Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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DEAR FRIENDS:

The last letter I wrote to you was about the typhoons and what it did to us as well as the way it is affecting our work. If I dwell too much on those events, I am afraid you will forgive me, for it is the right thing to do. I heard some [censored] about other things.

I know you will be interested in hearing about some of the recent work which is being done. Most of the villages and homes are now having some part in it, but some of us, who could get away from the Compound for a time, have been going out into the area where the typhoons hit. One of the first things we did was to see the villages that were worst hit. The villages in the Taitei plain. Before the typhoons, this plain was more or less densely populated by fishermen and a few farmers, who lived in groups of two or three families. They are all gone. We visited, inquiring how they were saved, the two villages nearest the coast, and found that the people were all gone away to the hills. Thousands of the people were caught in their houses by falling walls and buried there. Others were washed away, and bodies were found in uncounted numbers. Some houses were left standing but nothing could be found in the villages. No cattle, no cows, no chickens, no clothes, no shoes, nothing. But a few men of the men were drowned, and they have gone other places to look for work. Their fields are sowed with rice and their houses down; boats washed away, women and children drowned, and they go away from the fearful sorrow of it all.

In another place, where before the typhoon, there was a village of nearly 600 inhabitants, now there are 48 men and one woman. When the wave receded, it carried off, to cut out sea, hundreds of boders, the villagers never dreamed that all their household goods were washed away at the same time. The clothes worn at the time by those who were saved from drowning, were washed away. Many of the villages were destroyed by the sea in different parts of the island. Among these, the village of H открыт. All but a few men of the men were drowned, and they have gone other places to look for work. Their fields are sowed with rice and their houses down; boats washed away, women and children drowned, and they go away from the fearful sorrow of it all.

As one goes about, one hears of some wonderful experiences had by some of the survivors. A young woman in Hong Kau, one time a student of the English-Protestant school in Shuang, is perhaps one of the strangest. When the third wave washed in, she and a young brother managed to get out of the big house of the house roof. They were washed inland a mile or two, and then brought to the under the water as we receded. They held onto the beam and were carried out across a stretch of open sea, to the village of Chub Na on an island about 32 miles from her home. They quickly got a small boat and went out and brought them in. They were practically drowned, but they were taken to a place where the provost wired took care of them. They were washed ashore, and found that the last thing was from the village they had not found them. They did not know she was the girl. So the provost sent for the man and his father. They came through the girl, and took her to the place where her home was, and brought back to her with the help of the girl she could travel. She was our guide through the village the day we visited it. Her face was suffused with blushing when she informed us that she was to marry the young in the 11th month.

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We had some interesting experiences in our travels from village to village, as we went about investigating conditions and visiting the sick. The old couple who carried our baskets of medicine each day, poor as he was and depending on his daily wage to provide for his family, wife and children, was living in a house day by day, for much less he could eat. The weather was cold. The men said they would give their "bit" that way, often we knew the expense of a meal for themselves. But they knew that so many, many hundreds of people were living on our harvest and that the worst they wanted was to be able to go as far as possible.

In Nan K., the center of one of the districts, one of the worst places in the country, we found a woman bandaged up with her lovely head, and while we were in that district, the church was destroyed, and it had not been for their generosity, we would have been obliged to go to a very small, crowded and unsatisfactory house.

Almost every kind of disease was met with. Eye diseases would probably be the list. Many people had lost themselves blind, or almost so, and trachoma always common, was aggravated. Then the skin diseases, too loathsome to mention some of them were, were everywhere. While the hot weather lessens the tendency of the eye, typhoid fever was common, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage. Malaria always with us, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage. Typhoid fever was common, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage. Malaria always with us, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage. Typhoid fever was common, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage. Malaria always with us, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage. Typhoid fever was common, but fortunately did not reach the epidemic stage.

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Because of the lack of assistants, it was impossible to keep an accurate account of the number of people treated, or the amount of medicine given out. When we were ready to start on the next head, for more. Two graduates nurses, two and sometimes little doctors, women, have been in this party, and the work was sufficient to keep us busy. It is very quick, and it is hard to find anything that they can have. Every village we visited, we set up a little outdoor dispensary and they found the people very welcome. They would call there for the medicines, and if they were not in the village, they gave them the necessary medicine.

I could go on indefinitely, telling you about the interesting experiences we had, but I hope I have told you enough to make you realize how terrible the situation is. The Relief work is still going on, and will need to be continued for some little time yet. We have been able to get out to the people. This has been a very fruitful service, and we are happy to know that much of the relief work has been done by Christians. Mr. Baker and Miss Sollman have been released from their Mission work for the Typhoon, of course, is their only time to take up the work. Christianity has been brought before the public in a way that only the emergency of a great event could do it. It is equal to the task of anything else could be done in this way. What it will mean to the future of this country, this community, only God knows. We are praying that He will use every means available for the advancement of His Kingdom in this country.

As I look back over the days and weeks, and particularly the time just after the typhoon, I realize that there were experiences through which I passed which never could have been endured from our human standpoint, and had it not been for the help and strength, given to me by the prayers of the dear friends in the home, I do want to thank you for the help you have given me in the intervening miles to me.

Cordially, your missionary.
Dear Hildreth,

Yes, I went to Peking, and came back minus a fountain pen, a Phi Beta Kappa key buckle, forcibly from the chain, and my boy’s umbrella. Mrs. Duff lost a suit case with a lot of new purchases for various people. It is not a good time for foreigners to travel.

Thank you for all you have written about safety at Tsinan. I suppose you heard very quickly of the harrowing experiences of the Washington missionaries, and would write something different now. I wonder if the Consul has ordered you home.

We have had a three-days typhoon, the centre of which must have been nearer to you than to us. Please let me know the damage. Mrs. Confin’s verandah is badly shattered, and our garden are a sight!

The Convention seems to have passed without a serious break. The young fellows started in for an independent Chinese Church, but, when it came to the financial aspects of the case, settled back to a coördial 50-50 basis.

The letter from you and your wife, dated the 15th, has just arrived. As you don’t mention the typhoon, it must not have hit you very hard; or did you write get her date wrong?

We were told that the ladies at Washington barely reached with their lives, were rescued from Peking, fled for Dr. Jakes’ house in a little boat, were picked up by the launch and brought to Swatow. It is thought the wife wanted Miss Stanley for ransom. We don’t plan to go up under present conditions. You’d better stay as long as you family stay. Regards to all, A. H. Page.
Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 30 was received at 2 P.M. on Aug. 1st. I did not feel called for an answer and of course a mere formal apology could not possibly make amends for such treatment. Nevertheless I am going to point out one or two features of interest in the case.

In the first place you evidently overlook the principle of common business honesty: that when a man engages another man to do a certain work, he has no right to engage another man for the same work without cancelling the first engagement and even then he is responsible for the damages. To be sure a mere verbal agreement, not made in the presence of some witnesses, has little value, except as the men of honor of the two parties give it value. You having my promise that I would not fail you and knowing the man with whom you were dealing, were perfectly safe. I knew the man with whom I had to deal. I expected to be strong, and I was not disappointed.

Your words "the church secured the services of ... the woman tempted me, and I did eat" that is to say they are a contemptible evasion. Either you had no authority to engage me in the first place or else it was with your co-operation that the other man was engaged. You speak of the fact of a letter addressed to the church and another to you.
I quote from your letter: 'Your communication addressed to the officers of my church and a letter to me came forwarded here yesterday. I have been away for a week. I will not comment on yesterday and the date on the envelope. Brielle July 30 5 P.M. They speak for themselves. But I will mention the letter I wrote two weeks before which you did not try to explain away because of course you could not. Your excuse that you had forgotten my New Zealand address. If it be the true one, credits me with not enough intelligence to leave at forwarding address Union Sem. Or if it be the true one because obviously it is not. In a case like this a poor excuse is worse than none at all. For it reveals what it was intended to conceal.

You thank me for my consideration; you may well do so. I wish to thank you for the kind and thoughtful evidence of your affection to me. Needless to say, this marks the termination of a relation of nominal friendliness that I have been maintaining with increasing drudgery for a long time. From now on our dealings, if any, will be on a business basis only. And I trust there will not be any further. Truly yours

(P.S. I mailed this to Net or not? I am not sure. Please comment extensively, however.)
Dear Lottie,

Esfeld, N.H.  
August 4, 1809.

You read the paper at first the right line, so when I arrived home from the lumber lot the first thing I got hold of, yet but I was arguing that I could not jump into that water, I would have felt like a new man. I sure has gone to Wolfor, & I will try & remember about the cement, as soon as she comes back.

We have been the lazy hide for days & I have not done a blessed thing until this day, it takes hold of a fellow to do that work. You never seemed that way, always on the go, I guess I wouldn't on the bum if I did that way.

Gee & I had a long ride yesterday looking at several lumber lots, but found none that pleased me.
That was satisfactory. But the walk was great something that I think you would have liked; roads shady, with great open hills all around, with a few woods thrown in to make comfort. I shall have to say much about the country here after selling, all of that salt water, which we had there. I expect to go to Boston Monday if any thing is agreeable, which it has not been and I am looking forward to have not seen the town for several months.

It takes me about a month to get acquainted with any one, when I see them every day, but I am decided on going to New York first. So you see when I want to know more about a person they will learn. I guess I must of decided not to stay here any longer this time, that is if everybody was agreeable as I suppose in that we may know each other better.
You certainly have a great family, a chance for doing me to keep true. I remember poor was about the same ages ago, I believe I will never forget how much we enjoyed ourselves. There was my mother, father, Mary, Miss Burns, Joe, Elver, I also one or two others watching on the place every body worked. They were taken away in eight years, and is something we will never forget. So if you get lonesome any time just take your gun and travel all you can. That is the only way I can do.

When do you go to Glen Ridge? Our summer resort is not far away. I would think you are thinking about all those exciting classes, well I think it would be great fun to have a class at any rate.
trying to find questions to keep their teachers busy answering, when they couldn't ask a question. We always did that which the lessons were to teach. This is what I always said. 'Bluff is terrible, if not study some, but get through anyway.' I didn't always do that, and I have changed it now. 'Begin your right, then go ahead.' That does first well.

You must be tired of reading two letters so I guess I will quit. Hoping you are enjoying yourself, I am.

Sincerely,

P. C. Peck
Dear hotter:

You certainly out did yourself when you sent that lovely postal. It called to mind, beautiful memories, that were stored away, several year back. I just love the sea, with its rocks, and this tight clinging shells, and the dulcian roar. There could not anything suit my feelings than to have one's whole self in you.

You speak of the 'Bronte Boy' by Stirling and the light that failed. I haven't the former, but the latter. I have never did as you wanted. You ask what I think of it. It is hard to tell although it gave the impression of two roads lost to each other at unfortunate moments in life. That is to say there was when both were well along, but the one wanted the other, thought it surely was unwise at that time. it was not fully matured to understand, from feelings, or even after she became blind that she could not possibly take her's home.
when he wanted her love, which he knew that she
could not give to a blind man, after seeing
him in that condition. Then he seemed to
want to take something that his soul cried out
against, did the only thing possible, when
brought to his senses, by going straight to the
only ball left that would let him be happy. This
is something that I shall think more of, would
like to express as I can see it, but it is something
I could never do. It really has taken hold of me
more than any book I have read. Some things
I like, some I do not, probably because I have
more of a selfish disposition. Please give me
your honest opinion of what I have said
also what you think of the book.

I will try to get the other one you speak of.

Sincerely yours,

T.C. Reble
POST CARD

Joseph Robert Perley
September 1, 1915

Age 5 years 8 months.
Dear brother,

You see by A.A.P. that the paper has been noticed. That's the way I do when I am out, sometimes when I want something different. This is one of the times when I have one or not the other.

Your letter arrived just before I took the train Monday morning, & my plans were fixed so could...
that I have known her since 1901. I found she would not see me since all my crazy doing, so I certainly was on pins and needles so if you possibly can please to give me.

For I went out driving today so here is another time I will have to wait before telling the name of that cement, unless she comes before I am done writing this.

I just went out to the beach Monday evening to take a look at the ocean, your portrait and your fashions that was the delightful, that I was honorably driven out to get me look. Everything is the same or sounds the same as it did years ago, so there was only one trouble that was the length of truth.

I think that I can shower if your being in Norfolk. Write him a date. When you took the ship did you go through Portsmouth or by the way of Dorset. I want the former way for the first time. I remember it was just great. You either had salt marshes
not change very easily. I am very sorry that I could not have gone to Rockport for it must be a delightful place to spend vacations. It was very kind of you to ask me to come & I appreciate your thoughtfulness. I also wish you would please for your invitation before I was just dying to go to Wolfboro & see a dear friend of mine. She is dear to me & I was so uneasy that I just let everything go. I will say
The loveliest view of the world all the way to Portland. That was the grand old country all the way to Portland. If you go again you just remember this or if you meet this way isn't great.

We are still loading lumber but hope finish shipping if we can get the rails. Business seems to be slack. The firms will not take any more can whip or want to whip a rock. Thanking you once more.
for your kind offer to show me all of those fine places in Rockport, which I know must be delightful. I am sincerely yours,

T.C. Perley