard but very satisfactory time with the church committees yesterday. He will write you all about it I think. Our appropriations are cut, and it is going to make it very hard especially since exchange is so poor that we lose about $15,000 on every hundred. That is normally $100.00 U.S. should make $200. Mex. but now it makes only about 185.00 Mex.
Thank you for the birthday package that is coming. It is nice to have it to look forward to. May this letter bring you most loving birthday wishes. Let us know any tentative plans for next year as soon as possible. Convenient for it takes so long to correspond, especially since our mails have been held up by the British.

We hope Conference which meets Dec. this year will do nothing radical to us in the way of moving us to another field. One can never tell.

Love to you, Dan too. Sam sorry I did not write for her birthday, but having sent the gifts, let the birthday slip my mind somewhat.

Love to you and all the others.

Love to you and all the others.

The letter is pretty full, and so is my time. I'll not delay the mail long. But I'm just on the point of starting a note to you again. And it may recall you to the rooms which are the

Lottie
Sand House

Oha-ohoufe
November 25, 1917

Dear Mother Hildreth,

We finally succeeded in getting hold of those birthday presents on our last trip to Swatow, and glad I was to see them. Let me see, you wanted to know the date when I received them. They left Gloucester August 27, and I received them Friday, Nov. this 16th. They had been in Swatow probably a week before I could get them; that would make the probable date Nov. 9 — a long time in coming, weren't they, nearly two months and a half?

The paper I put into immediate use, for it is next to impossible to get anything decent here, and I surely do
appreciate having the nicer kinds for special occasions. The dress goods is very very pretty and will solve the problem of what I shall have for a "dress-up" dresses for next summer. My light dainty dresses were just getting to the place where I could not depend on most of them getting thru the next wash. So thank you very very much for my very nice birthday present.

I suppose you see my all too full home letters, and so know that there has been very busy days with us. Ellier is working very hard, but seems to stand it pretty well, which shows that he is a great deal stronger than he was ten years ago. I think.
we have had warm days for the last half-week, but we want a sweater near-by to jump into at the least provocations.

By the way does the family want to know that (at any rate I'll whisper it in your ear) Ellinor wants a sweater very much? I have tried hard to get the wool out here, but there is such a demand for wool for the soldiers that I can get nothing suitable. Please don't feel bound to do anything just because I mentioned it, but I know you will be glad to know the fact even tho' it may not be convenient or best to do anything about it.

There, I hear him coming now. Dear glad, for it is less lonely to have two in the house especially now that the country is upset a little. In hear very little authentic news, but quite...
a little is going on in a military way. There is nothing for us to be afraid of, but the Chinese get a little excited. One man came to-day and asked if his family could live at Mr. Baker's house and the Presbyterian preacher in the city just quit his job and took his family home.

Monday night.

I have been in to the city chapel (a long walk) to teach Christmas singing. Ellie has spent the day at Kip-Paul. It has been warm. How I send much love to each of you and hope for you all a very pleasant Christmas and a happy New Year.

Yours with love,

Lettie.