

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Return
to
family &
relatives
in
London
1877.

At Sherborne, Dorset.
January 6, 1916.

Dear Ones,

I started this letter, but found it impossible to find time to write and so sent the postal which you have probably received on this.

To-day is Sunday, January 10, and we are back at our big lovely house at Blois-Chaumont - but you know that we shall make the best of it - and work as hard as we can to conquer our sorrow and disappointment. You can, perhaps, realize how very thoughtful and kind Elsie is at this time. The good far beyond our imagination of what a man could do, and together we can bear much more easily the blow that strikes you, I suppose, as deeply as anything that has ever happened to us.

Mother, I see you with your nursery light,
Leading your babies all in white,
To their sweet rest;
Christ, the Good Shepherd, carries mine to-night,
And that is best.

But grief is selfish: I cannot see
Always why I should be stricken be,
More than the rest;
But I know that, as well as for them, for me,
God did the best.

One of the Presbyterian girls whom I met at Thelby last summer sent me this lovely little picture. It seems very very beautiful to me and I have said it over and over again to myself when I have been tempted to question or doubt Mrs. James's baby boy was born, you & white in London. She had Vaughton a very easy case - only five hours & a little no instrument.

Mrs. Cox's baby boy was born the next day, Jan 7, at 800 A.M. quite a big one - and instrumental - but both doing well.

Sometimes you know, when other people have given hard experience, we say, I would rather have born that myself - and so I comfort myself in thinking that perhaps someone else is spared the same experience. On the other hand - we know of course that it is a wonderful experience, and we trust that our little Katherine is in the arms of Christ and we pray God to give us another little one that you may all see and hold and love.

We put the little wrap around her for a while, - as I don't think we could have wished I am sure.

There are so many things to write about that I do not know when to begin - or how to say them all.

I am enclosing a panoramic view of Thazyong for Father. Sorry it did not come before.

There have been so many letters that I have wanted to answer personally but I do not like to keep the letter for fear that Ellison will not have time to ride to when answering - and then of course - together with lack of favorable opportunity have made me neglect what I should have enjoyed doing.

First of all we want to thank you for the lovely Christmas presents. It was just too good of you to send the check for the hand sewing machine and we appreciate it very much. We have been talking it over very seriously and had just about decided to sell our foot machine and buy the hand one, when we learned that the hand machine will not take a heavy seam. It hardly seems wise for us to have the two, for during the summer we can always borrow a machine for the small amount of machine sewing we want to do at the hills, and our time at the hills is likely to be shorter rather than longer now that Ellison is out actual work. We have also considered a duplex cooker, a better stove, and a pressure heater but cannot decide yet which will be most necessary and useful, but we do wish to express our appreciation of your love and thought for us.

Ellison has received two numbers of the National Geographic magazine (Oct. and Nov.) and is especially pleased at the prospect of the number that has those beautiful pictures of sand dunes. We happened to see it while at Lakeview. This does not correspond to the P.P. package which you mentioned as coming from Father - and which you hoped would be right P.P.

Fannie, too, has continued to send me the "Mount Kalgah" which is a very much interested to all. It is very good of her. Thank you, Emma.

Letter copied on type writer -

Washington

Robert B. T.

Holbrook

Dear Ones,

Choochoopa via Sinton
January 23, 1916.

It is 3:45 P.M. and I and I are just back from Sunday School at the little school room at the foot of the hill, as hungry as bears, and I hear just then humming the boy to tell him the supper he makes the for us, the little we shall like it.

The little school room at the foot of the hill, I suppose, calls up a picture of a little square room in a square wooden building - but no such thing.

I and I walk down the hill and along a path gloomiest filled with pieces of rock, cement, and broken crockery ^{broken} swept to one side ^{to give foot-room}. Reaching a high cement wall ^{enclosed} having started this wall on three sides and jumped over one or two black fat pigs, usually, we push back a grass gate and enter a court yard with some pots of flowers along one side and tomato plants climbing on the side which opens outside.



So you can trace our way in and imagine us sitting in the cold room with a cold breeze blowing - the big doors have to be

open to give light, for there are no windows.

Three small poor blackboards are hung on the wall; two maps are there, and higher up some news paper and some decorations, as well as two long strings of small flags X across the space. Off one side is the teacher's room and the room of a daughter of the old Bible woman, and the old father lives on one of the rooms too.

Every day in the week between twenty and

thirty students come to study with an excellent teacher - a girl whom I am teaching to play the organ.

There were very few at Sunday School this afternoon - a young girl (the daughter of the old man before mentioned) and her ^{mother} former cook of the Presbyterian, doctor, and his child, an old man, a child about 7 or 8. and our teacher who is superintendent. The child of 7 or 8 looked too queer for anything bundled in to three or four layers of padded clothing, (for there is a piercing north wind to day) from the hips &c. but looking scantily clad in a single thickness of cotton cloth over the limbs. She looked rather like a hob on sticks and when sat there like a statue; in fact, I wonder very much if she can move her arms in those thicknesses of padded garments.

By sang a song or two, the teacher read from the eighth chapter of Romans and then explained it phrase by phrase; and then had the company repeat the golden text three times. We sang and were dismissed.

I should say in all fairness that the entire or almost the entire school usually attends Sunday School, but it is vacation now, and hence the single child. On warmer days, too, some of the village women come in at some numbers, but the place is small at best.

I have papers to begin work for a graded Sunday School, and when the teacher returns, I shall study with my teacher each week in order to get a vocabulary to use in that work. I shall be a very feeble stick at first, for it is almost impossible for me to talk with any ease, but there is nothing that will help me so much as getting over my diffidence and lack of confidence, and trying in spite of my deficiencies.

As we both miss baby so much it helps us to go into the work with more zeal and of course - we cannot help having more time and opportunity. God makes the best of every circumstance.

When word of other things that have not yet
arrived. from Cousin Annie Mason, Cousin Jennie, Jan. Allen etc.

- 1 crit pad.

✓ 1 light comfortable

Holzman finally

✓ 1 down pillow 10.50

✓ 1 pillow case 2 ft. - not taking.

1 large pillow case embroidered with and Mason.

1 " " (stork in corner) Mrs. Fisher

1 " " (equal embroidery) The Mount.

Chengong
G. R.

✓ 1 cane basket with matting

✓ 1 net for basket

✓ 1 dotted muslin cover for basket

1 netter

2 cotton crit blankets (10. in America)

2 wool. crit blankets 10. - England

Blue (pinned) crit blanket 10.50

1 knit afghan (not up) Aunt Alice

Varied color. (new Elkins) Mother H.

Blue and white knit afghan to wrap around child Mrs. Small.

2 yds. stork sheeting

✓ 1 baby basket for infant with lining, cushions, etc.

1 hot water bottle (baby size)

1 pair socks knee length

Mrs. Baker

Chao chong-fu

1 " large triplet socks

John

1 " white cotton socks (embroidered) George

1 " small white knit socks

Mrs. Johnson Red chick

1 " Irish crochet small socks

Mrs. Stewart Working for

1 " fuzzy and embroidery

Mary E. Allen '05.

1 " Chinese cat slippers (has eye & fur)

Mrs. Travis White chick

1 " white kid booties

Mother H.

✓ 1 " socks knit white and pink

Katherine Goodrich Cheng

2 pair white wool stockings

Aunt Alice

✓ 1 white wool bands

1 knitted band with shoulder strap

Mrs. Brooks Clark

1 knitted Russian shirt (pink work)

1 " " " " " "

Mrs. James (Raja)

2 " " " " " "

(What Chinese women make)

✓ 3 cotton & wool " " " "

10. in America.

✓ 3 pieces diaper cloth - made up into diaper.

✓ 1 nice wool 3 strands puttoat

✓ 12 fast soap

✓ 1 knitted " " (not very fine work)

1 maine wool puttoat (not up)

Cousins Helen and Marion

1 " " " " " "

Mrs. Bartholomew Anderson '05

1 " " " " " "

Marion

✓ 1 " " " " " "

Made

✓ 3 Marie's visiting night gowns

2 " " " " " large Mother H.
 2 more nightgowns with thing in bottom Betty Bartholomew later
 wool wrap (this brown) Aunt Jane

Effie's baby dress Mother H.
 Little Chantal " (made by herself) Marion

Beautiful hand embroidered dress Cousins Helen & Marion
 2 feather stitched dresses with telling Mother Bartholomew
 2 dresses with lace and ruffles at bottom " Mildred

✓ 2 feather stitched dresses L.
 ✓ 1 slip Marion's dress "
 ✓ 1 " feather stitched "
 1 raincoat dress Helen Bartholomew Ripley.

1 short dress Mrs James Chaschouffy
 1 " " embroidered Beth Kittle B. R.

1 cashmere jacket white w/ pink embroidery Cousin Stella
 1 " " " " " Edith Leonard G. R.
 1 " " " " " white Mother L.
 1 " " " " " blue Mrs. & Marion
 1 " " " " " blue Aunt Helen H. Hampton
 1 " " " " " blue Mrs. Eaton Mrs. King Jan.
 1 flannel " white & pink Annie Mildred
 1 " " " " " w/ blue embroidery Mrs. Rye Kachchik.

1 long wrapper white cashmere w/ pink embroidery Beth Early Leonard
 1 " " " " " Mrs. Harding G. R.
 ✓ 1 " " " " " white & pink & pink flannel L.
 1 " " " " " padded white & blue Mother H.

1 knit short jacket white & pink - small M. Harding G. R.
 1 " " " " " (large blue) Aunt Cels.

1 bonnet large - brown Mother L.
 1 " " " " " large - brown " H.
 ✓ 1 " " " " " thin - small L.
 5 bonnet strings Aunt Cels & Mother H.
 1 white Beth.

1 brush & comb Mary
 1 " Mrs James Coffey
 1 soap box Mrs. Baker Coffey

1 belt Mrs. Probst Welling Jan.
 2 embroidered fringe bits M. L. & Marion
 1 light thermometer.

Bradford
B. 7.
Rushford
Helyslee

Cefu - via Swanton
January 30, 1916

Dear Ones,
Such a pile of letters as I have received - and
have not answered properly. Envelopes and three postal
from home - have accumulated in the last two months.

Yesterday came lovely letters from Aunt Cels and
Mother, and a few days before from Mother B. and Betty
Little and Mother H. It is so good to hear.

I can hardly believe that Ruth was getting home so early
before Xmas. This wasn't it? - Hard to believe, to keep
at it until Dec. 24. Did Robert and Ned want I hardly
expect so, because I think Mr. and Mrs. B. are going home
and then up their house just for the Christmas Dinner.

What was the matter with Aunt Mary Babcock? The
letter sounds as if she had been in some sort of accident.

I have had a quiet busy week - studying every
morning except Thursday, when I had to help in
the kitchen as Mr. Newcomb was here for one night, and
dinner on Thursday - on his way home from teaching. The cook
was still away of his sister's wedding.

We really have had a rather hard time with our
servants. We tried to be nice and give them each a nice
vacation of a week. and they have taken advantage of it
and have asked for advance on every possible occasion
until finally we have had to say that we will try to
arrange a week's vacation every year but they cannot be
away longer without paying for a satisfactory substitute
and having our provisions to go. We hope for better
conditions now. They say to be here evidently did not like
Quincy very well for he offered to come back with us,
but he has not shown the right spirit since his return so
and has stopped the work and been unpleasant. Let us
go and talk to him - and hope for better conditions in the
future - or else he must go permanently.

Mr. Newman and Mr. Farwell, perhaps you
remember, stopped with us on their way up river
January 14. Mr. Newman was going up to
Kaying to see Mr. Campbell who has had a
stroke of apoplexy. (Mr. man, he and his wife came
out just last week after partridge) - (They are probably
50-odd years old). Now it is decided that he
must go home permanently and he will go as

soon as possible. Well, Mr. Newman stopped with us one night - we had a nice evening talking - I tried to learn all I could about asphyxiation of children - and then playing Rook. The next morning he studied with Ellison and together while I enjoyed myself in the kitchen. Really I do enjoy preparing things and they he taught me much better. Things that the Chinese people are likely to have a slight foreign taste. -

- I made soup with tomato stock as a basis - and onion
1. celery salt, potatoes, and beef extract for flavoring.
2. Then I made scalloped salmon on the casserole,
3. tomato baked with bread crumbs on top. (flavored just right -
almost always Chinese forget sugar and salt in it).
4. we had potatoes and boiled onions too and
whole wheat bread.

For a pudding I made a tapioca with plenty of
orange juice - and the whites on top. It was
very nice. We had ginger to top off with.

This may sound concisely - but really truly it
tasted better to me than any meal for a long time.

Our Montgomery Ward boxes are all opened
and the contents put away - marked 1946 - and
labeled for future reference. It is quite a little
work.

15th On Tuesday the girls from the other side - Miss
Pike - a new missionary from Liverpool, and Miss
Ouchden who is living with her now came over to call,
and on Friday we were over there for tea. I went
over by way of the city as I wanted to meet
Ellison. He had gone in for a committee
meeting.

It was the first time I had been in
the city since my return. I wanted to see
Montgomery coats and such things and was
just waiting to be invited into some
store, when the owner, shopkeepers called
to me, took me in to their inside room
and showed me the best things they
had. But the coats and shirts were
not half as pretty as what I saw last
year and so I did not buy. It was
then to bargain the - They wanted
\$1200 for three shirts and I offered \$500
They came down to \$1000. but I would not
pay over \$900 and so I came out just in time

to meet Ed and go over the other side
for tea.

I expect Mrs. James back toward the end
of this week. It will be so nice to have her
here again.

I have just come home from Sunday School.
There were more than 25 - day than last Sunday
when it was so cold. It has really been quite
warm the last three or four days. We have not
wanted a fire - nor extra clothing.

Glad you have let Main Street house.

" This is our chicken pie.

Further, did you know you sent me, one of John's
letters written Nov. 3 1914 just before his birthday?
I could not understand it until I saw P. O. stamp.
How pretty your plant must be!

Sigled, Marion, that Dr. C. says your ears have improved.

Marion, do you ever make cheese croquettes, or rice
and cheese croquettes? They are very nice.

But roast mady with peanuts is good, too.

Fried or baked bananas make a change over ice-cream.

Dried lima beans and a little bacon go well too.

Macaroni & cheese or tomato - another old dish.

I worry a little about your not getting calligram, as
I see how anxious you all are - but I hope we did
right. I think you would have worried more with the
cable.

Remembering by cold Rockport church, used to be
sometimes. I wonder who will be new minister.

Marion, I can't remember ^{in the} whether Peter's
was better than yours or not. All the past months
seem rather a dream-like and untrue. I can hardly
believe that all that has happened is true.

Do you ever use your hair combs for pins
cushions? They make very good ones.

Has Carl made a night-dress in school? I bought a

Beauty embroidered one for about 1.50 for money here. But I am afraid it would make them too expensive if I sent them home because of added duty - that is too expensive to sell - and rather expensive to wear.

It seemed so good to get the letters this week. Let me know all about your Christmases when you can.

By the way I sent a slight package for Charlie this week.

Now about duty on packages this year? Please let me know, for I want to learn if you have to pay on parcels of small value as well as big ones, and I want to find out what it is right to do - to send a little bit in big parcel - or small packages. Did bits arrive for Billy & Lucile?!

The American stamps I can get from Shanghai - but these were returned to me from America, so I don't too much to pay a bill.

When you get time studying the more, double, send a few sheets of the Almanac for me to study, too. We have now books of messages, the last this month and received them, too. Sometimes I watch the sunset too.

It does seem a pity that Dr. Duggan had to resign. Minority opposition of a very obstinate kind was the cause I guess.

Yes, diphtheria patient recovered, and look - you woman too, also the baby with imperforate rectum - the case that Ellison was so big about but didn't, I think. The Chinese pulled away the rubber tube from child and away American baby would have died probably.

Seems problem is bad again. We dismissed the boy last night - and company coming this week too.

I haven't ordered to try yet. I want to make enquiry about it and may let it lapse for a few months.

Must send -

Please send to Bartholomew
after it goes to Holyoke - for I shall
not have time to write.

Mr. C. C. Bartholomew
at Holyoke, Mass.
Cheongchee, China
Monday 6, 1916.

Dear Mrs.


Sunday evening! A great fire is burning
altho it is warm enough so that we do not really need
it. Miss Travers is sitting by the fire writing and I
am at my desk - but I think well - when Mr. Page and
Mr. MacGladay came up on Friday all ready for the annual
hunt, I did not have great difficulty in urging him to
go along. You see I had company then and was
going to have more this week and it was a fine
opportunity for him to get away. He really needs it
for I think I am constantly on his mind, and I don't
think it right to make up, to know if I am all right.
I have been surprised really to see how much he
has thought of and for me all these days! It
certainly is a great blessing to me that I have
such a husband. I don't believe there are any too
many.

There is too much to write about himself! Oh
I'll tell you in brief, and then tell as much more
as I can.

Last Sunday I was in T'ji - but came back in
time for dinner and you both went to S. I in the P.M.
he in the city and I at the foot of the hill.
Mrs. James and Mr. Gibson came over to call and
we kept them for dinner supper. Our boy did not
get home in time to prepare our tea. We took
him to task for that and one or two other things.
He was unwilling to talk about his duties and so
we talked him in now willing for him to go - when he
offered that solution to the difficulty - and so
that - or, was without a boy again and company
coming.

On Tuesday P.M. Miss Travers did not walk in
as I expected but in walked Mr. Carman
separately and without a boy!

By the way, we had tried to get a boy from the
village to work but he wanted exactly twice as
much as he was worth (- more than the cook gets) and
he knew nothing, besides - and so we refused him.
We then tried to get Mr. Baker's old coolie - but
he would not come for a coolie's wages altho he
is hard up and so we are still hunting, but Miss
Travers brought a boy on Wednesday - and that has saved
the situation for the present.

I was depending on Miss Traver to take me shopping, and so
 I told Mr. Carman he would have to take me in - which
 he did. I had them along to depend on. We went into
 Chin stores first and Mr. Carman bought quite a lot of
 little things to take home as he is going this time I believe.
 I bought a vest and dish shaped like this  It is very
 pretty - and cost 20c. He could not get the cloth dealers
 to bargain at all. Then we went into shops where they
 had second hand clothing - trousers, coats and
 such things. Mrs. Baker wanted me to buy some
 things for her to sell for the Silver-Shop work.

Would you could see what I bought.

Don't
 publish
 these
 prices.
 They are
 bargains
 that we got
 at New
 Year time

- | | |
|--|-------|
| { 2 men's coats - long - @ 1.00.
Dark blue with embroidery in gold thread. | |
| 1 plum colored with jacket trimmed with
embroidered blue with red mandarin square. | 3.00. |
| 1 yellow with skirt with embroidered panels
and much narrow embroidery. | 3.50 |
| 1 stripe of hand embroidery on shirtwaist. | 2.00. |
| One beautiful piece of heavy dark blue
satin (embroidered with flowers) - big cuff
for portieres to fairly narrow double
doors. Gorgeous! Green satin or inside | 2.10 |

These I am sending to Rena to look at and then
 to send to Mrs. Baker to sell. Wish you
 all could see them.

Mr. Carman was so excited that he went
 out again in the afternoon and bought
 forty dollar worth to sell to help a student
 who wants to go to America. He got a lot more
 than I did, but most of it was not in quite such
 good condition. Wish you could see his
 embroidered and shirt and jackets and coats.

We have been having an awful time with
 rats. They have gnawed the tin doors to get from
 room to room. And we have to hide soap every

night and cannot even leave candy out in boxes however tight - nor can we leave flour around for they eat the pests. They make us up the and around bottles as they run around. Nothing is safe. Finally when we had despaired of catching them in any of the three traps we had set for several nights, we heard that Mr. Page had a new means. We took a grain and a half of calomel mixed it with butter, cutted three small pieces of bread and put them in the rooms where the rats usually go most. In the morning two of the pieces of bread were gone, but the third remained untouched. I went to see the effect!

We then found our hole and stopped it up - and we have put pepper and glue around the places where they have gnawed.

As Mr. Carman plays and sings, we have had nice musical evenings.

Thursday was New Year's Day and we all went to the City for services. It seemed like Sunday all day long. I had a long nap in P.M.

On Friday Mr. Page and Mr. McGeachon arrived unexpectedly for dinner and took Ellison off for the park. Luckily we had plenty of food on hand and served a good dinner as follows: -

Tomato Soup -	Saltines -
Baked chicken.	Salmon loaf.
Baked beets.	Mashed Potatoes.
Some other vegetables - perhaps spinach -	I don't remember.
Pumpkin Pie.	St James Pudding with orange sauce.


Saturday AM and this afternoon I have been calling on Chinese with Miss Taylor. Most interesting. On Friday we called on the Presbyterians.

Well I did want to tell you about those calls. Some places were so poor and dirty. I just pitied our teacher's wife. She has such a little place! She looked young but had four living children. The youngest had died a year or two ago.

This is the day for God to return
from Heaven.

We had given the teacher some old Literary Digests and he had used them to patch his walls. Think of that! You cannot imagine how small and smoky - how crowded and dirty his two rooms were - not a bit of land - just a crowded court-yard outside. It would drive me wild to live that way. I hope I can think of something to give them to make their home more comfortable.

Then we called on the wife of Mr. Kemp's former agent named M. M. We found her with a little baby about 2 months old - the little thing laid in a Chien - such as we put our earthen goods in to take them to Tsai-yang. I don't know what was in it, but it looked as if it were stuffed with rags!

 Packed this chape - and about 30 or 40 inches in diameter.

Mother said she had not enough milk for baby and how do you think she fed it? She heated milk (not kye-cow) put a little in a native soup spoon - put a rag in the milk, then put one end of the rag in the baby's mouth and let it suck the milk up. Her fingers were sometimes used to help the milk along!!!

It was very queer at one place yesterday. Altho it was 11:15 A.M. the women of the house - a full-to-do place - was not ready to receive callers. As we went into the receiving room - we saw a small decidedly table covered with the remains of food. She hastily called what appeared to be a little slave girl about 12 yrs. old to clear away the table & make things tidy. The slave girl reached up to the table with a dirty rag - letting the rice fall on the floor where children were glad enough to pick it up - then all in the great room - bind you!

A daughter of the house then came and served food. The mother removed the table. And then what did the mother do but sit down in a chair and begin to comb her hair in our presence. Whether Miss Travers said that the woman said that she had no business to be combing her hair in our presence. When I expressed wonder at her skill in arranging it.

The first woman we called on had a very nice home clean and up-to-date. She was up-to-date too - for she had decided to become a woman dentist!

Her husband keeps a drug store. She ~~was~~ ^{was} at woman's school in Kadeshieth and also can play the organ very well. Her brother went to Canton and learned dentistry in a few months I suppose & - so and he taught her. She had a bigger, and plate for false teeth, - and quite a bit of equipment displayed behind of her door. She is a very attractive girl too - has two or three children and I suppose is about 26 or 27. She plays organ in City Chapel. They are supposed to be well-to-do.

But the poor people whom we called on certainly represented the opposite extreme. I can still see two rooms that we would call sitting better than a lot of dump-heap in a cellar where a man and wife and several children lived. They entertained us in a room filled with big brown crochets for sale I suppose. A cat was tied by a string to something - rats I suppose were numerous. Where on earth they sleep I don't know.

We saw several ^{different kinds} cats but all were tied by a string. I wonder why? And as no place was ^{any} food kept in big wire cages. Rats again I suppose. I begin to appreciate what it means.

These women - or at least ~~most~~ of them - seem to think nothing of spitting on the floor. - and were supposed to throw the remains of their tea on the floor!!! Awful!

Well it is after 9:10 - I have not even looked at letters to answer your letters - but I was certainly pleased to hear from George and John this week as well as to get a big envelope of Ruth's letters thru Jennie. Put in a little word yourself, Jennie. I love to hear. I am worried about your Chapel. Will you write Seattle or San Francisco about it? We should hate to lose it.

George will please find out and let me know what duty there was to pay on the parcel for Mother and Joyce and then I can tell about charge.

and tells letter of Dec. 20 - just arrived -
to come about Dec. - have read very hostile for
cost in carrying to city and wants to take.

sorry I can't write more - but I send
love to each and everyone.

Dr. Bacon and Miss Northcott are expected to
arrive to-morrow.

Love
Lettie.

Mosquitoes are buzzing -

It is quite warm.

Backpackers
Fuller, Fuller, W.
Holographic
Lettie
Lettie

Chaochowfu,
Feb. 12, 1916.

DEAR ONE,

Ellison is out making cuttings of roses and transplanting some, but it is rather damp and raw outside, and as I have a tendency to tooth-ache, I am taking my exercise in-doors to-day. I do wish the dentist would come, for I need extensive repairs.

In my last letter I wonder if I mentioned that there have been two bad boat accidents here lately. One of the Kityang launches went down the other day and over a hundred men were drowned. Undoubtedly there were more. It happened this way. It being the day before the biggest holiday of the year, many people were anxious to go home. It was the oldest boat of the line at Swatow. At 8 A. M. people began coming in order to be sure to have a place. They say as many as 800 crowded on to the small launch before 6 A. M. and it simply sank right at the wharf. It was dark and cold, very few of the Chinese can swim- and hence as many deaths- there were more than thirty women in the cabin they say- and for them there was no hope of course.

The other accident I have not heard details of, but a Japanese steamer from Swatow to Hong Kong was rammed by another boat in the night and more than a hundred lost their lives there too.

Some people say that the Captain of the Kityang launch who had run away to escape the vengeance of the relatives of the drowned people- was on this Japanese steamer- I do not know.

A Buddhist society has taken care of the burial of those bodies which were not claimed after the launch went down. On every coffin they wrote, "Remember Buddha."

The Christians were over there too, helping relatives find their dead. It was very sad.

2
Well, after considering several applicants, we have selected as new
cookie an old man of 55 who seems earnest and willing and has a rep-
utation for honesty which we hope will prove true. He formerly helped
in the kitchen of the theological seminary at Kakohish but has had no
other experience. His own business is to work in the rice fields,
but we hope to teach him to take care of the cow, as well as his other
work. I am a little afraid that he may not get on well with the other
servants who are much younger than he, but they are both good-natured
and I hope that all will be well.

We go to Swatow this next week, for meetings with Mr. Weeksbury
on Sunday School methods. It seems as if we have hardly had time to
settle down before we are off again.

On Monday I went calling with Miss Traver on Chinese people in
the city. It was a long morning's work and I was very tired when we
came in for dinner at 1 P. M.-but I was very glad I went. Just at this
minute I especially remember a little fellow of about 8 yrs with silver
bracelets around his ankles- who nearly went wild about the colored
pictures Miss Traver had to give away with the extra literature which
was sold. You could see that he was his mother's darling and it was
lovely to see how he teased and wheedled the cash from her to buy books
enough to give him several pictures, even if it did show he was spoiled
by so much indulgence. He was insistent- and not only spread them all
out on the table while we were there, but would not part from them when
he accompanied us and his mother on our next call- He had a nice bright
face- was evidently the oldest son of three children. I remember seeing
a man tossing knives too- He kept three sharp knives tossing from his
hands all the time- Another man had just been doing the same thing with
swords, but I did not see that.

In all the heathen homes where we called there was a table for the gods with incense sticks burning on it and offerings of fruit and oranges.

Another place where we visited was most interesting. A woman who had studied at Kakohieh for a few months had married into a heathen family. It is interesting to see how quickly one sees the effect of foreign influences. The room was clean and well arranged, the small-- Evidently her husband was well-to-do.

She had been married about ten years, but had no children, and so her sister-in-law had given her her second child, a little boy about two months old. She brought it in for us to see.

One of the storekeepers came over here one day this week to bring some goods for Dr. Mason (who came with Miss Northcott on Monday to visit us for a few days).

He came only into the down stairs room, but he was full of expressions of wonder because it was so big and light and yet there was no bed in it. He also wondered at the number of books, altho only half of them are down stairs.

Jul. 24-1896

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where I am--On a boat going to Hong Kong--It is like a trip to New York from Boston--I have a nice state room all to myself on a new boat--This is only its fourth trip. I was the only woman at supper altho there are several women on board-- And Dr. Newman and Mr. Newbury are along. I am so glad, for I should have been quite unused to going alone-- I am getting to be very dependent on my husband.

The boat was made at Newcastle on Tyne and is 41 feet across. It has over twenty first class state-rooms. There are about twenty foreigners on board and some important Chinese. A Chinese Mandarin is making the trip-- a fine-looking man.

4
Mr. Fewkesbury is the man who has been holding the Sunday School meetings. He was in Peking during the siege of Peking in 1901 and tells most interesting tales about it. During that time many many people had to be put in the city- and he with 70 other foreigners slept in a big hall in a chinese palace- a house with 999 rooms. They used at least china dishes old as the hills- of priceless value- the buildings had been looted several times, but still things of great worth were there- In some rooms they found a whole pile of boxes filled with fans- evidently for gifts. in some rooms they found watches- I believe they found 250 velvet cases for watches- the watches themselves had been stolen. They literally had to wade thru silk garments in some rooms where the harem had formerly been. Here the women kept their silver always in the bottom of the boxes where their clothes were and robbers in hunting for silver had thrown the clothes around- I cannot remember half he said, but you can imagine how interesting it was.

Tuesday Allison opened his school in the chapel and Tues P. M. we came to Kachich by the late train. I have attended the morning meetings but not the afternoon ones. They were extremely bright, and interesting and full of life and certainly will begin a new era of a.s. work and aggressive work in our churches.

Allison visits a church to-morrow and then goes back alone for a week or more-poor man. I shall miss him as much as he misses me too- for I do miss him lots. I am to visit Harriett Allyn in Canton and have my teeth fixed by a good American dentist. We can take the train from Hong Kong to Canton, but to go thru Hong Kong I have to have a pass-and have it vised by the English Consul-etc- such red tape.

Love and joy is the
the compensation to work after
in all the people of the world. Love
and serve mankind for the sake of
God. Hasten your thoughts. Enlarge
the circle of your life.

On another Abdul-Daka note: "Every player always has to effort, and it has a great influence in the other world. We are never cut off from those who are there. Prayer is communication with God. One can pray for the dead and by so doing their spiritual condition will become better. Prayer and supplication are so effective that they inspire one's heart for the whole day with high ideas and vigorous activity and endeavor."

And again of faith: "The greater the faith of man the more blessed his life. Faith is a miracle; it has a wonder-working power. Its reality faith embodies three degrees—to commune with our tongue; to believe in the heart; to show forth in our actions. Faith is not so much what we believe as what we carry out in our action. The faith of practice is the real faith. By being severed from the world I do not mean holding in contempt the things of the world, for civilization and education are the means of progress. I mean that one must not attach his heart to the world. All material things are not so that through our gratitude we may learn to understand life as a divine benefit. All the divine messengers have come to this earth as specialists of the law of love. The human spirit is a comprehensive energy and constrains the realities of things, and discovers the hidden secrets in the domain of the physical world. But the divine spirit discovers divine realities and cosmic mysteries in the realm of the divine world. I hope those earnest seekers in the divine spirit, discover the mysteries of the divine world and comprehend the secrets of the physical world."

Feb 10

Harvard

Ellis?

Waltham

Chaochowfu -

February 12, 1916.

Dear Ones,

Ellison is out making cuttings of roses and transplanting some, but it is rather damp and rear outside, and as I have a tendency to tooth-ache, I am taking very exercise in-door to-day. I do wish the dentist would come, for I need extensive repairs!

In my last letter I wonder if I mentioned that there have been two bad boat accidents here lately. One of the Kityang launches went down the other day and over a hundred were drowned in ten feet. It happened this way. It being the day before the biggest holiday of the year, many people were anxious to go home. It was the oldest boat of the line at Suatow. At 2:30 PM people began coming on board to be sure to have a place. They say as many as 500 crowded on to the small launch before 4 PM and it simply sank right at the wharf. It was dark and cold; very few of the Chinese can swim - and hence so many deaths. There were more than thirty women in the cabin they say - and for them there was no hope of course.

The other accident I have not heard details of, but a Japanese steamer from Swatow to Hong Kong was rammed by another boat in the night and more than a hundred lost their lives there too.

Some people say that the captain of the Kityang launch who had run away to escape the vengeance of the relatives of the drowned people - was on this Japanese steamer. I do not know.

A Buddhist society has taken care of the bodies of those bodies which were not claimed after the launch went down. On every coffin they wrote "Remember Buddha".

The Christians were over there too, helping relatives find their dead. It was very sad.

By accidently this time

Well, after considering several applicants we have selected as new cook an old man of 55 who seems earnest and willing and has a reputation for honesty which we hope will prove true. He formerly helped in the kitchen of the theological seminary at Kachichik but has had no other experience. His own business is to work on the rice fields, but we hope to teach him to take entire care of the cows as well as his other work. I am a little afraid that he may not get on well with the other servants who are much younger than he, but they are both good-natured and I hope that all will be well.

We go to Suatou this next week for meetings with Mr. Trenchard on Sunday School Methods. It seems as if we had hardly had time to settle down before we are off again.

The week has been interesting. I had company until Thursday when Ellison came home from the hunt.

On Monday I went calling on Chinese people in the city. It was a long morning's work and I was very tired when we came in for dinner at 1:00 P.M. - but I was very glad I went. Just at this minute I especially remember a little fellow of about 8 ^{or 10} with silver bracelets around his ankles who nearly went wild about the colored pictures Miss Brown had to give away with the Shan literature which we sold. You could see that he was his mother's darling, and it was funny to see how he teased and nuzzled the cash from her to her to his camp to give him several pictures, ~~the more~~ if it did show that he was spoiled by so much indulgence. He was content - and not only spread them all out on the table while we were there, but would not part from them when he accompanied us and his mother on our next call. He had a nice bright face - was evidently the oldest son of three children.

Kananga seeing a man tossing knives to. He kept three sharp knives facing from his hands all the time. Another man had just been doing the same thing with swords, but I did not see that.

In all the heathen homes where we called there was a table for the gods with incense sticks burning on it and offerings of fruit and oranges.

Another place where we visited was most interesting. A woman who had studied at Katschik for a few months had married into a heathen family. It is interesting to see how quickly one sees the effect of foreign influence. Her room was clean and well arranged & the small. Evidently her husband was well-to-do.



Room about 5' x 8' I guess.

you can see that there was very little room to visit there.

Continued on next page. →

One of the storekeepers came over here one day this week to bring some goods for Dr. Bacon (who came with Miss Northcott on Monday to visit us for a few days).

He came only into the down stairs room, but he was full of impressions of wonder because it was so big and light and yet there was no bed in it. He also wondered at the number of books although only half of them are down stairs.

Miss Traver insisted that she must go home Tuesday after. as she had invited the two girls from the other side for tea in the afternoon. (They said word at the last minute that they could not come) - Too bad!

Dr. Bacon and Miss Northcott wanted to shop and I went out with them Wednesday afternoon to brass shops, junk shops, china shops - etc. all small dingy little places - but she found some old bronzes to take home with her. Dr. Bacon goes home this spring on furlough - and Dr. Mitchell makes her hospital for that time.

I was certainly glad to see Ellison on Thursday about 11:00. He had been away nearly

a week. The men about three more
year and a good many ducks and smaller
birds

I did not finish writing about the woman the
sketch of whose room I put on the previous page.
She had been married about ten years but had no
children, and as her sister-in-law had given her
her second child - a little boy about three months
old. She brought it in for him to see.

Mon. 3rd. where do you think I am? I feel
I have a little malady that I never had heard of until I
came to China. It is not serious at all. Probably caught
it last Wednesday while shopping. It is called Blepharitis
(pronounced Blee-gy). Never. Comes on with a
slight chill followed by fever for a couple of days
which is usually repeated once again after two
days more, but fever does not go on high second time.
My fever came on Friday night, was light all
day Saturday so that I hardly noticed it - in fact
should not have known if it had not been for
thermometer but Sunday AM beginning at 98.8 it
steadily rose 101.1, 102.2, 103, until we decided
to send for doctor. I am very comfortable with
no fever at all today, but of course cannot
go to Swatow as we planned. Poor Allison
became never able to attend those meetings (on
my account). It is too bad!

I was going to take the big pile of letters I have
received from you all and read them this and
answer them, but I see that I forgot to bring them
with me, and as I'll have to let that go this
time as I do not want to call Allison. He
is busy at work on Conference Minutes Digest.

Very much love to all of you.

Sottie

Jennie's package hasn't come yet and I am worried
I wish she would send a tracer for it. Thank you
Jennie, for all good letters; and the nice note in
the last lot.

Love to you soon.

Thurs. - Up and around again. Dr. says it isn't doing a bit of good.

Rocky
Dover
P.D.
Feldman
Hickman

Send this news!

Chao chao China.
Oct. 26, 1916.

Dear Ones All, Guess where I am! On a boat going to Hong Kong. It is like a trip to New York from Boston. Then a nice state-room all to myself on a new boat. This is only its fourth trip! I was the only woman at supper although there are several women on board. And Dr. Macman and Mr. Tenbrunsel are along. I am so glad for I should have been quite ashamed to go alone. I am getting to be very dependent on my husband! The boat has made at Nan-shan-tai-yun and is 4 1/2 ft across. It has over twenty first class state-rooms. There are about twenty foreigners on board and some important Chinese. A Chinese Mandarin is making the trip - a fine-looking man.

Mr. Tenbrunsel is the man who has been holding the Sunday School meetings. He was in Peking during the siege of Peking in 1901 and tells most interesting tales about it. During that time many many people had to be put up in the city - and he says that other foreigners slept in a big hall in a Chinese palace - a house with 999 rooms! They used at meals ching kien as old as the hills - of priceless value. The buildings had been looted several times but still things of great worth were there - in some rooms they found a whole pile of boxes filled with fables - evidently for gifts. In some rooms they found matches! Within they found 250 white cards for matches - the matches themselves had been stolen. They literally had to make their beds with garments in some rooms where the persons had formerly been. There the women kept their silver always in the bottom of the boxes where their clothes were and robbers in hunting for silver had thrown the clothes around. I cannot remember half to say, but you can imagine how interesting it was.

Tuesday Ellison opened his school in the chapel - and I was P.M. - we came to Kiah-hieh by the late train. I have attended the morning meetings but not the afternoon ones. They were extremely bright and interesting, and full of life. And certainly will begin a new era of S.S. work and aggression work in our churches.

Ellison visits a church to morrow and then
goes back to lie alone for a week or more - poor
man! I shall miss him as much as he misses
me tho', for I do miss him lots.
I am to visit Herrick Allgren in Canton and
have my teeth fixed - by a good American dentist.

We can take train from Hong Kong to Canton,
but to go there, Hong Kong I have to have a
pass. I can't have it ^{issued} by the English
consul - etc. etc. - much will take.

I must go to bed. Good Night.

This week has come 25 or more letters from
home. Every body is good to write and the letters
have been such a comfort! You may be sure
we have looked eagerly for them and have
prayed that you would have comfort. We
have to have the sorrow for you as well
as for ourselves!

I am so thankful that you approve
of our not coming.

Very much love,
Latter.