

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Series: I. Correspondence

Box / folder: 4 / 49

Folder label: LLH to Carrie and Everett Lane (parents), from Thaiyong, Swatow

Dates: 1914 Aug-Sep

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Blanche & Jane - 9/24/14

Thaizong, China

August 1, 1914.

Dear Mrs. Bl.,

My house-keeping is over! This morning I turned over the reins to Ned Giffon and I am glad. My house-keeping at home, but less with other people than my own family, with accounts to settle I cannot talk, and with difficulty in obtaining supplies it is no joke. We have started back for winter yesterday morning. We are to have a vacation without pay during August. I would then I do not know whether we shall take our sack or not. We shall probably stay at Thaizong a few days into August. September probably too much, but it is difficult to arrange the matter. The teacher is not to stay very long, and our next exam will come before the middle of November probably.

The conference this year will come in December, I believe, instead of February.

I shall be so glad to hear about the summer at home. When I waked up this morning I thought of you all the first thing and I imagined you all around the supper table including Aunt Ab and Marion, and then I suppose you all had the nice music in the evening. We had some good music last evening on the Victrola, but I long to get my feet stepping fingers upon a piano again!

I am so glad that we are at Thaizong. They say that it has been hotter at Suatou than it has been for twenty or thirty years. The temperature I believe on the shade has gone only to 100 or possibly a point over, but it is very uncomfortable there at 89° I thought, and what would it be at 95° and 100°? Sighing!!!

We expect Mr. Giffon to stay sometime. Three or four men came up yesterday - one the husband of the woman about whose marriage Mr. Snator is protesting some time this spring. Mr. and Mrs. Chalvira also the husband of Mrs. Jones who was married in Hong Kong shortly after we arrived in China. They had dinner at Mrs. says the night we were there, and are both very attached. If you see their two couples here

Blanche
 Jane
 9/24/14

who were married later than we. The Chabess
are older than we, but the James's are about
the same age. Somebody had quite a little
fun over them as both wives seemed to love some
the few days before their husbands arrived. Mrs
Chalmers'; "Oh, I can hardly wait; how do you
get along without your husband?" to Mrs. James
was quoted all over the place, and the fact
that Mrs. James started out several different
times in twenty four hours to meet her husband
was noted by every eye all over the valley. - Cassip.

It is a foggy day to day - and yesterday we had
heavy rain; the day before we had showers, but before
that that wonderful spell of good weather still lasted.

I had one good letter this week from Beth and I
learned to my surprise that she and her
family started for Europe in July sometime.
She said that she hadn't heard from any of
our family for a long time!!! I suppose
that both she and Edith are in Switzerland today.
"And just think," Beth wrote, "I shall be on the
same piece of land with you!" It almost
startled me for a minute, but it's really
true.

Even as early as this, E and I have been
talking of what way we shall come home.
Only our father, perhaps one cannot tell us for
certain, but it is fun to plan. There is a
choice I think of Europe by way of Russia or
Mediterranean; of Pacific by way of Canada or San
Francisco - and probably the Panama Canal.

Our Sunday evening sings are very
pleasant. We go to Mr. Oton's house on the
hill across the river and sit on the porch
where he has chairs, and lights, his little
organ etc. Miss Starkey comes with her
children. She plays the cello at home in
London, but here she cannot have her rare old
instrument. She is a most interesting girl
and I like her immensely although I do not
know her at all. She is an honorary musician;
that means that she pays her own salary.

Personal letter

Shanghai, China
August 7, 1911

Dear Cousin All,

Such a nice lot of mail came yesterday - written about the end of July, and giving you such a good account of Adelaide's wedding etc. and such a vivid picture of life at 34 Down - with Marion sewing her fingers off for the others, and Ruth cooking, dusting and sweeping, Mother happy, and Mother happiest of all, unless it is Daddy - and the boys neglected to get home at the usual time - but what does every body sleep - and how does Carol get along? She is one of the grown-ups now! Aunt Cele is with you now yesterday's letter said she would start the 2nd or 3rd. How lovely it must be. You bet I wish you all! But, really, outside my own country where I could get at you I can't think of any more lovely place to be in - and I certainly could not find more of a rest. The people, too, are very pleasant. But I just want to come in and help. You do have so much to do at Sam's Down. Wish I would like to have a good full breath of the salt air.

The letters were all very full of interest to me. Ruth's own - and the other old Jennie and Aunt Cele - came at the same time. The only thing I want is a little more news of "Hockey Sab" - and George added a vivid touch in mentioning his eager interest in things. And I do want some snap shots of the crowd. And him. Did Mother get to see Charlton Dr.?

I am disappointed, Aunt Cele, that you had the hard trip in to Boston, and then did not see the Hillkeths, or Dr. Foster, or Mr. Spencer, or Mrs. Cully who is to come here - or Mrs. Sanford or Mrs. Page. It is a perfect shame, when you wanted to so much. Next time write Hillkeths beforehand and they will help you to find people.

Yesterday, too, came news of the awful war up in Europe. The telegraphic news will come to the coast all right, but we shall get the news here not more than twice a week. Martial law is declared at Hong Kong. Four German warships are in Swatow harbor afraid to move and it is rumored that a German boat has been taken by the French or vice versa, somewhere off Hong Kong.

Everybody is horrified here - the men especially. It is brightly interesting to hear the Englishmen - mostly young men - talking over the situation. They kick very bitter against Germany as the cause of the whole trouble.

Thank you, Papa and Carol, for good paper. I was glad to see details of that awful Salem fire. Hope Miss Woodbury's home was not hurt. There was one duplicate among the papers - the one about graduation. I just mention so that you needn't know I'm sorry Mr. Washburn might resign. Who will be principal now? The graduations both at Gloucester and Rockport must have been most interesting.

It seemed good to hear of your gayeties, Marion. How glad I wish I could hear Hannah's quartette. Please remember me to Dr. and Mrs. Emory. We always get safe with their medicinal care. (It is funny but just now at Thayer we have four men doctors and three women doctors. Every house except the Pettens has a doctor. We are not usually so fortunate.) Is Dr. Emory's machine still in commission, or does he keep a horse all the time - rather confused question.

Now all tell me what you are wearing. What new waist or dress has Aunt Lett. and how are the wardrobes of Mother, Carol, Ruth, Marion. For myself, I have needed nothing new. I have had my extra white shirt made in case I needed it - and I put a flannel or my reference cap - because it was too heavy to wear all by one. I was worried of wearing the deep blue collar with it, I put on the long affair that Ruth gave me for Xmas. It is so pretty that it makes it to church but for afternoon calls here in Thayer. The carpenter changes on the burglar will certainly make a great improvement.

I am very anxious to hear about the visit to the Van. Don't hardly believe that you have been married twelve years, Marion. Was the date July 7?

The Roman strip quilt must be Patience's!
Carpenter pretty simple.

It was good to get your letter, Carol. I could just see Pa out in the kitchen here smoking. Who sleeps up in my study parlor? #

Dr. Beldred says that Miss S. has spent many winters in the Swiss Alps and that she has a very good reputation skater. She has a walking stick for which is quite a beautiful thing, a talking stick!! She made it of Chinese cloth.



The costume is black lightened by buttons embroidered in red and green.

To go back to the Sunday evenings. Each one chooses a hymn, and then sometimes we have a quartette or selection on the Victrola - but always it is English music by English singers - It is all very interesting.

The girls from the other house and Mrs. Jones came over Monday evening and we played Halma and checkers. I have also played checkers with E. several times - winning only about once in four games this.

We had a nice walk - to the Pointed on Tuesday, Mr. Baker being guide - good climb and beautiful view.

Will, if possible, what else you would like to hear about if anything.

Sarah reading "The Fortunes of Oliver Horn" by J. Hopkins Smith.

Hope you are all very well, very happy. I'll send you message by the next mail which will be fall within the week.

Oh, Ellison and I have changed our room around again. By the way we are making we could buy this room. It is for sale and we are quite well satisfied. It, with its furniture and the room below and 1/3 above in

Thalyong.
Sunday Ev. Aug 7, 1894

Dear Family, I have certainly spent too long commenting on letters, for I wanted to tell you in full of two splendid trips we have had this year.

Did I say last week that it was appalling to think of all August without study or housekeeping? Well, if it all goes as this week has done, I shall not get over the first detail of what I had planned, accomplished that is to catch up in my correspondence.

On Wednesday we were up with the load, had breakfast, packed a lunch and started off with Dr. Scherer, Ashmore and the two Kanie's Misses Tait and Chidholm, for the Canyon - really the finest trip of the summer I suppose. It was so early that the sun shone only thro' the valleys at us, and had not reached above the tops of the hills, on whose sides we were travelling. We took the tramp leisurely, and about 8:00 arrived at the top of a great chasm from 500 to 500 feet deep. The sides were almost up and down, but finally following a sure leader (who knew the path) and using our sticks to be sure that we had a footing, we made our way slowly down the side - which was unlike most of the mountains covered with a luxuriant growth of coarse tall grass, wild banana trees, wild ivy, little bamboos, gingerbread vine etc. etc. Toward the end we would sit down and putting our hands one each on the shoulder of a man would jump down to the next level - all very interesting - and not dangerous - even tho' we were so close to the perpendicular drop. If it had not been for my big path that I should have enjoyed it a little more. It was lucky that there was the luxuriant growth on the side, for we could not see how steep the place was, and if we had fallen there would have been something to cry to.

Finally we reached the bottom of our entirely shady with a cool nice stream flowing between

gray rocks heaped up in all imaginable shapes. Looking up on side there was a sheer rugged face, but on the side where we came down, it was a little better. The scenery as you can imagine was magnificent! Well, just as we ate a school breakfast, I forgot to say that as we came along the clouds were wonderful. We could see the beautiful white masses folded in between the green hills. Once in a while they would form a ring around the top of a hill. The only thing similar to it that I had seen - was the view from Mt. Holyoke before sunrise on our mountain day - and the fog around the islands at Bar Harbor.

Dr. Leaker asked us if we wanted to visit the bat cave about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour's walk down the river - and most of us decided to go. One of our boys was along to carry the food. He stayed behind.

So into our bathing suits we got, put on Chinese straw sandals and started out. It certainly would not have taken Dr. Leaker more than $\frac{1}{2}$ hour, for he is as spry as an animal, but we poor old ladies! travelled rather slowly. At home on creeks I am fairly good on the rocks, and when Dr. Leaker lifted helping all of us over a hard place would take my hand and run along with me, I hopped as quickly as at home, but either the strangeness of the shoes or the slipperiness of some of the rocks just covered with water, or the noise of the frequent falls, made it difficult, and we all progressed slowly and surely. First two decided to go no farther and then flew home, but Miss Tait and I, Ellison & Dr. Leaker, left on to the end, and finally came to the bat cave. It really was hard climbing to get there. Two huge rocks just forming a camp over the third - and that year hundreds of bats were sleeping on the roof - but this year not a bat was to be seen! $\frac{1}{2}$ p. We after a push at the cave, we started back. Where we had alighted down before we had to climb now, sometimes I could be on top a huge rock & Dr. Leaker at bottom. We would put our feet in Dr. L's hands, and our hands

in E's and get pulled up that way. I wouldn't have minded the climbs for anything - but oh, my what sore shoulder muscles the next day. Finally about noon we arrived at the starting place only to find that the men wanted to go up to a safer place before eating lunch. If a sudden thunder storm arose, the water was alarming fast, and we must not be caught in the canyon. "Oh, just give us one gambowl," we said, but the men seemed to think that we would delay too long if we opened the boxes, and so we started on another 1/2 hour trip which actually took us until 4:00 P.M. Sometimes we waded up to our waists in water and once we found a lovely pool in which I had a refreshing swim - once we climbed up the side to a spring and then Dr. L. climbed up to the top, lashed a rope around a tree and we pulled ourselves up the precipitous side, only to find that on top of descent, what a steep a place on the other side. The only way to top it was to face the cliff, then all hand baggage down and holding on to the soap rope, descend with feet at about a right angle to the mt.

But finally we reached a safe place and topped a lunch of baked beans, pickles, sandwiches, chocolate cake, fruit etc. Then we saw some beautiful falls about 100 feet high, and we had already seen one other yet great as beautiful front before this climb.

People usually go in halfway at the foot at the foot but we decided not to this day. Finally, it looked as if we could not go a foot farther because of the precipitous sides and the falls ahead, when Dr. L.



Delightful holiday wife tent

End 2.

jumped up the face of the rock and again
fastened his reliable rock to a stump.

Then Ellen pushed us up the first
rock. Dr. Lodge receiving us had
given us a boost to my Guffen.

They've started up the rope.
It was steep ahead and
steep at the right and we
could hear the water of
the falls just below us.
I hope I haven't made it
sound dangerous, because
it wasn't, but it was falls.

pool.

Exciting, and interesting and new. This path above
the pool was overgrown and narrow and there
was much rough grass. I wish you all
could see that wonderful canyon too, with
at least three sets of beautiful falls, and
with countless little falls. with its steep sides
perfectly upright on places. - and the gray
rocks surrounded with beautiful ferns, and
ivy etc. - we saw a few flowers but not nearly
so many as you would expect.

We got home about 7:30. had a hot bath,
at night and sent to bed - not very tired, for
we rested on the way home, and were in the
shade all the way, but the next day, we all
were stiff. Poor Mrs. Guffen had fallen three
times and banged her nose and her knees. Dr.
Mildred walked like a woman of fifty. My shoulder
was pretty stiff. I steamed it a little I think.

The next day the people started on a walk at 11:00 AM
but I decided to wait a day and I was glad
I did for the suggestions came that we go to
the Falls on Thursday and I wouldn't miss that.
That was a comparatively easy trip, just I
and I got behind the others & took the
wrong road - walking several miles longer
than necessary, but the beautiful country

The Flume is a little like the canyon but not
on nearly so grand a scale. and it extends
only a short distance, but it has wonderful
falls over 110 feet high which spread over the
gray rocks. We sat down in the pool at the
foot, and had a good swim, and the view
went up under the falls.

Beautiful day



Falls

Pool

Mr. Biffin is celebrating his tenth anniversary
to day (Wed.) I'll try to remember to write if it
was used.

We saw a feather general this last week that was
very interesting. They had a torch in front altho it
was plain daylight. They were beating drums or
drum pans and kept it up at intervals all
night. Many wore rough sack cloth, and
shod cloth on head. They blew off fire whistles,
and carried red banners.

Messenger is here and so I have been hurrying.
War may make some difference in your
getting your mail, so don't be alarmed if it
is slow.

Mrs. Biffin served us a Chinese dinner
the other day, and we ate with chopsticks.
It had ten courses. I can't remember all, but
we had chicken, beef, pork, cattle fish, rice,
peas, mac noodles & greens, salt vegetables, ^{and}
etc.

And everybody had to eat out of the same
bowl. ff

I imagine we eating peas with chop sticks.

Must stop now.

Keeps of love.
Lottie.

The water here is nice and warm to bathing unless one gets in before the sun is up. The English here say, "I am glad going to bath." It sounds so queer. And they say, "With the baby." Let me hear how the bairn and doring progress this summer, Carl.

I am wondering how Beth, Edith, and Jack V. will be affected by the war.

How is Carl getting along? How are Uncle Charles and Uncle George? Is Etta coming to Cape Ann this summer? Would we like to see Stella's new house. How she will enjoy it!

So glad Papa has bought. Let me congratulate you, too, Papa, on getting with Hooper. It certainly must be a great relief. Just the day when I received your letter, I looked at my diary and found that a year ago at this hour, we were looking over the hills!

I think you had better put the Cooperative shares in Ellie's name.

Turn over the notices from O.A.S. to George, and advise him whether to pay or not. I turned over the check for \$5.00 to him, and I judged that he intended to start payment. I think it is best for him to pay.

Thank you for the papers.

Ruth - your long letter was a jewel, short on also, I felt I was so anxious to hear details of long one that I was especially pleased. Sorry you couldn't get to N.Y. and to see Mrs B. I want to hear how she is, and to know what Bob is doing. Ruth wrote that he might go to a success party on Lake Champlain toward end of August. Hope he can get on to Rockport for a few days for the change and to cheer you all up. You Dan glad A.K.S. did not send invitation. I thought she was going to have a big wedding.

I am sorry that your school begins so early. Do you play quite a little, Ruth? Have you made enough?

George, don't bother to ^{throw away} those unfinished letters. Just send them on. I read them all eagerly and enjoy them so much.

Sunday Ev. Aug. 8.

For days to your birthday. I hope you will have the best of your life - and the best year to follow. I am writing Allison is reading Annie's enthusiastic letter from Silver Bay. The Victrola is playing "Nearer" out on the porch. It is nice, but I'd like to peek in at Louis Van. Tell me what Polly says and does. And you can't say too much of little Charlton.

George - those Englishmen all wear short wide knee trousers - and wool stockings which come about to the knee - tied with a piece of bright colored tape. They look quite "piffy". And the rare horses do not seem to bother them. I wonder if you would like the costumes for the woods. Does little Charlton like the water? Is he very sensitive? Give him heaps of love for me.

The blue flame oil stove must be a great blessing. Does milk cost 17 a quart now?

Miss Woodbury's address was 7 North St.

The boys must love the puppies!

John, I was glad to get your good letter, and to know that you rode safely to Boston on that wet Monday morning. I was surprised to hear that the Ranger was in Gloucester harbor. Do you know where Edward Kell is? It would have been exciting to see him in Boston harbor this year. I wonder if they started out a second time.

Dear Ed, you are a good angel setting other people to write to me. and your own good letters, I believe I look for as much as you look for mine! How are your eyes? Do you suffer every time you write? Hey I had been at Spear 10 days in the hills when you wrote and I hadn't noticed any comfort except music and fresh milk.

July "Mission" has arrived.

P. 562 is picture. And may sitting from left is Miss Chis whose good wife has taught us afternoon tea name is John Chis. Next to him is Mr. Baker and beyond him is Mr. Page.

I add it a good picture of the Campbell family P. 565. I have had the oldest girl. The father & mother

Personals. 7. For family only

Thaiyung, China
Wednesday, 1918

Dear Family, how I would like to see you in this month of birthdays! And I am anxious to hear all about them. Came good mail Thursday with very welcome letters from George, Aunt Cella and postal from Mother - all containing good news first and foremost Mother's pronounced will. I am so thankful. Then Papa has sold the house at 7, Fern Court - (I am anxious to hear details) - (Some-
thing must have happened to mention it, or I would not have understood Mother's postal) I am very glad.
Then the bungalow is nearing completion, and Carol received the little watch on her birthday.

What a lot of accidents on Cape Ann! I trust they were not people known to me, or George would have mentioned it.

I am glad Carl is out again. It seems soon, but I suppose it is really a long time. You still speak of boxes. I don't know whether the idea is at all practical or not - nor how much it will cost. With this war on perhaps it would not be safe. But then when you talk it over with the Wilkeths you will probably think of these things. I shall not expect it, however.

Did you take Katharine to ride, George? Have you any pictures of little Charlton? I hope we will get letters via Siberia but I have my doubts. So wasn't it too bad that I should urge you to avoid that way just at the time of the war. We get only telegraphic news of the war and that not very reliable I fear. Was little Charlton like to go in bathing? Where does he sleep? Where have you all slept? When did Bertha go to Uncle Charlie's and how was he able to persuade her to go?

None of your home spoke of having invited
Baby, but Mr. B. mentioned it. Hope he will
arrive safely and have a grand time.

I shall be anxious to hear, Aunt Lett, if you
and Mother got away for a few days. I thought
of you much those days that we were in N. H. together.
Wasn't it nice! The night ^{of the} beautiful sunset, you
had one here too, and I just happened to see it
thru tree trunks, that reminded me of the Mt. glory.
It was the night before the light-house.

Glad Charlie could go to Rockport and hope he
will have a grand good time.

Is Marion yet on her travels?

What a good time Charlie and the girls must have
had picking berries. I wonder that there is not more
wild fruit here - but we find only a very few wild
raspberries and that is all!

Aunt Lett. please do notice that according
to custom I have to stay only 2 1/2 years - not seven.
And by next spring it will be only five years more!

Yes, I seem to be always well. Of course
there are frequent times when I have to
take things easy, but that would be so
anywhere! I will tell you all. Sometimes
I admit a few details that are perfectly
harmless in themselves, but which might
sound bad - about life here, but I usually
find that they get into some letter, so I
guess even that is not necessary.

Yes the stockings have arrived and
Mr. Butler will send you the money for
them.

I had a letter from Henry Sep^r about watch, safe,
and it was better to duty on account of its being
made in Switzerland. They informed me of a few of the
rules and I shall know better next time. When it is
returned - it can be called and hand goods and no value
placed. I really don't know whether it will be best
to send P.P. or registered mail.

We have just taken a six months account of stock and while we have a little balance on hand we find that we have lived on more of our salary than would be wise if conditions were not a little unusual. We have bought a large amount of furniture - over \$200. Mexican I suppose - and that is necessary and well. I feel quite well satisfied under the circumstances, for we have paid our insurance, and begun our Co-operative Bank account of course.

We took a small insurance on payrols so that we could have a Co-operative account which would be available for education purposes if necessary.

So Glad Papa has a new suit!

Does Maria sleep on the porch? It must be great!

I have not seen my letter from Carl for quite a while, altho Mother spoke of one, and I suppose that was lost in the last lot. Carl I think the one that Maria spoke of as being left off in the middle - has not arrived. Indeed!

Please to see plan of bungalow, Maria. Do the rooms seem small? Do the screened room at the east end? The letter about Rutland trip via Aunt Cile and Jen will arrive some day and I suppose next by Sunday, say, the 12th or 13th.

It must be nice to have the Dodge courts available.

Yes Maria, I did think of Peggy's birthday when I saw it in the diary but, to my shame, too late to do any good. I think you know more than I did that day at the hospital in spite of what you say. I did not realize at all. I certainly haven't done much. You probably would have done heaps more in my position. That is all chance.

Are Evelyn and George married yet?

Do the kiddies help you with dishes and house work?

I had a letter from Rose, but have not had time to answer it. Interesting work for her, but I imagine she is a little homesick.

I am hoping Dad is with you all this week.

I know Ruth has been behind the machinery
this summer. Hope it has not been too hard!

So Ted wants to buy Gene! What does Gene say.
I'd like to see the little reeve with his angel
face! #

If Ruth is the guilty, surely he has forgiven
her for forgetting that Toys are "bottomless pits." #

Did I tell you that Mr. Peffer cut E's hair
for him up there? He did it well, too.

Genevieve deserves a good letter all by
herself, but I do not know when I shall
get around to it. Vacation is almost over and,
as usual, I have not caught up in my correspondence.
It is awfully good of you, Genevieve, to send
me the letters. Your father's often give me
bits of news that I do not get in the other letters.

Miscellaneous Anecdotes.

1872. Death of Mr. Day - who remained E. & me for
first six months work.

1875. Miss Sather Lumbay visited Redwood
this spring. Also Dr. Scott & Mrs. Water.

1878. Mr. Archie Adams brother of the Mr.
Adams who visited us.

Thank you John, for your good letter. I like
to read to hear. I am glad you are paying for
Genevieve. Keep up your saving steadily. Why change
to a shop in Gloucester, if your work is in Boston
if you! You have a tendency to desire change,
I think, and I don't believe you should give way
to it until there is sufficient reason. And don't
build on great expectations. Have you ever read
the book? Have you read a Tale of Two Cities?
Are you interested in the war?

Much love to all

Letter.

all surrounded by mountains. The floor was
neat green rice fields and around them
round the river for a gray rocky bed.

We descended to the river and sitting right down
on the rocks we had a bath - and then
built a fire to heat Campbell's soup - for the first
course of my lunch. After a little rest we travelled
along further by water falls - and springs - by
cubical pot holes - once in a while we caught
a glimpse of the big valley beyond the mountains
all the in the distance like the ocean.

We went on bathing again, rested awhile, read
the Outlook - and finally when the sun was
hidden except on the top of the hills we
travelled back toward home with some lovely
peas and a few flowers. There are surprisingly
few flowers now but in the spring the hills and
valleys are very beautiful now say.

Mr. and Mrs. Biffin celebrated their tin wedding
on Monday. They had invitations on sheets of tin,
had little tin cups for raspberry or rather
mellony shrub, sealed cake on tins and had
tin plates. They also had had little tin boxes made
just large enough to hold a match box, and in
these they placed wedding cake. The vittols
furnished us with good music and
finally after refreshments we played a
game or two on our nice lawn and then
it was all over - really a very jolly time.

The next day Mrs. Biffin entertained the
children at a little party. It was such fun
to watch them surround a little cabinet and
to see them eat. Mrs. B. had put chocolate
on some round cookies to represent the man
in the moon, and the children certainly did
enjoy them. Finally a few drops of rain made
all hurry away before he had a chance to see
them, jolly as much as we wished to. The
two little picnic bags (Mrs. Baker's 9 months old
baby, and Peggy who is about 7 months and
belongs to the Miller-Smith's) were very. In
all there were thirteen children although

Oh, the day we had our picnic down
the river I was expected to see hardly
a soul, but it happens once during the

summer that a whole village goes fishing and this was the day we chose. It was funny for they were very curious about us and her food and utensils. They carried a net, a flat basket with a narrow neck, and a long pair of scissors with teeth like a saw at the end. I presume the teeth did not quite meet.

They would stand around us in a circle just as if we were animals at a fair, pointing at this and that and laughing at us, and trying to ask us questions in Chinese that I could not understand.

The rest of the week has disappeared. Of course we got vines and figs and helped decorate for the festivities of Monday and Tuesday, so that in those days there was little time. On Wednesday I went to the canyon again, but I decided against the long and arduous ascent of our plans for the next day. I am reading Dr. Gibbon's book on "Mission Problems and Mission Methods in South China" - a book required in our course of study. I find a few bits of mending - I try to read a chapter in Chinese (Mandarin) every day and to write a hymn for my hymn book. Also it is my ambition to catch up a little on letters which have been long unanswered, but when my husband sees me working, he makes me play checkers, or do something equally frivolous, and I do not accomplish anything.

My mother-in-law that she has not seen any letters for a long while.

Edwin Brown sent me a Glen Ridge Class Book which I was very glad to see, and Mr. Spies very often reads portions or the whole of the New York Times and the Montclair Times.

I have washed my hair this week, too. There is not so much dust here as in America - strange to say.

Well, I know they look big with giant heels and high and high of love to my very dear family - everyone.

Lottie.

(over)

We may go home by Sept 10 perhaps earlier
perhaps later and it may make about
out half of a larger house or the whole of
another. It will not be decided until Sept 11 at
meeting of reference committee.

L.

There was talk of some where they were.
I can not realize that your swanage at home is
coming as near to be done. Hope it has been
checked every way. Hope Marion is well.

Rocky

Has anything been seen of E's bathing suit? It
was black I think, and we have not seen it since
he left home.

Mrs. Griffin has read "Cant. Penrose and
William Brewster" by Calhoun. It was very funny.

Mon. 11/11

At home it is the evening of Marion's birthday
and I am sure you are all sitting in the parlor and
I'm with you, too.

Yesterday P.M. came a little mail and one big envelope
from Daddy. In it he said that Mother had invited
Bob for lunch and that he was going. It is
and so glad you will have. Mother will have
had a prairie time. Hugs of love.
Lester.

Thayong, China
August 23, 1911

Dear Dad All,

A number of people have gone off to spend the day at the Trident Falls, but they were not to start until about 9:10 and we decided we would rather stay at home than take the hot walk, and as we have been writing a little, and planning our orders for the fall, and seeing people about their plans. Mrs. Griffin leaves on Monday August 31, and as we plan now, we shall probably leave on Thursday Sept. 4. The next week occurs the referendum committee meeting which will decide where we are to live next. I hope we can move fairly soon so as not to have to settle the house completely when we go back.

When I last wrote the big typhoon was just fading away. We could not use the bridge across the river, because the water spread over too much territory, and so Dr. Gull had a Chinese chair which took the sixteen people from this side across the river. It would have been a strange sight to you, to see the Chinamen with their dark blue cotton trousers rolled to their knees and a piece of dark linen across their shoulders, take up the chair after a person, seat in it, carry it across to the other side, deposit the person carefully, and then return for the next one. We did not go out again in the evening for a sing at Mr. Pylon's as we usually had - but only a while by ourselves.

Well that fog and heavy rain lasted on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, ~~and~~ Thursday when it cleared and then we all began to see the sun. It is so better to worship the sun, for we were extremely glad to see it. My boy washed and ironed all the clothes, and everybody went out to see everybody else. The next day, we removed everything in our room and had the floor scrubbed. - We brought up one of the Yuan rugs and have enjoyed

it very much. I do not remember whether I mentioned it before or not.

I just wish he could take some pictures of the beautiful places we have seen this summer. We went again this week on afternoon walks to Moss Falls and to Williams' Horn. At the first place the falls were more beautiful than before because there was more water from the heavy rains, and at the second place the view of the plain was much more beautiful because it was a little later in the day and the hills looked like velvet and the plain had every variety of shade of green, and brown and purple and blue.

A year ago to day Daddy B. was with us and we went fishing down on the rocks. Do you remember? How so glad he could come them wondering if you have been around the cape yet.

We have sent a preliminary letter toward buying this room, but of course do not know whether it will succeed or not.

Well. I do not think of anything more to write just now and so will drop this letter until Monday. Hugs of love to you all.

(We have had some good swims this week too.)

Have I told you how dependent the English are on tea? Some of them have it in bed before rising, again about 11:00, then they have elaborate tea at 4:30 to 5:00, and once in a while again before retiring. They would rather go without dinner than without tea. S.

in some copies

The Chinese are very cruel, if they capture a Chinaman in a gun fight they sometimes slice his flesh off until he dies. Sometimes they kill him and then feast him to pieces. It is terrible!

L.

I have not told you anything of Mrs. White's experiences in the typhoon, have I? She had gone away by a steamer to spend a few days with her husband and started back on Friday - the day when the typhoon arrived. She started early in the morning however, before the storm arrived. Her Chinese boy is somewhat stupid and went off the boat a few minutes to cut rice; the boat started. Of course he was left behind. Having arrived at Kitzang, the only thing for her to do seemed to be to go ashore, altho she had a small supply of food. She found boatmen afraid to take the tip of the river, and so she tried to take passage on a launch which was half way. Chinese men, however, had chartered this for the day. Finally after much bargaining she secured passage.

Toward night the typhoon came on, the river rose, and to escape being caught in the flood, they went out of the channel and found themselves in the morning in a sugar cane field. When they tried to draw their boat up to get the boat back into the river about twelve men came and then more and more - with clubs and weapons, and they began to demand a lot of money for the damage to the field.

Finally they began to take away the rudder and the ruffs. Mrs. White who had kept out of sight saw that she must do something to them, though she was not out and talked to them in her best style.

They explained, "These foreigners aren't afraid of anything"; - but finally after a long time they gave down on their demands, returned the rudder and let them go for some five or six dollars.

But I forgot the most interesting part of the evening before. At first they held up for the night. All at once they were alarmed to find that they had broken loose and were hurtling down the rapid river. A boat broke them back to the bottom. You can imagine Mrs. White's terror. Finally they got their boat out of the current and it was then they got into the field of view.

I have not heard this directly from Mrs. White and so the account is somewhat confused but I think that most of its details are right. When she finally got off the launch she had to wade thru or ford water in a pouring rain to a Christian chapel. There the people were awfully good to her and arranged a chair to carry her in, but they had no men who knew how to carry. Two of the Christians offered to do it, but it was so hard for her to sit on the chair, because of their inexperience, that she finally got out and walked again in the rain. You may be sure she was mighty thankful when she arrived here again. And I guess she won't go off in a hurry again all alone.

They say that Mrs. White is always having experiences and that it is just like her but it makes a thrilling story!

August 27, 1914.

Thank you to all
Jesse.

P.S.

Do you realize that we have very few flies here! I saw one to-day for the first time for weeks. The mosquitoes are bothersome only in the evening and we can avoid them by the use of citronella! They seem not to increase in number. In the day time they hide in dark corners.

Handwritten notes in the top left corner, including "Handwritten" and "Handwritten" written vertically.

Chaiyong Chuan
August, 29, 1949

Dear Family, Hope you realized that it was not wise to send letters via Siberia after the war broke out.

Ellison has been working on a sermon this morning and I have been writing. How I used to have to do the days last summer and wish that each one were tripled.

I have learned the strangest custom here when new babies are born, mothers do not give them their milk for three days, but feed them with bananas and cockroach tea. It is true, but I cannot believe it. If you could see the awful cockroaches, you would feel worse about it. The infants live, too. Think of that!

We are expecting to leave here next Thursday September 3. Some people were going down then. We haven't many provisions here, and we lack a cook of course. Then the typhoon weakened my dining room wall and we want to have it repaired, and see that everything is unharmed. So considering everything it seemed best to go then.

I had one more trip to the canyon this week with three other men. A little Chinese boy who went with them got lost on the way home. The men wanted to search for him that night, but others thought he was safe with friends. When he did not return in AM, however, they were worried, and started out to search for him. They hunted from 10:00 till 2:00 in the heat, only to return and find that he had appeared about an hour after they left.

The boy, lost, had stayed in a village, but instead of starting home early in the morning, as he should have done, he lingered around, hired a man to show him the way back and carry his basket and came in in style. The people scolded him and I don't

next

blows them much. The boy has a rather
strange history. In a big clan feud
he threw a rock which killed another
boy or man. Altho all had been throwing,
and he had not meant to kill anybody,
the other clan demanded her life. The girl
secretly hurried away and has lived
with the missionaries ever since, an
exile from her clan. A rather hard
experience for a young boy.

I am going for a walk to "The Cliffside"
now - and had had hard by for awhile.

With love,
Lottie.

Sunday AM. August 10.

Such a strong north wind blowing that we
have to keep north windows closed.

I can hardly believe that we have slept under
blankets practically all the time since coming to
Thayong!

So glad you could be with Mrs. Mahon,
Marion. It was very kind for her. How
long since her mother died? Has she brothers
or sisters?

July 20

Personal

Thayyong, Shensi
August 29, 1914.

Dear Family,
Your letter came to us while we were at a tea party this week. Such fun! Mr. Jones had invited Mr. Mitchell, E. W., & a few others for tea at Hwanku, but as our messenger had not arrived at noon as we expected, we kept watching all who appeared on the path from Wu King Pa. (By the way, I have traced a rather poor map of this country and will send it on.) Well and rest letter.

We were fooled two or three times, but finally the spy glass showed us that our man had appeared. We rushed out on the lawn and began sorting the mail right there. The quickness with which this mail has come is phenomenal. One letter started from Jimmy in China on August 2, and reached me at Thayyong August 27. (Only 25 days and at Hades but extra day or two to get up here.)

Other letters started July 30 - and one started July 6. Think of that. Probably the steamers there afraid to stop at Japan and that account for the great swiftness. What good result of the war!

But I must have lost some mail too, for this letter speaks of Carol as coming home from a brief illness - and I had not heard a word about it! I was not exactly worried, but I did so want to hear what had been the matter. It was tantalizing. Then I wanted to hear more of Papa's acts of the Co-re House mentioned in previous letters, but not a word! Be sure to tell us all about Carol.

Since April I have been keeping a list of mail as it comes and I think it would be well for you to keep list as you read. Then we can find if letters are lost. About my letters, you can be sure that I will write every week or else I'll find of it - This letter may be a little irregular as we shall not have a messenger next week.

To continue - I have not heard anything more of the Koreans than a word in George's letter saying that they wanted to ride on the M. E.

Then too, I want to have Lee Wengschah looked, and if you have been to Pigeon Hill.

The poignant sunset have been very interesting indeed.

So glad to hear of our details of Westchester. Marion's words were especially vivid about him!

Dear Cole, you certainly did a lot in those first few days! Hope you can keep it up. I certainly am thankful that your eyes are no worse. You speak of "squinting". Good Weather says "It is harder for her than for us". In one way it is harder for me, but in most ways it is harder for you all I think. Of course I have the combined trying for you all - each individual pulling with a slight hard pull - whereas you people all have the individual longing for my which ought not to be quite so great, I think I have the solace of being able to picture you in the house, and in our dear annual lights, and I can just see the ocean and the sunsets, and rocks, and the pines, and flowers, and trees, and fogs, and rains, and winds, but you have to place me in our imaginary picture in hazy surroundings - and so I seem less real to you I am sure. I know how you miss me, and I know that you know that I miss you, but alas! I am well aware that I must not let myself dwell on it - and so I cannot indulge myself in all the feelings I should like to. Sometimes I am caught unaware. The other night I, and I was reminiscing in a most happy frame of mind, happened to think of going home this Saturday, and having a "bad" time with mother and the family, and I burst right out crying! I do. I did not mean any real pain, just a relief, and I was glad I did! It is so awfully good to me all the time. I do not keep mentioning it, because it would get to be an old story, but he continues steadily to wear well. He is tender, and considerate, and kind, and entertaining, and thoughtful and my life goes on beyond all my expectations of what it might be.

I would not have mentioned all this except that I know you are eager to hear - and while you don't want me to be homesick (and I am not) - you do want to know how much I love you and miss you all.

Bridgewater
Rockport
Baterfield.

Holyoke
Northampton
Batholmes

Swatow China
September 2: 1877.

Dear Family,
You will see by the address that we are at last in our little home again! How luxurious it seems! And such a beautiful view as we have from it! I had almost forgotten, but it really is more beautiful than the Thibong valley. Here we have such an expanse of water and such picturesque hills and such views of sunset and moonlight and such a comfortable porch to enjoy them from! That does not mean that the Thibong isn't wonderfully beautiful and a heaven of rest to stay in, for it is. There, however, one must walk a little distance to get to the most wonderful scenery, altho' the ordinary view was pretty, but Khek-chik is supreme!

I am sitting at my desk in the dining room, while my breakfast cooks in the kitchen. We have been unusually fortunate in weather.

But to go back to our trip, we intended to come down on Thursday. Such a big rain storm came on Wednesday and lasted into Thursday that the river rose; the carriers feared it would be slippery, and all in all, we decided to wait another day altho' we were all packed and ready to go. Mrs. James whom I have mentioned before, Jack says, who good enough to invite us all over for the next three weeks - and to supply us with fresh chickens for the journey down.

It was still so cloudy and threatening that we decided to walk to see King Fu (from eight to ten miles) - instead of trusting our selves to chairs on the slippery paths. So we took Mr. Mildred, Miss Chicklin, Miss Tait, and I had a chair between us, taking turns in riding - and walked the rest of the way thro' beautiful scenery and without feeling tired (in good trim, you see) until we reached the boat. There we transferred our baggage (we had 17 packs of baggage) to the boat and started on a delightful trip down the river. I had thought

that it would be warm, but there was a
fresh cool breeze and we thoroughly enjoyed
sitting luxuriously in our comfortable deck
chairs under the canopy of the boat. The
boy who had been doing my cooking since Monday
when Mrs. Giffen went got a good dinner
and supper for us and made up our beds so
that we could rest, but just after supper
there was such a fine picture that we
could hardly tear ourselves away to go to
bed.

The full moon rose over the river
which was rippling just like the ocean
in a stiff breeze. Mountains in
background -

Most beautiful sight
since last fall.

Sent messages to each
one of you by it.

E. says I must stop and read
this. Will try to do better next week.

Hope you are all well.

Love to each one

Lottie.

Kityang, China,
Sept. 9, 1914.

Dear Family,

You see I am moving around these days. Everybody urged us to come to this Chinese convention, and so we picked up bag and baggage on Wednesday, this morning, and started planning to stay until Friday A. M. We had a beautiful windy trip up here coming on the launch which left at 11.30.

Now in the last letter I did not half tell you about things and I am not sure that I can now, for it seems ages ago. (That last week at Tsaiyong!).

We were invited out for tea by Mrs. James and Mrs. Mellen-Smith both young married people. We made farewell calls on all the people. That seems to be a custom here. Whenever the English people are going away, they come to call and leave cards (marked p. p. c. in the corner). We didn't leave any cards but said our Goodbyes on Monday and Tuesday, and it was lucky that we did, for it began to rain very very hard on Wednesday, so that it would have been difficult to cross the river on foot, and the bridge was out of the question. We still hoped to go Thursday A. M. and the men (chairmen and carriers) whom the Giffins had had earlier in the week came back to us-16 men in all-involving our kitchen, cooking rice, and jabbering all the time so that it sounded like a crowd of Italians or Finns on a strike. They really did not want to go in the rain, and so finally we told them that we would get along without chairs and use Tsaiyong men for carriers. This we accomplished successfully on the next day walking 8 or 10 miles in our bathing suits and fully enjoying it. When the evening came, we had the full moon as I told you, but I think I did not mention that there was an eclipse, and we could hear the villagers on both sides of the river beating drums and ton-tons to frighten away the dog that was eating up the moon.

Once, during the time when everything was most beautiful, I heard a gunshot-and then another, and I saw the flash of the second. Our boatmen called out. It seems that there was a clan fight between villages on opposite sides of river and they were doing patrol duty, stopping all boats-(by firing near them-in order to see who was on them. I had thought of thieves and was frightened for a minute.

That night we slept on the boat and so saw a most wonderful sunrise when we had to arise at dawn the next morning. I never dressed in such a public place before in my life. Ellison hung up our raincoats and other things, but we moved close up beside the Kityang launch in order to get our baggage on, and so I could see curious faces peering in at the most inopportune times. However I finally was robed and went over to Dr. Bacon's for breakfast-I was continually surprised at the comparatively cool breezes. The boat trip down was very pleasant and comfortable and when we reached home there were delightful breezes. Sunday and Monday following were hot, but all the days since then have been delightful, like our fairly cool, comfortable summer days at home. It was just a year ago to-day that I left. I can remember each one of those days so well, and I have been living them all over again.

Home seemed luxurious when we arrived at Kahakieh-Sept. 5. Our rooms seemed so big and pleasant, our dining room so pretty, our beds so inviting, our beds so comfortable, our nets so high and neat, our mirrors such a comfort, that we were

pleased just to go around from one thing to another looking at each piece of furniture over and over again, and playing a few chords on the organ whenever I came near it. I played the whole evening long out on the porch.

On Monday we began tennis again and that seemed good. We found that the big typhoon of August had so loosened the tiles on the roof and the wall of my sewing room that they will have to be repaired, but we suffered less than almost any other house.

On Wednesday, Sept. 9, we started for Kityang and I had my first experience of a conference of Chinese Churches. Guess how many were there? More than 270 Chinese women and I don't know how many men, but quite a number more than women. During the meetings I sat beside some one who knew both English and Chinese, so that I could ask the meaning of phrases and I learned quite a lot that way.

On Thursday, A. M. after the last session, Miss Traver took me to call on a Chinese family. First we went in a boat for fifteen minutes and then we walked about five minutes. The house was arranged like this only that I have not put in enough rooms. There were probably at least 10 or 12 families all of the same surname, for I counted over 28 children from about 10 years down to babies in arms crowding around us. This is a dwelling of the wealthier type. We sat on a bench in the narrow passage which was open to the sky. In front of me was an open room, the chief piece of furniture being the bed - a cased frame on horses - The people made tea for us and passed it around. The cups were the size of our little individual salt dishes and had no handles. The tea had neither sugar nor milk. Almost each room or at least every two or three had a pig tied with a string around its waist, and several chickens. The children even in these well-to-do families did not seem healthy. One had an abscess in its ear - and several had ugly looking sores. One had trouble with eyelids which Miss Northcott said would cause blindness unless it was seen to, and so she asked them to send child to Hospital on the morrow. (They said they would). At this home we visited particularly the second wife, (first still living of course), of a wealthy man. While we were there, another woman came in and wanted us to visit another family where the man had about ten wives. Miss Traver did not want to go at all, for she has broken the arches of her feet and they ache terribly, but she finally did. Two little girls about fourteen and fifteen with charming faces came along with us and one confidently slipped her hand in mine as we walked along. We only went into the open court of the next house, for we had to hurry. Miss Traver talking to the group. The little girls whom I mentioned had rather long finger nails signifying that they did not have to work, but one man in convention had finger nails two inches long on his left hand. Isn't that awful?

After the session in P. M., Miss Sollman took E. & me to call at the Old Ladies Home. After a long walk through rice fields, we arrived at a dark passage and finally entered a dark evil smelling room full of mosquitoes. On the bed was a woman bed-ridden. Her face lighted with delight when she saw and heard Miss Sollman. When Miss S. told her who we were, she exclaimed, "Thank God, Thank Jesus, Thank The Holy Spirit, and she said it many times while we were there. Another bent little old lady who really takes care of the others was as bright as a dollar. She took us into her room where her little bed was half covered with little boxes which she did not dare put on

the floor on account of white ants. Now she ever found place to sleep. I don't know. Then the roof leaked almost everywhere, so that there was hardly a spot where she could be dry during rain. Her room was next the'. Another old man and woman were the only other occupants.

You will be glad to hear that the Chinese themselves have subscribed money to build a new home in a much pleasanter spot nearer the compound. Then the people will be better cared for and more can come. They hate to go to a place like that however and their relatives even the they don't help them are unwilling to let them go. Proud.

We had a beautiful trip back on Friday morning early 6.30 A. M.-- 10.30 on the water, and we arrived burned by the wind.

On Saturday A. M. the dentist and his wife arrived and as all houses are full, we took them in with us. They have only breakfast and tea with us but take dinner and supper with Mrs. Baker. The dentist was married only last Spring and his wife is a Philadelphia girl very pleasant. They live in Canton and have met Harriet Allyn, '05, M. H. C. It is nice to have them here for this little while. I began studying this A. M., but teacher did not come in E. M.

Reference Com. going on now and many things may develop. Mr. Waters has to go home six months before furlough, because of severe bronchial trouble, which threatens to become serious. He will leave within three weeks I believe.

Batavia
Hologee

Handwritten
Batavia

Kibyang, China
Sept 9, 1914

Dear Family,

You see that I am moving around these days. Everybody urged us to come to this Chinese convention, and so we packed up bag and baggage on Wednesday, this morning and started - planning to stay until Friday eve. We had a beautiful windy trip up here coming on the launch which left at 11:30.

Now in the last letter I did not half tell you about things and I am not sure that I can now, for it seems ages ago (but I'll make it today).

We were invited out for tea by Mrs. James and Mrs. Miffles-Smith both young married people. We made farewell calls on all the people. That seems to be a custom here. Whenever the English people go away they come to call and leave cards (charged for in the corner). We didn't leave any cards but said our good-byes on Monday and Tuesday, and it was Sunday that we did for it began to rain very very hard on Wednesday so that it would have been difficult to cross the river on foot. And the bridge was out of the question. We still hoped to go Thursday eve and the men (chaymen and carriers) whom the Giffins had had earlier in the week came back to us - 16 men in all - invading our kitchen, cooking fire, and jollying all the time so that it sounded like a crowd of Italians or dining on a strike.

They really did not want to go in the rain, and so finally we told them that we would get along without chairs and use their own for carriers. This we accomplished successfully on the next day walking the 8 or 10 miles in our bathing suits and most fully enjoying it.

When the evening came, we had the full moon and I told you that I think I did not mention that there was an eclipse and we could hear rattles on both sides of the river being

drums and tom-toms to frighten away the
dog that was loping up the moon.

Once, during the time when everything was over
beautiful, I heard a gun shot, and then another,
and I saw the flash of the second. Our boatmen
called out! It seems that there was a quarrel
between villages on opposite sides of river and they
were doing fatal duty, stopping all boats. My party
near them in order to see who was in them.
I had thought of this and was frightened
for a minute.

That night we slept on the boat and so
saw a most wonderful sunrise when we
had to arise at dawn the next morning. I
never dressed in such a public place before in
my life. Ellison hung up over rain coats and other
things but we stood close up beside the Kitzing
beach in order to get our baggage on, and so I
could see curious faces peering on at most
inconspicuous places. However, I finally
got ready and went over to St. Basil's for
breakfast. I was continually surprised
at the comparatively cool breeze. The boat trip
down was very pleasant and comfortable and
when we reached home there were delightful
breezes. Sunday and Monday following were
hot but all the days since then have been
delightful like our fairly cool comfortable
summer days at home. It was just a
year ago to day that I left. I can
remember each one of those days so well, and
I have been living them all over again.

Home seemed luxurious when we arrived
at Kakhich. Our rooms seemed so big
and pleasant, our dining room so pretty,
our books so inviting, our beds so
comfortable, our nets so high and neat,
our mirrors such a comfort, that
we were pleased just to go around
beach side of furniture over and over again,
and playing a few chords on the organ when
I came near it. I played the whole thing long
out on the porch.

They live in Canton and have met Harriet
Allyn. 105 W. H. C.

It is nice to have them here
for this little while.

I began studying this book but teacher did
not come in Book.

I am anxious to hear from home no
letters since we left Thaiyong. It is over
two weeks now I think.

But the Boston Post of
August I came from Papa and I
was glad enough to get that. It makes me
wonder all the more how Betty and
Edith and Jack got home!

We are very well and entering upon
the loveliest six months of the year.
They say.

No prospects of moving yet.

Reference copy going on now and many
things may develop. Mr. Waters has to
go home six months before furlough
because of some bronchial trouble which
threatens to become serious. He will
be in within three weeks I believe.

Now best love to each and every
individual one.

Remember I think of you
all even tho I simply can not write.

I must go to dentist I expect. Sory!

Love again

Lottie.

Sept. 19.

Dear Ruth.

There you are with Bob's visit all over and back at school before I get your letter of August 12. You have had a frightfully busy summer but happy I should judge too. How many times did you get in bathing? As you get back at school had have a moment for reflection, write and tell me just how George and John are. Have you had any picnics taken this summer?

Glad Bob planned for the winter. Perhaps he could scare it away with such forthright.

Curtains for guest room and bath-room very pretty. Did you keep up the gray ones or not? Dining room must be pretty too? Have you still the old rug there? Did George get new cloth for for hall and stair carpeting last time and what kind was it?

Where did little Charlton sleep?

You speak of your new card dresses no Crepe. What does that mean? Cotton wigs?

Do you still wear that pretty blue dress you bought last summer? The one that was too advanced style for Vermont.

Mrs Webb of Elm Ridge is quite a wonderful lady. Her illustrations for books are divine and lovely. Have you seen any? Before did you get the June Book for sale? Did Aunt Cole like her?

Did Mrs. Eavery give the dancing party?

Can you use blinds with full length screens?

Thank you, Papa and Mamma, for nice birthday letter. Foods are high here now. Small Sugar ten lbs. for 1.50. Meal. That is about 7% not gold a lb. Butter and flour are high too.

The bungalow is indeed look very pretty.

When I look back to Chicago a year ago to-day, I can hardly believe that it was so cold that I needed my winter suit.

Hope Carol has begun school.

Has Rachel been home?

What a washing of blankets you had, Mother! And what big washings you must have had all summer!

Have my letters come regularly this summer?

Has I cabt been at home this summer?

How heaps of love to each and everyone

Little.

Nobody has told me how
Mother's feet seemed
scarf and gave in this
for making. Mother
fills several others,
Mother she is come
one else show the
other persons.

L.



Swatow, China,
September 19, 1914.

This week has not been a good one for study. Too many people and things. The reference committee did not get through its work until Wednesday. Dr. and Mrs. Smith have been here all the time. The Campbells arrived from America, and various people have been around to see the dentist.

The Smiths are awfully nice and thanks to Mrs. Smith and Aunt Celec fashion book, I am getting quite interested in clothes again. There is really not very much incentive to interest so long as one is clean and neat here. They (Smiths) are having a new and very attractive bungalow made ready for them in Canton and we have been much interested in the plans. They are on their way home from a summer at Haliang and we have also been interested in the pictures and news of this other summer resort which has about a hundred homes, but in other ways hardly seems equal to Thaiphong.

I have had the Smiths take breakfast and afternoon tea with us each day, and so we have had a little time to get acquainted, altho while the Ref. Com. met, one person served tea for the rest. I served on Wednesday and enjoyed it altho it took nearly all of my day to prepare for it. On the back porch I put a little tea-poy (which is a small leaguered table) between each arch on the porch, and then, I arranged two chairs at each table. Near the dining room I had 2 larger tables covered with white linen. On one I had a tray on which was milk, sugar, and sliced green oranges. On that table I also had Rachel's pretty sandwich plate covered with the cutest little biscuit and they tasted good too; and a plate of chocolate layer cake, a plate of paples biscuit and peanut cookies. On the other table I had my much admired silver tea service and the cups and plates and spoons. It really looked very inviting, and I think the porch with its high arches enclosing the beautiful view of the sea, is just one perfect place to entertain in. It is lovely at most any time. Last evening E. and I sat

out there making out a food order for W. Ward & Co. The lamp was in the lamp house. I was stretched out in the wicker stunner chair which is very comfortable, and E. sat at my little sewing table. Some of you will surely have to come out and see us and enjoy some of the beauty and comfort.

The carpenters and masons are going to repair my sewing room wall and they began before we were up this morning. The house will be somewhat upset for a few days.

La Fook Chi is sewing for me to-day. She has spent all A. M. darning seven pairs of stockings. She was very sleepy, and perhaps she took a little nap. I imagine her hunchback boy keeps her awake nights. I am going to have her an extra day every week now that washing is so big. (Hot days).

On Friday Dr. Milfred kidnaped us, teacher and all, and took us to Swatow to see the festival of the worship of the ancestors.

As we approached the place, a crowd of people blocked in upon us and they were diving in and out, darting here and there, to get a vantage ground

from which they could see the foreigner--quite a frenzied mob--all wanting to be at the front--and so we could not see quite so much as we would have otherwise.

The exhibition was along the water front where there is a wide open space. On one side were booths in which scenes from the Chinese theatre were represented by wax figures. The walls behind were all decorated with tinsel and bright colored papers and ugly figures, in a most oriental fashion and between each booth was hung up a gigantic paper dress all decorated to represent jewels etc. The wax figures were quite true to life. E. took some pictures I think.

On the side opposite from the booths were large () about 8 feet high and covered with paper dresses or papers with drawings of dresses on them. Others were covered with gilt paper to represent money, and still others with silver O discs to represent dollars. Then there were two gilt boats full of flowers and further on an enclosed space in which were larger tables covered with dainty dishes of good-looking food. All these clothes, the food, and the money were for the use of the departed spirits. Still further along was a high place reached by a ladder on which were six Confucian priests with crowns on their heads and robes such like those worn by our Episcopal or Catholic priests. They were back to the audience, doing some pounding or talking. Other priests were beating drums and withal it was a very strange site.

The Chinese crowded around us so much that I was thankful to get out.

Oh I forgot to say that there were huge sticks of incense with as big a diameter as this paper is wide, if not bigger, burning all the time. The incense is such as we use to keep mosquitoes away on summer nights.

The Smiths are going to Chaoyang today and to Wu King Wu on Monday--so they will not be with us very much from now on.

Blender
milk
Reddy
Candy
Candy
Candy

Soochow, China
September 19, 1946

Dear Cousin Nell,
This week brought the long looked
for letter from home and I was indeed glad
to hear. It arrived Sept 11 and started August
13. Notes from Ruth, Carol, Mamma, and Papa! And

Also came Fashion sheet from Aunt Lela and I certainly
was glad to see that! I will write her about how much
it has already helped us.

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time. Last evening I said I sat out there
making out a food order for Mr. Ward & Co. The
lamp was in the lamp house; I was stretched
out in the wicker steamer chair which is very
comfortable, and I sat at my little sewing
table. Some of you will surely have to work
out and see us and enjoy some of the beauty
and comfort. The water says this is the coolest
September he has ever known. It certainly has
been pleasant and cool except for two days.
That means that we do not freeze - it is like
comfortable summer days at home when one is
dressed cool.

We were so thankful when the dentist
found that I still did not need any work
except to have my teeth cleaned, and I needed
merely the cleaning and one small filling.
Blessings on Dr. Merrill! He certainly tried to
fix what up so that I would not need
work for 6 years and he did it well. The
dentist advised the work on my two front
teeth also! A remark entirely unreluctant on
my part. It is all the more remarkable as
my teeth are naturally poor and have always
bothered me, and I really think I have never
been so long before without needing work, and
this climate is the worst possible climate for
teeth.
My boy has been washing the glass in our
big small windows all the morning. I anticipated

and made him use a knife, and advised the
Chambers cloth - and so it has taken him a
long time, altho he did it almost as well
before I showed him my way. The lao
said the better to his Tomyah times.

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repair my sewing room wall and they
begin before we have up the morning. The
house will be somewhat upset for a few days.

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She has spent all her terrifying accomplices of
stockings! She was very sleepy - and perhaps
she took a little nap? I imagine her husband
try keeps her awake nights. Po. I am going to have her
up after my very much now that fishing is so big. (Not long)
On Friday Mr. Millard kidnapped us, teacher and all,
and took us to Suatow to see the festival
of the worship of the ancestors!

As we approached the place a crowd of people
closed in upon us and they were during in
and out, darting here and there, to get a vantage ground
from which they could see the foreigners. quite a
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The Synths are going to Chaoyang to day and to Wu King Fu - on Monday to day will not be with us very much from now on.

Love to all the Americans and all the Natives.

Sattai.

Henry
John
Richard
Robert
George
Francis
Charles

Suoway China
September 26, 1897

Dear One All,

A year ago to day I was in
Pomona, that is, I arrived late in the afternoon
after travelling all day. This beautiful barren
country - and to day I have already celebrated
by having three small amalgam fillings placed
in my wisdom teeth. I am afraid that Dr. Smith
is not awfully careful or he would have found
those places before when he examined or when
he cleaned my teeth. I found one myself, and
then of course he looked more closely and
found the other two.

He and Mrs. Smith started for Waking go
last Monday in a pouring rain - almost a
typhoon - and while they were there (they
did not return until yesterday (Friday)) Mrs. Smith
made the trip to Thaisong and met Mrs.
Lester Mrs. Miller's sister and Mrs. Stewart
who are still there. Mrs. Smith says that it has
quite cold up there. Think of it!

What do you think! Most of your letters
have arrived for my birthday - and fast
night (just on time) came Charles' huge
package of apples - over ten pounds - Think
of it! I was so delighted! I just spread
them all out on the table in different piles
and ~~just~~ made several different arrange-
ments, and showed them to the boys who
I am afraid said "Chên" - which means that
he was thinking of the hard work of caring for
such a big garden! I was just too pleased
for words. Now if I can only find out where
we are going to live, we can have a nice garden.
It will be good to taste nice American
vegetables. We have had only onions and potatoes,
beside Chinese vegetables since we came back.
Jagg is one of the Chinese vegetables something
like a potato only it has a slight tinge of
violet color. We have ~~pot~~ ~~taro~~ and some
vegetables something like spinach and oh, we
have had cucumber, but we had them boiled and

Dear writing Charles
but you should have for this

covered with cream sauce. Then there is another vegetable something like egg plant.

We have enjoyed Etude so much! I and it have been playing violin and piano for a half hour or so almost every evening, and we have appreciated the new music. He really has improved wonderfully in distinguishing tones. At first it was awfully hard to listen even, let alone play, but within the last three or four months he has begun to distinguish tones on singing, and so he picks up his violin again. I sometimes find him more critical than I am. You can imagine how much pleasure it gives us. He had made up his mind at one time that he could not keep the instrument in this climate and that it would be best to exchange with Carl. Not least to send his horn or trumpet, but we decided not to, and now it is likely to be one of our chiefest pleasures. At the level of course. We both hope that she can have a nicer instrument some day. (It - we decided to keep violin in tin box (during entire damp season, as an experiment and that is how we have been able to keep it so long!)

We have made an offer of \$100 gold to Mrs. Walker for his piano. He wants to sell and offered for \$240 Mex. but the tone is really all gone and I felt that \$100 was all I could pay for such an instrument. It was originally a very good piano - a Chickering, I think - and they had paid out about \$300 on it since it has been in this country. I do not know whether he will take it or not. We thought that we could get a good deal of comfort out of it, and then possibly sell, when opportunity came to obtain a better instrument. I am very glad that I cancelled order for Saw of And Piano which would have been coming out just during these perilous war times. Lucky escape!

On Monday in Layan town again said that seemed good.

We found that the big typhoon of August had so loosened the tiles on the roof and the wall of my sewing room that they will have to be repaired, but we suffered less than almost any other house.

On Wednesday we started for Kitung and had my first experience of a conference of Chinese Churches. Guess how many were there! More than 200 Chinese women, and I don't know how many men, but quite a number more than women. During the meetings I met quite a number who knew both English and Chinese so that I could ask the meaning of phrases and I learned quite a lot that way.

On Thursday after the 1st session Miss Trevor took me to call on a Chinese family. First we went in a boat for fifteen minutes and then we walked about four minutes.

The house was arranged like this

only that I have not felt in average rooms.

They were probably at least 10 or 12 families all of the same economy for I counted over 25 children from about 10 years down to babies in arms surrounding around us. This is a dwelling of the wealthiest type.

We sat on a bench in the narrow passage which was open to the sky.

In front of me was an open room, the chief piece of furniture being the bed, a coned frame or horse.

The people made tea for us and passed it around. The cups were the size of our little individual salt dishes and had no handles. The tea had neither sugar nor milk. Almost each room, or at least every two or three had a pig tied with a string around its waist, and several chickens. The children even in their well-to-do families did not seem healthy. One had an abscess in its eye and several had very looking sores. One had horns with eyelids which Miss Northcott said must cause blindness unless it was seen to, and so she asked them to send child to hospital on the morrow (they said they would).

At this home we visited particularly the second wife (just still living & coughs) of a wealthy man. While we were there another woman came in and wanted us to visit another family where the man had about ten wives. Miss Traver did not want to go at all for she had broken the arches of her feet and they ached terribly, but she finally did. Two little girls about fourteen and fifteen with chattering faces came along with us and one confidently slipped her hand in mine as we walked along.

We only went into the open court of the next house, for we had to hurry, Miss Traver talking to the group. The little girl whom I mentioned had rather long fingers nails signifying that they did not have to work, but the man in conversation had finger nails ten inches long on his left hand. Isn't that awful!

After the session in P.M. Miss Sullivan took me to call at the Old Ladies Home. After a long walk thro' vine fields we arrived at the dock passage and finally entered a dark cool smelling room full of mosquitoes.

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