

**Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers**

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**Series: I. Correspondence**

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**Folder label: ESH to John and Kate Hildreth (parents), primarily from  
Chaochowfu**

**Dates: 1916**

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515063

I dreamed of you, Mother, Thursday night Jan 13  
and of my own Mother Friday night Jan 14. and wonder  
if you were not thinking of us at the time.

Bharachaw-fu.

Sun Jan 15  
1916.

Dear Mother;

Many thanks, if I haven't said so  
already, for the Christmas presents. It seems  
as if I must have written already, ~~but~~ but  
the things came late and I don't believe  
I have written since Conference began,  
so anyway I'll thank you all. and was  
mightily pleased with the things. The  
ladies where we stayed at Kakehill like  
the "Geographic" and I have looked over and  
over again at the said dear number.  
and wished glad a copy. And I'll say it  
is one of the numbers that with some  
in a few days, I'm so pleased. The sewing  
machine proposition is one that I have been  
been about ever since before we came to  
China. Just before you letter came I told  
and I had been considering getting one  
port machine and trying a hand machine  
and had my mind decided to do so (if we  
could sell the port machine). Our idea was  
dampened a little by the statement that Mrs  
Foster's machine won't sew thick material.  
But I talked to Mrs. Baper who uses a hand  
machine, and she says it must be Mrs. Baper's  
machine is too light built. For Mrs. Baper's  
machine is constantly borrowed by the Chinese  
and their cloth is certainly thick and heavy.  
And we know that much more than half  
of the machines the Chinese use are hand  
machines. They surely would not use the  
hand machine if it balked at thick cloth.  
So we are still thinking about the hand  
machine. We are also considering a fuel  
cooker, and some other things. The deci-  
sion is divided as to whether one needs  
much fuel by having a fireless. One ought  
to, but some who have them don't think  
there is any saving. But even so, the food  
tastes even better and is enough better  
cooked (i.e. more digestible etc) to make  
it worth while.

Please thank A.F. and Mary too. I have  
been thinking about what to get with the

money they sent, and can't spare of anything  
that would give more pleasure than these  
books. Last summer I found out about some  
excellent lessons in Elementary Wenz (the  
Chinese literary language), and would have  
ordered it once, except for two reasons, time  
and money. I had so much other study set  
out that there was no prospect of being able  
to get much time for the book. I have right  
now several weeks of work waiting for a  
chance to get at it. But even so I have  
thought often and over that I wanted  
that book so, and had the impulse to  
buy it - knowing that if I did buy it,  
it would be well worth while for me to  
lay aside some other work and give attention  
to those lessons. In fact, they really should  
have been put in my study course a year  
ago, but the Language Committee hadn't  
advanced at that time. So glad to say  
they are working now. Anyhow as I  
lost only the books that is one thing  
specially regretted, so I'm going to take for  
money and buy it. And another book that  
I have wanted for nearly a year is the  
Inventive History Book. I got interested  
a large number of these mind business times,  
so I'm going to take many money and buy  
it. ~~So~~ So I shall have many  
pleasure occasions to remember many  
and Aunt Fan.

(Chien and I are exchanging shots) I wanted to  
say that we felt a great reluctance to going to  
Thaiyong this summer - after our hope of last year - and  
altho we could do it if necessary, we felt that now, if  
ever, was the time for us to investigate missions in  
the north - and do what we could, try to promote better  
feeling between East and South China. - And so we have rented  
our room at Thaiyong and have written to Gus Macmillan  
(his former room-mate) to secure us a room at  
Machamshan where the people from E. China spend the  
summer. The cost is very little more than a trip to Hsichang  
where many of our people go - and altho it is more expensive  
than Thaiyong - the trip will now be cheaper than now and  
will be more worth while.

Brachyura  
in Swath's

Jan. 31, 1916

Good night;

This is almost Chinese New Year. Today is Mon. and Thurs. is "Lottie and I have been thinking about it and counting the date in the foreign month got gradually approached 31. And we both got it into our heads that tonight was the last day of the old year, but we were not going to let up to celebrate the old year. I was speaking of it just a minute ago and suddenly replied it was Jan 31. I must be getting to think Chinese of that new year makes so much impression on me (12)

Any crisis really is a most important time in which for everyone must pay his debts at that time, and there is a lot of scraping together of cash. The stores are willing to sell at reduced prices to change their goods into cash. The people who have no money have to borrow it. High interest if they can't borrow. It is distressing they are branded as bad debtors etc. etc. and have to pay interest besides. Of course this reproach causes them to lose face most deplorably. and a Chinaman's face is about the most important part of his system.

A Christian who has a shop in the city sent word by his attorney (a Spanish) that he owed \$100. and wanted to borrow it from me on interest but declined. I wouldn't have set such a bad precedent. If I had had the money to spare, which I didn't. But another Christian presents a much more pleasing case. He used to be Baker's cook. His wife has been very sick, and he has had to pay doctors fees and medicine bills; he has also had to take care of her and so his earning capacity was decreased. His work is peddling medicine and the farther away from the city the better he trades. He needs \$400. and wanted to borrow it from me till summer. But if I lend it to him, anyone else will expect me

to send to them too. and there is no end of  
troubles. It will cause several hard  
feeling if I turn down the first few  
applications, and then there won't be so  
many approved; the alternative is that  
by and by there would be applications  
that I would have to turn down. and then  
those people would feel they were unfairly  
discriminated against and try to get  
even with me for refusing. At the  
same time the man really is in a bad  
condition. At first I thought of making  
him a gift of a couple of dollars. Then  
it occurred to me that the back yard  
at the chapel is in a disgracefully dirty  
condition and I might give the man the  
contract to put it into good shape - and  
pay him in advance. So I commissioned  
the preacher to see him about the matter.  
and I hope it will meet the requirements  
of the situation.

We have had a little company since  
we came up. Mr and Mrs Bonfield were  
here for supper on their way back to the  
Hakka hills but Mr Newman stayed over  
one night. Mrs Thompson of Washington whom  
Father likes so well came to visit Mrs Fisk  
(a new lady over across the river) and we  
persuaded them come and stay one night.  
Mrs Fisk and Miss Johnson called on the  
day, and invited us to tea - an invitation  
that we were glad to accept. Yesterday Mr.  
James, and Mr Gibson of Stratford called, and we  
persuaded them to stay for supper.  
Tomorrow Miss Fara is coming up  
for a week or so. and next week Mr Bacon  
and Miss Northcott will be up for two or  
three days. Mr Blashan may be up for a bit  
too. I unfortunately our house is big, and  
even if someone else should come along,  
we can take care of them without falling  
back on Baker's house. Only if the weather  
turned cold we should have to borrow or  
steal some of the Baker's bed clothes.  
Hoping you is the same  
your loving son Allison

Return to  
Holograph  
Holograph  
Holograph  
Holograph

Blackburne China  
Feb 18. 1916

Dear Mother;

It's Sunday evening, and I'm not going into the city, so I decided to get out all your letters and look them over to see what comments I want to make. The first thing I turn up is a pamphlet describing Hatabrook pens. I was very much interested in it and thank you for sending it. That reminds me that one of your recent letters speaks of your sending a box of pens. I presume that was suggested by my question. I surely didn't mean for you to do anything like that. The next I thought was that you might inquire at the stationers as if the pen I asked about was good, just at me a sample. I might have known that you would do more than I asked. The box of pens hadn't come, so I'll just thank you in advance.

You intimated to see how much of an institution I am in. I am in getting to be. I should like to hear it. I imagine, however, that the voice which the author of accompaniment is the great effort in. It like to hear that I am in.

I am in must have some smart student if they can play well a mouse will end to justify trying to make his own point the right way. I imagine I'd be puzzled now to put his head on straight.

Sorry Emma froze her. Has she done it again since. I hope not.

She certainly had a great giving time at Xmas. That's the way to do it. Sorry you didn't have the time, especially for it.

Your story about the kept student a responsive chord. For I have nothing for several days on mission statistics. Yesterday morning I turned to a snag. For each mission station I have to report the Chinese contributions in four columns / for church work 2 for education. 3 for benevolence of total. Then when I add up the columns. total 1 to total 2 + total 3. Should equal total 4. but it didn't. I worked and worked and worked and finally all of a sudden it came out right and after that I couldn't make it come

out any other way - and no clear as to why  
it had failed to come out right at first.  
When I have an experience like that as  
you frequently do, it confirms me in the  
conviction that I never was cut out for a  
treasurer. Even the statisticians job isn't  
greatly suited to me. I'm thankful they  
relieved me of the auditor's job  
you certainly had quite a storm over  
your blizzard. We have our blizzards in  
the winter and call them typhoons. They  
tie up water traffic about as effectively  
as blizzards tie up land traffic.

Was glad to get H's letter and to  
read of what a good good dinner  
with ice cream and chocolate sauce  
you had. The letter gave me an idea  
of so I'm going to look specially  
to be remembered to Florence & Elton  
and Aunt Sam. While I think of it - to  
the American Consul at Swagat is  
named Hanson. (38 is what his signi-  
nature looks like but believe they say  
his initials are something else) He used to  
be at Cornell and was one of Kate's  
regular Sunday evening guests. He would  
very much like to be remembered to her.  
so if you ever happen to write and  
be able to reach her it will be all right.  
I am writing this to you so that if the  
consul asks me if I can say I have sent  
his message.

I was very sorry to hear of the death  
of Mrs. Bishop. Also of Mrs. Bernice. Please  
tell Mrs. Whitmore that I send my sympathy.

I loved her to the just look much.  
H's looks like W.H. ~~very~~ very much like.  
she would surely be a good work saving.

I'm glad you have some amber glasses.  
Are they plain window glass or prescription?  
What sort of frames? I certainly expect my  
true amber glasses in into imitation  
to be a shell frame.

Have I thanked you for the "Christian  
work" of not wanting to do so now. I guess

and you have pleased I was about the  
late Geographic. I have just been looking  
over this notification to me that I have  
been elected a member of the late Geographic  
Society. As they put elect as a member  
everyone who subscribes (or is presented  
with) the magazine. or have so told you

Suatow - China  
Feb 23, 1876

Dear Ones,

I see that Ellison's letter has not  
gone yet, and so I am going to add a line.  
We came to Suatow yesterday to attend the end of  
the Fenchowbay meetings on A.B. Method. (They are  
splendid!) - and to get ready for my trip to Canton.  
I am so sorry to have to go. Altho there are many  
nice features - such as seeing the city - and  
Harriet Allen. These are in reverse order of importance!

Your letter of Jan 10 - etc - came to-day and  
I must tell you what a great comfort they have  
been to us. We have waited so hungrily for them;  
then too, you have expressed your thoughts and  
feelings so well - not retarding your expression  
in which - and yet not expressing too much sorrow.

I am so glad you spoke of the hypocritical hope of  
being grandparents - for the both had hoped and  
known that you would be glad - and he felt  
deeply sorry in thinking of your disappointment.

It was strange but Fanny's note reached us  
first on Sunday - and one from Mother B.

Then yesterday came one from both little and one  
from Alice Bartholomew New Dorland - and to-day came  
seventeen more. So dear are our friends!

We are so sorry that you have had this grief,  
and we have prayed daily, too, that your sorrow  
may be lightened and that you may yet have  
grandchildren to enjoy.

I have stayed home from the meetings this evening  
because I do not want to overtax my strength  
in any pastime, but want to grow strong and  
be in perfect health - as soon as possible. I am  
so relieved that both you and my family are glad  
that we did not call, for we have worried ardently  
about it. in spite of feeling strongly that we had



chosen the best way.

Dr Newman may go to Canton the same day I do, as he fears that his boy was lost on the Japanese steamer that was rammed two weeks or more ago. He is now going to Canton to pick up Dr. Newman's things & bring them up here.

I must get into bed now for I am all ready except for my shoes and jacket which are hanging over my wardrobe. I write.

Dear Mother Wilhelmina - I dreamed of you January 13 and of my own mother January 19. They were all much in our thoughts then for I know that you must know.

Love to you and Father and Aunt Sam  
and Jennie and Mary.  
Lottie.

Love to all Northampton folks too. They have been so dear in remembering us.

The two long lost parcels from Brooklyn and from my London friend arrived safely this week. It is too bad they have had so much trouble with them.

Thank you for the Altos, which came last night. Father has said just what I would like to say about them, so I'll put endorse it.

It was rather careless of Lottie to mention that the steamer to Hong Kong was sunk, just as she is writing about her own trip to Hong Kong. Don't worry. Those Jap steamers are notoriously useless & we never travel on them. The service is frequent and the rates cheap. We go on the Japanese steamers which are carefully run - like yours on the new one, & the big, a fine big boat.  
Love from Lillian

*Return  
family to Hongkong  
Maudslayi  
Rockport.*

Shaochowfu, via Swatow, China,

April Fool's Day.

Dear Mother;

We got some mail yesterday, and that proves that the trains are commencing to run, so it is worth while to write again. The revolution struck us ~~the~~ Monday morning, and no trains came to the city after that. Dr. Newman was spending the week-end with us, and intended to go down Monday afternoon, but came back and spent the night with us. Tuesday A.M. before we got up, we had a note from Mr. James, that one of their Christians had come up from Swatow by chair, and if Newman wanted to take the chair back to Swatow he could. I had just time to dash off a hasty note to you and send it along by Dr. Newman. It cost him ~~some~~ <sup>six</sup> dollars to get that chair to Swatow, the r.r. fare is 50¢.

I am enclosing a little note that I have written to send to several people; it gives an outline of the matter. Soon I hope to write you more in detail. I would have done so this morning but I had callers half the morning or more.

Swatow has gracefully gone to the rebels. The chief magistrate fled on board a Chinese warship and left the harbor. We hear that Chaoyang Kityang, Ungkung, Thungshai, and Haying have all sided with the rebels. That means that the power and the soldiers are all in the hands of the revolutionary party, and we can expect as good protection as we have had or better.

The note that I am enclosing was written when I was busily writing letters. Since then I have given my attention to clearing up an accumulation of papers, improving my filing system, binding a lot of papers, helping Lottie prepare for tea, and entertain the R.P.'s attend a Chinese funeral, etc. I has been a pretty busy week.

I do hope you didn't read a whole lot of sensational reports in the American papers, and get worried about them. Our chief anxieties have been that, and the fear that the consul would get excited and order us to Swatow for safety. Both would be equally groundless. We have been perfectly all right, only that we couldn't communicate with you.

I must stop now as the cook chap come for the letters. Please don't worry about us; the revolutionary party is well disposed to the foreigners, and the common people are well disposed to the rev. party. In fact it is they, and they are it. All hands know that the quickest way to get into trouble is to hurt a foreigner, and they are not going to hurt us or let anyone else hurt us if they can help it; and I think they can. We have been sleeping very soundly these nights.

Lovingly, ~~E~~

*Ellison*

Salvador to  
Holography  
Baptismal  
of the mission

Shachowen China  
April 16, 1916

Dear Mother;

This has been a good long day. It began at about 5.30 with our alarm clock. I got up hastily, dressed, kissed Little Zoofy and then went to sleep again (which I very much fear she didn't do). Got my bicycle, and took a boat across the river, and then went to Mr James house where I had breakfast with him at 6.15 or a little later. I judge that he told Mrs James to sleep again, for I didn't see her. But Mrs James has a 3 months old baby I think her young to sleep even more dubious than Little Zoofy. At 7.00 we set out for ETNG (ETNG) the tag being pronounced something like tongue about as clear as you could get at a Chinese word to.

What was our errand? Mr James was going to make a pastoral visit, with examination of candidates, baptism, report, baptism, confirmation and house to house visiting. I was to report people to contribute to the Eddy Evangelistic Campaign. I should have gone the Sunday after the revolution, but it wasn't a very fortunate time. I decided that to day would be a good day, and then found that Mr James had already arranged to go, Bradley at his suggestion we decided to go together. Probably he would go at 8 AM and I would go at 9 AM on my bicycle. Instead we walked together the AM. It took me longer, but not nearly so enjoyable. We had the bicycle, and made a regular pack mule of it. My handbag and sweater, my umbrella, Mr James overcoat, and a basket with some vittles in it were all tied on. Sober but it makes matters a little awkward, but is far easier than carrying my bag. So we got to ETNG the first duty was to partly of the information that Mr James' boy had provided. At 9 AM the 6.15 breakfast seemed many miles away and the talk went right to the spot. Then I had my speech at the morning service, and the people subscribed \$29.75. That is \$1 more than

a different kind of subculture work ago at Mr. James' exhibition, so I didn't feel entirely relaxed yet. A little embarrassed at speaking in Chinese before a congregation. It happens that all the Chinese sermons I have preached - with exception have been in the presence of members of our mission. But I think before one of the other groups is quite different. Then James conducted his examination of candidates, then dinner and then the idle hour, which was considerably quieter than the morning's work. Then a bath time, and a supper hour or so to sit in an arm chair and read "The Little Minister" which I have read about half a dozen times already, and like better every time I read it.

Last Friday Lotie and I went to the South Sea to play tennis and during the game noticed a man in foreign clothes appearing. We guessed among people and finally had about decided it was a Chinese. When he came up and introduced himself. He is a British American Tobacco man and comes from near Sydneyham, a very nice fellow indeed. We invited him over for tea Saturday afternoon and had a very enjoyable time - only he came about 15 thirty minutes ahead of time and I had just started to dress and maybe wouldn't have started then, but for Lotie's urgent explanations. I was doing some work I didn't want to stop, and I guess she got me away from it just about in time.

Yesterday the Mearns missionary from Tuckson - Hong in the Dakota county called for lunch and in the afternoon I went shopping with him. A very nice man. I'm glad to meet him where he does. Several days of the rain and all alone. A day or so from the nearest white person. There was a Presbyterian doctor in the same city but he was not at the mission now. With heaps of old & new

Return  
family to High

Chaschowful  
May 30. 1916

Dear Mother:

Your letter about Easter just received. Glad you had such a good Easter. It must have looked fine to see it baptized. I'd like to see something like that there. My dairy says I celebrated Easter by eating hot kakes that tasted of soda; by going over to the chapel expecting to preach, but the preacher had decided not to go as he planned, and he didn't mention that he wouldn't need my help; by having an English speaking Chinese to drink and by going down to Paulson to hunt up that runaway girl school teacher. Glad Easter celebration.

We have had a nice time with white ants to-day. Lottie discovered them in the floor of the great bathroom, before I was awake. After breakfast I went up between the ceiling and roof of that bathroom. It really is only a section of verandah that enclosed with lath and plaster walls. They didn't make any way to get in between ceiling and roof, so when I found the ants were in there last year I had to make a door. Last year we found a great big ant nest in the roof, so this morning I looked again, but I only found a few traces and they looked as if the ants might have come from the bathroom. After they the bathroom being infected from the roof. Then I went up into the main roof and found practically no ants. By that time it was 10. so I studied till dinner time, and then after dinner got a ladder and inspected the bathroom floor from below. (Remember it is an upstairs verandah) Careful inspection had several times revealed nothing. But this time I got up on a ladder with a hammer and chisel, and found some of the beams in a shocking condition both from rot and from white ants. The bathroom floor I guess is sap, but we have

an outside staircase leading up to the bathroom door, and the platform at the top of that staircase is absolutely rotten & that I shall have to pull it down, and get along without it till I suitable time for heavy repairs made, on other parts of the house. And then I can have that done too.

Our verandah floor has been giving us some disturbance of mind it was so rotten. So after tea I pulled up a section of the rotting. It is somewhat rotten, especially one beam, and there are white ants in several of the beams. But it seems to be quite safe as I feel relieved. Sometime I'll pull up the other rottenest part, and if it is good, we shan't need to replace till next winter, or on a pinch even a year later.

Sunday I ran down to the church in the morning. they have been going to open a night school for so long that Lotie and I became skeptical whether they ever would. I asked them and they said yes, and there were ten pupils present at that instant in a room a bit, and the preacher said "that's one of the pupils." He had got down, then went out, and came back with a lily which he presented to the preacher and the preacher presented to me. It didn't look like a pond lily - not nearly so pretty, and quite a bit larger - but its perfume, what the way of it was genuine water lily perfume. That morning pot rose, that we see in lily ponds when the lilies go to seed, is in the center of the lotus blossom when it is in its prime, and to my eyes it is as far from its beauty, the Chinese eat the blossom, the seed the stem and the root, as the lotus, so that perhaps, he lost a part of the way to gain esthetics to utilitarianism.

Wednesday A.M. a note came from Mrs. James who was planning to start for Kaifong that day. But she was not well and the doctor said she had better stay in bed. The little had made so many offers of help that they decided to let her come over and take care of the baby so she went right over. And I went for lunch. Also a big rain came on and I had to walk back home thro' wet & mud late in the afternoon. So she stayed all night. So I had the fun of sleeping alone - not much fun. This A.M. it was still raining hard. I went into the city to an educational conference. But the man who had charge of it failed to appear so I came home for lunch.

Book is just going in to mail so I must close. With love to  
Eileen  
Theresa & Jack

Return to  
Holograf finally

喜理純

Brookline, Mass.  
June 18, 1916  
Dear Mr. [unclear],

Dear Mother;

That seal dove represent one of my  
friends to ~~the~~ Kōtō (the only one that was  
ready for the day) 77 is ~~for~~ a seal with  
her name. You are probably familiar  
with my seal, but I'll put it here  
for comparison. You notice the 1st  
character is the same, that's the same  
Li (the 2 is always pronounced like 2 in 2)

喜理純

The other two characters are 5 and 2.  
which represent "Shirley Lily" (the  
flower name the Bartholomews gave  
Kōtō; each member of the 3 family has  
a flower name. Really. Bartholomew etc.  
Naturally Kōtō's was given to her after she  
was definitely connected with Shirley.

The name Kōtō couldn't well be put  
into Chinese except by saying Kō-tō  
(pronounced law-tō) which means Kat, and  
of course is masculine. At first we thought of  
using 2 and 2, which is the translation of  
"Kōtō". But later it seemed nice to  
translate 2 and 2, so we did. 2 means early  
and 2 means faintly, so it really is a nice  
name. Whereas 2 and 2 has no meaning at all  
as a name, and doesn't sound good either.

I might say that Kōtō and I agreed on  
the idea of translating 2, but the  
selection of the characters was left entirely  
in my hands. In our dialect there is one  
character pronounced 2. 5 2 2 2  
3 2 2 2 and 5 2. So you see that  
nearly to write 2 and 2 doesn't tell what the  
name is; it merely gives the sound.

If I can find any algebra I'll look up  
how many possible permutations and com-  
binations you can make with 5 5 2's  
and 4 2's — theoretically. But prac-  
tically you are restricted by the necessity  
of having a nice meaning, and the character  
above given for 2 is the only one of that  
sound that has a nice meaning, so that a  
Chinese would know at once that (seeing it  
is a woman's name) the 2 character used



must be the one meaning daintily, and a little reflection would tell him that the <sup>he</sup> meant early; this is another character pronounced as with a meaning anywhere nearly as high. Just it too told the characters are so hard to write: there's no remedy, then.

Lettie is at the piano playing Mendelssohn, Gottschalk, Brahms, etc. I told her you used to play "to me when I was little" boy, and she was very much interested. She sends her love to you. She gave me an ivory paper cutter, and a carved sandalwood box, both from Canton. I have been using an old steel paper cutter with a Tuscan Biscuit box as its slider for the handle, and expect to enjoy the ivory cutter much better.

I celebrated the day by staying away all day. Wasn't that crazy? I had my best lower. I had to leave the house at 8.40 for SS Normal class and AM service wasn't over till about 11.40. Now that the bridge is down and we have to go by boat it takes 40 minutes or more instead of 20, so I got home at 12.20, or more likely 12.30, and would have to leave at about 1.10 or 1.15 to get to another church where I was to hold communion. It seemed to be too hard and too hurried. So I sent the chapel keeper out to buy 30 worth of cooked goodies - a big bowlful of doughnuts, fruit, things of cocoa, and ate a few peanuts, and had a remarkably economical meal, and one that tasted nice and worked digest easily.

Even by eating at the chapel as good, after I had had my kidney meal and washed out the thorns and when a postal it was time to start for the church where the communion was to be.

I got home for tea about 4.20, and after that mended the outside

golf hole is "it can be locked" - it had come apart during the day - helped Rattie take the music out of some Etudes, talked a little, had a bath, and it was supper time. This evening is being spent with a letter writing with piano allgato. and it very pleasant indeed.

Rattie has just read to me "Aquarelles" consist of 4 - three persons and a town?

Mr Ashmore's son, Frank Ashmore M.D. is going to come to So. China this year as a medical missionary. Mr Foster's son Frank Foster B.A. is to come out this summer on a two years contract to teach English in the academy at Kichang, a successor to Mr. Garmen. who is just going home after fulfilling a similar contract great satisfaction about "my Frank" and "your Frank". Mr Foster wants to be remembered to you all.

Mr Campbell of Payson had a propley last summer and had had to go home. One of his daughters Mrs. Burkitt and her husband all to come out to Payson and take up the work the Campbells laid down. Mrs. Burkitt was a nice girl who went to West China but had to leave on account of her health, she lived in South China and finally gave up and went home - thus making her contribution to the many misfortunes which finally resulted in the School being closed for the last 3 years - we said we came out; Mrs. Burkitt is to open it this fall. There is some talk of Miss Fetherman coming out again. I don't know how much truth there is in it. I wonder what she had a beautiful personality, and if her health could be all right. ~~she~~ it would be fine to have her. But needless to say I am more interested in whether the Fethermans come back than in any of these others. I have no reason to expect that they want, but I want to hear, what best they can.

coming on, etc. then it will begin to feel definite.

The big Evangelistic meeting that was to be held with J. Sherrwood Eddy as chief speaker, have been more or less "up in the air" for some time. The uncertainties connected with the regulation, and "about when Eddy would come back to China — if he haven't all with in a reasonable time. — have bothered us a lot.

Suvar

Last week the committee had a meeting on Thurs P.M. at Kerk which, I discuss the question of when the campaign should be held. James and I were telegraphed, left down and dealt with them, and felt that that we have felt we couldn't already too fall; that next spring wasn't a very favorable time, on account of rain, and of busy weather closing. But the fall of 1917 would be the best time, in itself, altho we recognized it would be postponing the campaign longer than desirable. The committee debated the question most of the time from 2.30 (or before the devotional service which began then) till 5.30, and then voted, to write and find out whether Eddy can come early next year, if not, to have the campaign in late Nov. or early Dec. By the time they had got the far I was in a rather unpleasant state of mind; our people here were unanimous that we haven't got the proper preparatory work, done by the fall; it took the Suvarot people over an hour of hard debate to come to any decision — and then it was decided on the basis of arguments which concerned Suvarot; they refused that James and me have a share in the voting as to the campaign is to be held in before as well as in our, and we are as much interested in the question as Suvar is; the whole matter had been run from Suvarot right from the start, and we haven't been consulted about anything, or even notified what was going on, and we didn't like it.

The second part of our work then came up for consideration; we were commissioned by our Bepu committee to ask that Bepu be represented on the committee which runs the campaign. James stated the case briefly and then Tom Gibson got up and spoke. He is a Presbyterian, and is the foreigner who gives most of his time to managing the campaign; the Chinese who does so is the YP&A secretary a Baptist. These two men are called back in

[illegible]

what we had to say; we had no authority  
in the matter; the question was decided by  
the Swanton people, and we had no say left;  
now we were asking them to make a new  
arrangement so that we could have some  
say in matters that concerned us. Still the  
committee felt that we were right and  
some others felt so quite strongly, and  
they voted, that we should be represented,  
but the consideration of the details of the  
scheme was postponed. Was the next meeting  
there was good reason for that; the arrange-  
ment would need to be made with care  
and would require some discussion; and they  
still had another perplexing problem,  
which ultimately kept the committee in  
session till 7. Poor James! he missed  
his tea; and the house where he was staying  
had supper at 6.15 - while he can't  
even get over to Swanton before 7.30 or  
later.

Later in the week. I have been  
trying to get time to write more but  
preparation for exam. has kept me  
pretty busy. (And I tell you that my  
first (hope) exam is to be on Sat.  
or this week.) I suppose I told you last  
week that when the my exam. I hadn't  
prepared for the questions on writers  
and that the committee went off while I  
was being examined on the last batch, and  
left up to the tender mercies of two  
studies who decided that I hadn't passed.  
So I have had no fun at doing it all over.  
Just as it happened last time the town  
can't give me a convenient time. As  
soon as I take the exam several days  
before I said I would be ready, which makes  
it crowded. I think I am by ready  
however.

Mr. Jancovics over for supper  
last night and we talked about 9 o'clock.  
It seems that 9 o'clock's idea is  
that the committee is too unwieldy now

and that is why he opposed adding to its  
numbers. I think he is mistaken. However  
he wants to have the matter run by an  
oligarchy. but that isn't the way to get the  
whole-hearted support of the Japanese.  
And especially it would be hard to  
get the Blackchamfer blinks to put  
their hearts into a movement that was  
bossed entirely by Suwato.

I don't know how bad an  
impression of Gibson this letter gives.  
He really is a very nice fellow and I  
like him very much.

I must close now and take a  
little after dinner nap so that I  
can put in a good afternoon's work  
on Chinese.

Sincerely  
Gibson

13 Palm 100  
4 Tons 100  
20 Tuba gloves  
Double top 2 for 100  
Cherette 2 9

Shoes Shells

Return to Kholoke finally  
Bridgewater

Blacktown  
Nov 24 1916.

Dear Mother:

It has been a busy week or so since I wrote to you. Perhaps I had better go back to Wed Dec 15 when Teacher and I suddenly decided to go down to Kim Sheeh. by train, nearly half way to Swatow. We got there at about 2 and had to start back at 3.15 to catch our train so there wasn't much time. The preacher there was supposed to be engaged definitely for next year. but the previous Saturday I got a letter of resignation from him so I hadn't engaged him. he didn't need to resign to me at all. so I just released the letter to one to the church asking what it meant and would they please send some one up to discuss. By Wed noon no one had come so we went down. and found the trouble was that the church had not yet given the preacher the "note" that binds the bargain. so he was a man without a contract, and more or less free to accept the invitation of some other church. He wrote this letter to us to start things moving. Well something moved all right. The first thing was for Teacher to write the note on terms according to the church's idea. The a deacon took the note around to the preacher who declined to accept it. on the ground that he also wanted the church to furnish his charcoal, and to collect the tuition instead of making him collect it. Both are reasonable. especially the second. so Teacher and I went around and got him to agree to accept \$6 which is about half the cost of the charcoal. then we got the deacons to agree to collect the tuition but they didn't dare promise the \$6 without consulting the church. so we came away, and on Sunday Teacher went down and helped them subscribe and the matter is definitely settled. This is a church that has only 3 members one of whom is a deacon but a member Baptist who hasn't yet brought his letter lives near by and is a pillar of the church. But it couldn't keep going at all but for these Presbyterian families who would rather go to Kim Sheeh chapel than to their own chapels. One of the Presbyterians is a deacon. The people of the vicinity are hostile and there are Baptist churches at a distance of 2 1/2 miles and 3 1/2 miles respectively and Presbyterian churches at 2 1/2 and 3 miles. so that Kim Sheeh is hemmed in and has little chance to expand. and it would be the greatest calamity in the world if this church disbanded



and its members went to the neighboring clubs to raise a ship  
but they resolved to ~~save~~ <sup>save</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~ship~~ <sup>ship</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> ~~reduce~~ <sup>reduce</sup> ~~their~~ <sup>their</sup>  
subsidy from \$60 to \$30. In contrast to Kip & Sul  
which I visited the next day and was hoping to have  
time to write about but the time proved so short

I think if I paid this at once it may catch a  
steamer that will get it to you by Xmas so it  
better not delay it. We wish you many happy  
Christmas and hope that you can be with us  
the next one. I am writing on a small boat  
crossing the river. Please excuse the scribble

We invited the Lesbians for Thanksgiving  
but they had already invited someone else. (They) we  
invited the MacBlashanis but some relatives  
of which I don't exactly approve were invited to  
come at that time, so it turns out that the Mac's  
can't come. Our rage and grief <sup>(50)</sup> are  
mitigated by the fact that we find our cook will  
have to be away for the time and our boy if we  
have one will be a big and absolutely green  
so that we should have been considerably  
embarrassed if they had accepted of

Please give our love and good wishes to all  
the family and the Taylors et al. Hoping you have a  
lovely time.  
Your loving son  
Ellison

Correspondence  
J. H. H. H. H. H.  
Rockport - B.T.

At Chaoyang Dec. 16.

Dear Mother:

A gay life since I wrote the preceding page, has kept me from writing more. When I got to Swatow I found a mishaw waiting so I went straight to the station, and had a wait long enough so that on the way to the station I wasn't worried. It was raining in Swatow, but when I got to the city it had stopped side.

I went to the chapel and the folks there got dinner for me. Then I went to the house, and found the wife was better and his mother had come to see for him. So I went around the house and got together the things I wanted to take down with me. When it got toward dark I went over to James's planning to stay over only for supper but they persuaded me to stay over night. In the AM I went in to the chapel and talked with the preacher and arranged for lunch at noon. Then went back to the house and packed up my things, sending the carrier on ahead to the station. After lunch at the chapel I followed, and took the 1.10 train that got me to Swatow just too late for the 3.00 boat so I had my things carried to the Swatow Chapel and then did some errands and took the 4.30 boat. I was delighted to find Katharine & brother there. The mother had written that I was coming on that boat which was more than I knew myself and she knew I would be glad to bring Katharine along. I was. She is a dear girl and my good company. When we got to Chaoyang landing there were no chairs available so we had to walk. I put her baggage on top of mine, and told the carrier to take it along. I'll try to tell about him next time. I got home on Saturday night. Sunday was a very busy morning, ending with accounts, which came out almost exactly right to my great surprise. Mission money OK. personal is short.

After dinner I had to hurry to send my carrier off at 1.30. and I started at 1.50 on the bike. When I was a good deal less than half-way I was disgusted to catch up with the carrier so I was behind him and he travelled pretty well then. When I first saw him he was travelling very poorly. He had no business to go that road anyway. It is harder for the bike but much plainer. Anyway he caught the launch but it was so full we had great difficulty in getting the things on board. I had bought a 2nd class ticket but it was so full down there that I went up on the bridge which is 1st class and costs about 1/2 p. not exorbitant. But I usually go 2nd if I can get a good seat. Because it is so cold up on the bridge. Also I can watch my luggage better down there. I usually travel with a boy and he watches the baggage

but in the 9 trips I have made since I came here I haven't had a boy along, and I have almost forgotten how it feels. ~~At Kakhich~~ there was no one to carry but a teacher whom I know was waving on the jetty so he watched the stuff while I went for a canister.

I got to Suwato at about 4:30 but by the time I had got across to Kakhich, got my baggage carried, talked about where I was to spend the night, and when my exam would be, why by that time it was 5:45, and I went to Page's, where I was assigned, to see what time supper was scheduled for. It was at 6, so my stove had to be post-fired till after supper and my bath till bed time. I hadn't had time for either at Suwato.

That evening I ran around doing errands, and went to bed about 9. Page's house, where we were last year, has two bed-rooms Mrs Page and the two girls sleep in one. Mr Page in the other (which used to be the guest room). So they can only take in male guests, ordinarily. Page has a  $\frac{7}{8}$  bed, off in the corner farthest from ventilation and he spread a comfy bed for me in the best ventilated corner, and gave me my choice which direction should be the head. I chose so that my head was close to the door and had plenty of air. The Pages have a bad reputation in the mission for hostility to light and air, but I guess perhaps they are getting over it, for there was pretty good ventilation - not enough to satisfy the but even for me. But the bed was a different matter. A small folding cot, such as I use myself - but

I put a business mattress down underneath me, and Page had a quilt folded double. I have ~~the~~  $\frac{3}{4}$  or full-width blanket so that they come down on the sides and keep the wind from blowing in between the bed and the covers. Page had ~~the~~ quilt folded double so they were just as wide as the cot, and if I lay just so, they would just about come down to the bed, and something was wrong so that even with the pillow braked up the thickest I could get it, my head was almost as low as my lower shoulder. On I was tired myself tho, so that both nights I slept pretty well. But I was glad to get back here again and have a good bed.

But here is the funny part of it. When I got into the cot, it started to rip, so Page and I got up and rearranged it. And then he said, "If this won't work, you'll have to take my bed, even in the dirty street" Well, Sunday evening that ought not to be very dirty yet, and some people would have thought that the 5 ft 6 best covered sleep in the cot better than the 6 ft 4 guest. But there's no accounting for the Pages. ~~Those who have come~~ Anyway, I was all right there. And of course I made them a lot of bother. I had to get up at 5 AM Monday, and go out to Sapiro to see that Mr White was up, also that Baper's

colie got up to go and make the boatmen then went back and soon Mr. White came over to Page's for breakfast. At 6, when we left the house it was just about light enough to see, and we found our boat ready. We got to the station just before 7, and the train goes at 7.30. But we hadn't met the slightest obstacle on the way, and I don't think any less anyway would have been safe.

At the city the preacher and my teacher met us. We went to see the government high school. Etc etc. Had dinner with the James's. Went over to my house, and finally went back in time to catch the train at 4.45. I don't suppose an account of what we did would be very interesting. We got to Khabarovsk about 7, and the whites were invited out to Mr. Volley's. She invited me to come to, but she hadn't previously told Mr. Page not to save late supper for me. So I went on and had a semi-cold supper at Page's, and thought about the good time the others were having. I was alone too, for the kids had gone to bed, and Mr. Page had a class to teach. And Mr. Volley set a fine banquet. But then I should have had to stay there most of the evening, and as it was my friends kept me up till nearly 10.

Next morning had my exam, and I guess I passed it. They haven't said so officially. I got there just in time to eat dinner, and after dinner I made haste to get away to Swatow in time to get my friends done and catch the 3.00 launch. So as to get home about 5. If I didn't get away till the last boat at 4.30 I wouldn't be home till after dark.

When I got nearly to Chaoyang, during the launch passed a sailboat containing Mr. Lester and some freight. He would have to get them. I had a suitcase, a hand bag, three big boxes, and a sweater, which I had just arranged to carry on the boat. But at his suggestion, I put them on his boat, and so had an easy trip home. I found to the feeling quite well. She had been sitting up some earlier in the day.

That was Tuesday. Yesterday I spent most of the day resting. I needed it. But I managed to get my accounts made up and I read a little, and helped to the some and fixed the room up some. But I didn't try to make a workday of it.

Today Thursday, the nurse left. Mr. Bacon, sent word at first that she should leave last ~~night~~ <sup>morning</sup>, and we were much distressed. But later on receipt of a letter that Lottie had already written she said the nurse could stay till now. Mr. Lester's amah took her to Swatow today, and thing she meets Miss Northcott and goes up on the launch with her. Staying so long gave me a chance to get back before she left, and also brings nearer the time when Lottie can sit up and won't need so much care.

On looking over this letter, see that it is chiefly about  
myself and say little about Lattie. That is for two reasons one is  
that I know much more about what I have been doing than I do of what  
Lattie has done; the other is that I have been doing something, eating  
most of the time, while Lattie has done very little but lie in bed,  
eat sleep, and get well. She has done that last exceedingly well,  
but threatened many details of it & reports Her muscles are still  
somewhat sore. And don't work as well as might be wished. But  
that is only a temporary inconvenience for breasts were bound tight as  
soon as the milk began to come, and now are pretty soft, indicating  
that the flow has pretty well stopped. Her spirits are good and  
her appetite is good and the care her physicians take of her is  
good, and what more could one ask for.

I have, I hope, got over my flegrinations, and expect to  
stay here with her till conference time, and then I hope we can  
both go to Ketchikan to conference. We don't know yet which house  
we shall be in, but hope to hear soon.

I must close, now. With lots of love and miles for a  
Happy New Year  
Your loving son  
William