

Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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May 24, 1914.

Dear Marion,

Just a few minutes before
y. M. C. A. in which I may write a
word to you. It is about 7:00 A.M. on
Sunday morning at home and the day is
nearly over with us. When I heard about
^{myself} the scarlet fever, I was awfully sorry,
but I had that helpless ~~poor~~ feeling that
it would be all over before I could get
word to you - in fact, that it must be
nearly over when I received the word.

I hope you have not done too much
while you have been shut in. Has

Rose gone yet, and what is her address?

How cunning Polly must be! I don't

believe I have ever sympathized with

you and Della sufficiently in bringing

up so many children. I begin to

realize what a task it is and

how important! I am so glad the

boys are growing more thoughtful.

(I am eating peanuts as I write).

The cook keeps some on hand for Ellery.

most of the time.

Glad Richard likes to read. He is young, too. Mother said that she and Carol were reading "The Missing Soul" in the Youth's Companion. It was written by Beth Gilchrist P. S. O., a good friend of mine - and very clever with her pen.

Your tales of food sound good. I like to hear ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{had} ~~and~~ ^{during} the other half.

How is Everett's bank? Are you planning for the Bangalore and just when?

Did Miss Mahr have to go back, or prefer to?

Hope you continue well. Have you had any exams yet?

It is awfully dear to think of the children praying for us. Tell them that we remember them, too.

I gasp when I think of your planning summer clothes for your family! What a task. But here one can have a whole piece dress made for \$3.00 tax. Think of it! Almost

call the tailor, too, and have one
more thin dress made, for I don't
know when my white embroidered one
will go back on me, and my black
and white strip is very thin. I have
on the white dress that Ruth gave
back to me. - this evening. We have
all doors closed tho, because there
is a real cool wind outside.

Did you want Charlton's letter
of Jan. 31 past? I was glad to see it.
I hope he has seen some of my
home letters, for I have found no
time to write. Really, it is awfully
hard to find time here - even tho I
seem to have more leisure than
at home.

Must go now -

Keeps of love.

Lettie.

I shall think of you all this summer.

Received Transcript
from Papa - Will write
later.

L

Here is a picture of
Mrs. Smith sister and
me right in front
your house. It was
bad of us both, but I
won't cut out my face
as she did -

The background is so
pretty perhaps family
would like to see

Love,

L

Have you a post card of Philadelphia
or not? Let me know or will
send, if not

— Being read.

Frank.

Sueatow China
March 19 1914

Dear Mrs. Hennrichs,

March 21, 1914

Dear James,

This is all the paper I have here, and I am too lazy to get more. Your letter of February 10 was very much appreciated as usual, especially as that one from you and one from your Elder were the only ones we received on that mail. If you do get reduced to writing once a month, I shall prize your letters like everything, for they are so breezy and make things so vivid that I enjoy them very much! And we always have a good laugh over them. Ellison is more anxious to read yours than any other I know.

Glad you have had inside work. I am anxious now to get thy letters about the pig storm of March 2. The Shanghai papers had lithographic news about it. It must have been fierce!

Has John been in New Yangpoo? I do, what town and how did he like it? I wish you would write me about it, John. I miss your letter. I am so glad John paid back Charlie. That was fine! Now please, I don't want always to be speaking of money, but I do want him to pay Aunt Lila the rest of the bicycle money before anything else - and then the \$5.00 for least rapid schooling. She has been very good, hasn't she?

I shall be very anxious to see you boys if your dream comes true. You will find what a big distance that is - How would you cross the deserts? They are terrible!

Interested in fire in England Ch. Boston I should be much pleased to have you cut a clipping of just an account out of your evening paper. You know we don't see much anything of that kind except what you send.

Glad that motorcycle business seems prospering. Carl's idea seems good. And your idea of paying for your own that way would be good.

Let me know how trap shooting comes on. E. is

interested, too.

Nearly bed-time - and - as
a loving good night - God bless to you
Galtie.

Jawge

Suatao China
March 30, 1914.

Dear Marion, I have had a longing to write you for several days now, but somehow the minutes go flying by. We go to bed early and Ellison the bad grip.

Tues. Mar. 31 - 8:55 AM

Just five minutes before class. A peddler has just been at the door and I bought a mass of things on the wall and hold roses. He has cut little carved toys, vases, bowls, and brass things. The brass is very expensive. Unless to say I didn't buy any. Oh! I don't know that I have ever told you if you that rice is considerably expensive here. Only rich men eat rice. The poor eat sweet potatoes - which my cook would not serve to our guest about a week ago because he said they were cheap.

Ellison is an invalid again to-day, for the grip has not entirely gone yet. It certainly is stubborn. He is advancing himself making my Chinese hymn book, and a violin hymn book for himself! It pays to have him with, for he did a lot of work on my prof. art album, which I never should have found time for.

It is so pleasant to-day that if I think I will alight out on the porch. I wish you could see the numbers of birds around here - some startling - but all attractive and beautiful many ten cents. Yesterday we saw a white crested bird with a good deal of black and some red on him - He was about as large as a robin. 2:15 P.M. I must go now. Love you. L.

Thurs. April 3, 1914

I can hardly believe that April!

It is evening - about eight. I have glanced at the Shanghai newspaper, written my diary and am ready to study about 1/2 hour before going to bed. Ellison is playing his violin. He has' been out a little to-day. A number of people are on the campus for Reference Committee meeting, and we are entertaining Mr. Brodzick whom I met in the East last spring. We are having lovely weather. For the last week we have had the first wind for ten days.

I have been studying on the porch with that beautiful view of the harbor to distract my attention.

Well I will work a little - so Good night for now.

Much love to you and Tom and the kiddies.

Tell Tom to keep up courage. It is a hard fight but there is strength waiting for him and all of us.

Love,

May 30 - 1914

12:30 noon

Dear George and John,

Enjoyed your letters
much! Oh, you must be at home now, because
it is about midnight of Friday night with you, and
of course you will have a holiday May 31.

How nice it will seem! Take good care of
yourselves! What room do you sleep in when
you are home?

Does anyone sleep in the attic yet?

John says, "The roads are sandy over in China
aren't they?" I wish you could see the roads.
In the cities there is rough paving - about 8 ft
wide sometimes - little more, often less. Sometimes
steps lead up or down a slight rise or descent.
But here ~~at~~ Kadeshieh and neighbouring places.

The roads are only paths on top of dikes between
rice fields. It is difficult for two people
to pass often-times. Most of the roads in
South China are of that kind!!!

Can you imagine yourself riding over
them. I can't!!! It is hard to imagine
what you see for yourself.

Do the people in the shop allow you to use
their mules, or is there a special one for you?

George, your Khaki suit must be great!
I remember those goats around Nagasaki.
Aren't they beautiful! I have drawn over them -

The Olson is a touring car! At that
rate, we may have one some day! I should
be interested to hear if you went again.

Beck certainly is one peach! Her father was
a poor boy - he did not go thru high school, I
think. So you never can tell what may
happen - I wish Beck would have a house party
and invite Beck and Bob for a little visit -
I fancy she could have help. You could hire a girl
for a few weeks. What a great idea!!!

Great pictures of Ellison & me!!! If one
get as fat as that, I fear will never get home!!!

How is Mex. situation?

Much love.

Lolita.

How is Jonnie? Haven't heard for a long while.

Friday
Oct 2, 1918
Swanton

My very dear Marion,
So think of
having such a dainty waist! -
such a "swell" one! And to think
you made it with your own busy
fingers!! How lazy, lazy I say,
I am! I do not take over ten
stitches a week I guess - Really
I am overwhelmed - and I do
appreciate it so much! It looks
awfully pretty - and so stylish
out here.

You are a perfect dear to have made it! It looks very well on me and of course is just exactly what I need. Does one just pin the girdle on, or tie it - or have hooks and eyes?

The pictures Aunt Cele sent were lovely to see. How dear Polly looks and how big she has grown! The one of Aunt Cele and Mother was very good! And it seemed so good to see you!

Little Charlton looked almost like a man! Fine, sturdy looking!

John particularly (but George too) looks thin. Hope they are not working too hard!

Carol seems very grown up in the long dress. I get Ruth's attractiveness even thro' the blur!

I am anxious to hear about the Kubu House. Hope you do not have to move.

We shall probably not move until January now, and shall plant our garden here.

We have had lovely weather since we returned. The harbor view is ~~very~~

It makes one exclaim every a.m.
wonderfully beautiful!!

How nice for Della to go to
Bar Harbor. I am awfully pleased.
Will she bring Mother's letter back?
I am anxious to hear what she thinks
of scenery there!

Glad to see Mother's letter.
Can we see the home picture!

We pick up a book of poetry
once in awhile and I almost always
think of you when I do. Have a
wonderful present "Vials of Eng. Verse".
Given me by Ralph Perialet - which I
enjoy immensely! Wish I could
write more. Bath water is waiting! Love
Lottie

Copy and transcript of material from family. Copy of
an early letter to Mother's letter.

Dec 7, 1914

Dear Marion,
Thank you so much for your good letter which arrived ^{over} two weeks ago. I do hope the children have done well at school. I think of them just about every day. Papa sent me some pictures, too, the other day and I was pleased enough to see Polly and Gene and Everett and Dick. How they have grown! How sweet Polly and Gene are. The little picture in the card is too dear for anything!

Do you ring the hymn on Sunday mornings still? I try to play it every Sunday evening, but once in a while if there is anything going on, I forget it (with my prayers) H H

It is Friday Dec. 4, about 6:30 P.M. I have just been playing golf croquet and drinking tea on the lawn - had a few Presbyterians and the council

her. Real pleasant. we are
going to take supper with Mr.
Mildred and Miss Traver.

I have begun studying a little
again this week. but I am
afraid I shall not be so regular
now with a years work behind me.

Do write all about yourselves when
you do write, and don't take the time
you ot to be sleeping to do it. My love
to Tom. Tell him I think of him
very often and hope he is keeping
strong in his best resolves. Wish he
would write again some time. His
last letter from Rockport was a



dandy! Now much love to your own dear
self. Do take care of your health first of
all. I wish you had a husband at home to
take you best, as mine does. under me.
Kisses of love from

China
Haikow via Swatow

July 6, 1915.

Well, dear ones, the glorious Fourth is past and gone! How did you spend it?

For here as quiet as could be, except for children's prattle; and the only evidences of the holiday were several flags put up around the living room, or triumphantly raised by the children. Oh, we did hear pathetic songs too - even in the little Sunday School exercises which Mrs. Page held for the children. I am going to help her (at her invitation) on Monday to hold a S.S. weekly for all the children in the valley - at the time when the native (Kobayashi) is being held in the Chapel.

We have had several raindays one after the other, with only a glimpse of blue sky at night or morning - for a few hours of respite - just long enough to decide we were thinking that it has decided to clear. Today while we were having our daily Chinese lesson we heard the river hissing very fast, and we got there in time to see it heaving madly up. The water had risen several feet in a few minutes I might almost say - so fast did it come. It was confined in the banks near us, but down below we could see it spreading out over potato and rice fields for about an eighth of a mile I think. It was a strange sight to see the yellow-reeching water coming so fast that its surface was not level but  this way - or  this way around a curve.

Branches and sticks were whirled along just as they would be in a real flood. Wish you could have seen it. After one of these sudden risings the water falls almost as rapidly as it rises and this P.M. we had a fine bath in the very place where it has so mad and rushing this morning.

I have been sewing for two mornings and hope to sew for a morning for the next few weeks. In the P.M. I bathe and then have recreations - (Sew I'll try the typewriter for awhile now)

Thursday, July 8.

I am waiting for the boy to sweep our bedroom, so that I can go in there and sew while he sweeps and then this one - our combined dressing room and study. Wilson is studying on the porch just outside the window, although he says he doesn't in any way mind by the rain, which has been falling in showers for nearly a week today. Sometimes it rains for three or four hours at a time, but more often there is a smart shower for twenty minutes or half an hour.

We are looking for mail to arrive or next day! My program now is sew all the Am. & Brit in P.M. about 2:00 or 2:30, then study until 7:00 or 8:30, then play-ahile - either visiting or walking or

We form a pleasant household, even the five children are a good many for a house of this size. Since our room is at this end, we are free from most of the noise and confusion.

Friday, July 9.

How unresentful these days are! The showers keep up without any discouragement, and altho there are hours at a time when there is no rain, one always expects it and the sky is always overcast or cloudy in at least one section. Mrs. Griffin came

in and joined my sewing this morning, so that the time passed more quickly than usual. ~~and~~ But I always enjoy this kind of sewing.

This afternoon Mrs. James arrived after a rather hard stormy trip. Her feet hurt her heels or something so that she cannot walk on them. Hadn't that a pain! I went over to see if I could help her, and so missed my study for the day.

Mrs. Griffin usually brings her baby in for a few minutes call either morning or afternoon and I always enjoy that.

I am feeling fine! Yesterday we took a nice long walk. Had Mrs. Stewart and myself, wading many little streams and climbing one hill. Love to see you.

Lottie.

Thaigong, China
July 10, 1905.

Dear Marion,

July 10 to August 16! Is there time for this letter to reach you on your birthday? I certainly do hope so, for I have been planning to write it for some days. Could washed up only last night, startled to find that it was not already written and sent. I hope you are all in Lockport by now and that the weather is pleasant and nice. I wonder what time Aunt Celo has chosen for her vacation, and whether Ruth is overworked in this summer course. I know that they keep people rather busy.

I hope you will have a happy birthday and a nice big birthday cake. I believe it is most unsatisfactory to send gifts ahead of time, for one almost forgets they have been sent, but I hope the nephews have been and will be useful. And just now I'll send only this letter and heap of love. If there is room in the envelope I will put another daily - for you to sell if you wish. I think it sells for \$1.00 gold, but I'll look it up to be sure.

We have been using "Heart Songs" to sing from a number of evenings - and have enjoyed them so much! It is real jolly to have the organ here, even if it is so small.

I am sitting out on the porch in the reclining canvas chair. Ellison ^(his table near me) is writing a sermon on the typewriter, for he preaches to-morrow.

Mrs. Luffin's servants are hanging clothes on the

line, and so is Mrs. Page's boy for to-day for the first time for ten days, we have ^{scarcely} enough to make us hope that the rain will depart for a while at least.

I have your good letter of April 25 at hand also Everett's nice letter. We used the little flag in the dining room on July 4, and it makes a bright spot in our room every day.

I am feeling so well, that it is a pleasure to be active, and I wish there was more heavy work to do, but between the boys and Ellison I don't get much chance even to move chairs.

Hope your colds have all disappeared, and that you can go in bathing by now. Is the bungalow quite comfortable this year? Ellison has made our room very nice with the help of a few nails and some boards. He is going to put up more shelves as soon as he gets more wood. He is repairing the porch floor too. It is very rotten at our end, and last summer I put my foot right there in one place.

I have written a little note to Everett which I will enclose.

Love to all. I can still wear ordinary clothes if they are a trifle loose. It is a comfort to have them available for as long a time.

Now must go in as the floor is nearly dry. Very much love to dear Marion. Wish I could come in on your birthday. I expect I'll be thinking of you.

Lottie