

11-23-1923

## Letters from Hazel Todd (1923) (Part 3)

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### Preferred Citation

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Changteh, Hunan

Dear Mother:-

We have been here now nearly two days having gotten only just this far on our way to the hills. It has become very hot so we will be glad to get to the hills. But one enjoys being here these few days to inquire about our people here. Most of the christians are getting on well. Only one that I have inquired of so far has backslidden. The Bible woman's husband has left the army and has ~~gone~~ <sup>left</sup> ~~into~~ <sup>also</sup> the military and now he has his mind made up to go to Bible school. I am so glad he has this idea. Their idea is to work together.

The dress came five days before time to start from Nanchow. So it was in plenty of time. It is so pretty and just the thing I wanted and perhaps needed too. The ribbon too is so nice. The last year or two one can get Manila hats at the hills very reasonably for about a dollar. I intend to buy one and trim it with the left over ribbon. The hats are good fine straw so should look well with the dress. Who made the dress? I am afraid you make too great a sacrifice in getting it for me. The black cloth is not yet made up for it was not needed last winter but will come in handy next winter. That I intend to have made up this summer. If I did not need it you might not need to make any suggestion about giving it to someone else. If there is any one class of people who obey the instructions about if you have two coats give to him who has none it is missionaries.

This letter has been put aside a whole week just when I should have been writing. We have been having some rather exciting times this last two weeks. The students have been stirring things up. Of course they say that they are against Japan and ~~China~~ but the deeper we look into it the more we see that

(Also one might add it is Bolshevistic and therefore against all law. it is both anti-foreign and anti-Christian. While they have done us no personal harm they are stirring up the people so one can not tell how soon some might do something rash. At the time of the parade past our chapel at Nanchow the students called out "we do not want the gospel hall" also "we do not want the teaching of Jesus." Fortunately the governor of the province of Hunan had taken a very firm stand so the local officials dare not let the students injure us personally. So before the parade the official sent around two of the police and the military sent two soldiers. But that did not keep them from calling out to "kill the foreigners" or kill Mr Driffin or the evangelist. They did not call out about Mrs Driffin or myself not so much because we are women as because we are Americans. Mrs Driffin prefers to retain her American citizenship even though she did marry a Britisher. Nothing of course did happen to us but the sound of the voices seemed like that it came right up out of the pit. One time some wanted to come in to the chapel and yelled out something impudent to the soldiers on guard. His answer was to stick his sword out the door saying that if they tried to come in he would let off his gun. On the street they smashed up the goods in three shops for opening their business that day. The latter in the day they destroyed a lamp at the bend in our wall thinking it belonged to us but it was put there by our neighbors for their benefit.

My two days at Changteh we enjoyed very much. It was good to have a chance to talk and pray with our Bible woman there and also some of the other women. On the whole the reports were encouraging so far as spiritual things are concerned. But materially some of the people are facing real want. The rains holding off so long is only one factor there. For high taxes and looting in the city have made the people suffer. I did give the Bible woman have just a little money to use for the very poorest of the people and perhaps should have given her more. One woman a church member from

another place had been making the living for herself and two children was down sick in bed. I only gave her about money enough for medicine possibly a little bit over.

We got away from Changteh without any trouble. We waited until it was about dark and then slipped out the quietest way. But the Presbyterians were not so fortunate. Two of them were prevented from coming because the students kept the coolies from carrying their things. They had quiet a time. Two of their helpers were beaten that evening and when two of the missionaries went to see about getting them out of jail the official refused to open the door of the "jamen." Some of their missionaries also had a lot of trouble getting on the launch. Those of us on the launch had things thrown at us but none hit. Before that began our things were all on board. And Mr Driffin had the Chinese who helped us get on take another round about way to get back to shore so as to avoid the crowd. They are often much more cruel to Chinese servants and christians than to us. Some of the missionaries wanted their servants to come along with them but most were afraid to come. Only one boy and two women came on the launch. Some others came the next day by way of Changsha. By the way about the brightest spot in our trip from Changteh on was the first evening the launch stopped where one of the Biola bands have worked. One little bright looking boy on the platform of the boat we stopped by asked me "are you a missionary." Perhaps my faith is altogether too small for I was unprepared for his next remarks made so earnestly "I also believe on Jesus." After this an elderly woman standing beside him talked a few sentences with me. She also claimed to be a christian. I could not help telling her that we do not divide Chinese and foreigners when we believe on Jesus but in Him we are all sisters. The Lord only knows what it may mean to some of our Chinese brothers and sisters in Christ should this awful student movement grow. We should pray much for them all.

Alice's letter reached me yesterday with the enclosed picture of ~~her~~ and Glenn. Tell her I probably will follow

out her suggestion about lace for the new dress. We can get hand made filet lace cheaper out here than you could get it there. I may get some also for the black dress when it is made. How did it happen school was out before the end of May so George could go back to North Dakota then? I am just afraid father in the end may find himself in the position of the hen who hatches out ducks. For his sons may not all turn out to be farmers any more than we girls have all become farmer's wives. I wish father could get it through his head to look after you and let the rest of us shift for ourselves. And that to most of us an education is worth more than houses or lands. But to be in the Lord's will is much more important still.

In Alice's letter to she mentioned the matter of the name of the place where I worked thinking there might be a difference between Nanchow and Nanchowting. The ting in this instance means a governing town in a division that would contain one or more townships. Under the republic these divisions are done away with and more recently the postoffice has dropped that syllable but mail will reach me whether it is used or not. In reality the governing power of Nanchow is really greater now for it contains as many people as most counties in its territory.

We had a hard trip getting here to Kikungshan all the way along so it has taken me two days up here to finish this letter. We stopped outside of Changsha one day as we had to go around. But I did not go on shore. Some of the men went on shore and reported our troubles at Changteh to the British and American Councils. They reported to both councils as the people concerned were British and the mission American.

This letter is more than long enough and so must close.

With love to all,  
Hazel Todd.

1924

Changteh, Hunan, China. Jan. 5, 1924.

Dear Mother:-

Your welcome letter written the week of Thanksgiving just came today. It usually takes a week or ten days for mail to get here after reaching Shanghai. It ought not to take that long but things are not done at top speed here. I suppose things get home in perhaps two or three days less than it takes things to get here. Because all the way from here to Shanghai is down current.

My last letter never got mailed until Christmas morning. We had dinner with Mr. Bannan that day. But we had to remember we were missionaries first. We had a program at eleven that was announced to be at ten. We served tea and Chinese sweets to the grown ups who came. And each child was given a small package of sweets and an orange. It was late by the time they were through before we could go. In fact some were not but we just made a low bow and said there was no tea and that was all that was expected of us. In fact our absence is greatly appreciated by them when time comes for them to leave and there are still some sweets left. It is open secret that most of them go home with something done up in their handkerchiefs inside their pockets. Christmas does not come but once a year though. Besides Miss Chaffee and I Mr. Bannan had invited the woman who takes care of his little girl and the woman who lives with her. We had a very good dinner there including goose, fish and pudding. We staid until late in the afternoon when they had afternoon tea. When that was over we did not go home.

Talk about the hardships of missionary life! We had an invitation to supper. There they had another course dinner, goose included. That meal was ended up with mince pie and candy. We staid all night there. We looked at their Christmas presents, etc. But we did not go to bed late because they were tired.

From Christmas presents beside what came from home, I got four collars, one with cuffs to match; four handkerchiefs a pretty little Apron, a pair of embroidered bedroom slippers, and half interest in a fruit cake and a box of candy besides a lot of cards and booklets. It surely was more than any one person deserves.

We were invited out New Year's ~~night~~<sup>evening</sup> for supper. I did not go but Miss Chaffee did. But she went in the middle of the afternoon to a union meeting of all the churches in the city. There they asked her to be the vice-president for the next year. This she absolutely refused to do and left the meeting. They then elected someone else. This union affair has always been in the hands of the Chinese. But they are tired of punning it themselves and want to put it back in the hands of the foreigner. That is not the way they generally want to do though from what we hear. I knew nothing about the affair until after supper at the end of C. C. when they had discussion about who was to be responsible for opening the street chapel the three nights a week and doing the preaching. When the discussion got warm someone asked where Miss Chaffee was. And I simply said she had <sup>not</sup> come home. I knew of course where she was. But the old evangelist usually thinks he has to interpret what we say or rearrange it. And he said Miss Chaffee got scared at our meeting today and ran away. She thought it was quite a joke. I can not of course exactly translate what the evangelist had said. The next afternoon the leader of the Holiness Mission came over to apologize for his part in the affair. While he was here a carpenter came to fix a French door in the dining room that would not shut. He undertook to help me and broke a piece off the claw of the hammer and hurt his hand. We had invited folks to come to supper and needed to have the door shut now especially when we have company.

This is Monday, I laid aside the letter Saturday afternoon to go to see some one who is sick. Her head is what is troubling her. That is such a common trouble among we foreigners here in China. Some <sup>are</sup> afraid she may have to go home. She has taken two Chinese examinations but has not been able to do much since. I too need to count my blessing for I have been out scarcely as long as she and in a few months more, can likely take the fourth. She may be stronger physically even than I but that does not count as much as being able to use one's head. She may be going to Hankow this week. But the next step may be home.

In my last letter I mentioned we were likely to have seven or eight baptisms the next Sunday including two or three women. It turned out there were only two women baptized but there were ten people in all. Two of the men also were from here and the rest were from the out-station and the country near.

We hope another year there will be a greater proportion of women. Quite a number are nearly ready for baptism. It means such a lot for even one to leave the things of the old life. Still it is not easy anywhere are any time "to take up the cross, and deny ourselves." When we learn that lesson better ourselves we may see more results.

It has been such a long time since I went to the out-station. But the Chinese helpers still advice against going because of the soldiers. One of the men of the Presbyterian mission may spend a night there ~~this~~ week. He has to go to one of their own out-stations further out and now that the days are short it is hard to make the trip all in one day.

You must have been disappointed not to have Isabelle bring Louise for her first Thanksgiving day. I hope they came home for Christmas. The Chinese have a saying that the girls a born



with a tendency to leave home and yours seem to have had that.  
There surely must be too much for you to do alone there. But perhaps  
the boys could help some. I suppose the girls could help more also. If  
they are no more help than I need to be they are not much use.  
It is about time for this letter to end but I do want to say  
I liked Gordon's letter.

With love to all of you,

Hazel Todd.

Jan 5, 1924

Feb. 4, 1924

Changteh, Hunan, China, Feb. 4, 1924.

Dear Mr. T. -

We are sitting up late tonight for a meeting with the Chinese. Tonight they watch their old year out and New Year in. The New Year comes about like our Easter sometimes earlier and sometimes later. They have so much that is false at this time that we must do what we can for that which is right.

We will be going soon to see a new foreign baby born very early this morning. It is over at the Holiness Mission. This makes the fourth child but when they were going home on furlough the oldest of the three they had then died in Japan. That was about the time I came to China. And this new baby is the first they have had since. This makes the first foreign baby that really belonged to Changteh since Phyllis Mary Bannan nearly three years ago.

Nothing especial has happened here the last two weeks. I have been doing quite a bit of study again. My last section needs very little study now except to review. I will be glad to get it done because the work really ought to have about all one's time and attention. Of course the work itself requires no small amount of study such as preparing for meetings, reading tracts, etc.

Our washerwoman left us at the end of last week. But I think we can soon get a new one. The one we already had has a job in the hospital.

We got the bad news last week that one of the Leibenzell missionaries had died of blood poison. He had been here about a year and a half ago and had preached from the sixteenth chapter of John and had dwelt especially on the clause "yet a little while." The sad part of it is that he leaves a wife and four such little children. The oldest are twins four or five years old and there are two younger, one only a few months old. He had been in China eleven

years and she ten and they have not yet had furlough. What we can we try to give these German workers, they are so much harder pressed than we. The German and Swedish workers associated with the C. S. M. have always kept their funds separate from ours. But the British including not only those from England but also those from Canada, Australia, New Zealand and even one couple from India have their funds in a lump sum with that from America. If America had kept separate during the last three years we from there would have received a much more liberal allowance. Yet even then their funds are ever so much better than that from Germany. As a matter of fact though the last year or two the German's get most from good old U. S. A. But here we see those from other lands though as brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ. And I am afraid that more will be having to lay the burden down if they can not get away for rest.

This afternoon we had ice cream again. The folks who came for afternoon tea brought Miss Chaffee had made a cake and I the icing. It is so damp I find it very hard to make and not have it sticky. It is raining again tonight. Last week we had about six inches of snow. It has been a very mild winter. All the other snow we have had melted coming down. I am afraid if the rain we are having now does not turn into snow we will have no more this winter. We have kept a fire very little this winter. And we do not want to do so now. We do not want to buy wood. Everything is a great deal more expensive just now during Chinese New Year season. That lasts about two weeks.

Our Chinese evangelist resigned last week. He is getting rather old and childish. His most probable reason for resigning was because he wants more money. He sees other evangelists getting more money

On the other hand perhaps they are worth more. It is a little hard to say how we will get on but we are worried more about him than ourselves. One of the church members from here who will probably be willing to act as evangelist here will graduate from Dr. Keller's Bible school at Changsha in June. In the mean time Mr. Bannan and those from other missions as well as our own church members will help out. The old man thought that when he threatened to resign that would compell us to give him more money and exhort him to stay as had happened on one other occasion. But you know father used to say that when the hired man got where he thought he knew it all it was time to let him go. And it is all the more true with this work. We might all of us just as well face the fact that we will never be indispensable in the Lord's work.

This is Tuesday afternoon and it has rained almost steadily since last evening. After the heavy snow of last week it is not just needed but on the other hand will do no harm.

Your letter and that of the children's came last week. I am glad you got the package alright and on time. Mail was not going very regularly at the time it was sent. I am not surprised that Isabelle and Alice divided the satin. I thought of doing the same but thought there was a possibility they might not want it that way. And I am sure it was easier to cut it into than it would be to sew it together again. I wish I could have afforded something ever so much nicer.

We are going to see the new baby so will close

With love to all,

Hazel Todd.

Feb. 20, 1924

Changteh, Hunan, China, Feb. 20, 1924.

Dear Mother:-

The time has more than gone past to write to you again. It would be a good thing if I were not so lazy. But each day brings that days work even if there is not the washing and ironing and a lot of other such things most women have to do. School has not been in session either. That always means a little more work.

We are out at the out station again. We got ready and came yesterday. Only the getting ready was spread over several days. To get ready for two weeks we have to not only bring clothes but also bedding, food and the books, tracts, and pictures for the meetings, yes and hymn sheets for they do not have books and some simple remedies such as castor oil, quinine and soda. In all it takes as much baggage as it would for a year at home. We have a room in the house for our use. It contains a cane bottom bed, a table and some chairs. The wooden floor has perhaps never been moped. In fact it reminds me of a barn room. Fortunately we only need to live in it two months in a year.

We got here about noon yesterday so after getting settled we went out for an hour or so. We did not stop very long except at one home where we have been many times before. We might not have even went in if the little grandchildren the oldest there only seven or eight years old urged us to go in. We are always sure of a welcome when the children want us to go. We wonder why the woman there does not become a christian. She understands quite a lot. It must either some sin or fear of people's opinions that holds her back. And yet we wonder why either of these should hold her.

Instead of going on to tell what happened here. I must go back to the last few days at the station. A Finnish couple came to Changteh a few weeks ago to be near a doctor. One of the doctors of course took them into his

home and he and his wife did all they could for the woman. But from the first the doctor was fearful. The husband had to back to the station but got back only a few hours before she was taken sick. The baby was born dead and the mother went only a few hours later. Fortunately he was prepared for what happened for he said that all along when they looked for some promise from the Lord they got a warning. They had Chinese service at the Presbyterian chapel Sunday morning at nine o'clock. About all of us missionaries in the city went to it. But not all of us went to the burial service afterwards. Those who went could not get back to the city until the middle of the afternoon. And on Sunday of course we have the most to do. They buried the baby in the same coffin with the mother. They had dressed it up and its sweet little face made it look like a doll.

Our evangelist changed his mind about leaving so for which we are glad. We could scarcely get on without him. But we hope to hire the young man now in the Bible school in Changsha as soon as he graduates. There is as much as two men can do in our station. There is some new work that needs to be opened up and what we already have is all the men we have now can care for.

Last week we went to a feast in the home of one of the Christians. She made the feast to invite some heathen women in whom we would otherwise seldom get a chance to preach to. One of the young women had read the books of Confucius. Not one woman hardly in a thousand has done that. Anyway we had a good chance to preach the gospel.

Yesterday we had about thirty women out and today only twenty. We hope the attendance does not keep on falling off. The weather has been very good and looks like it might be changing today. The way we do is to go out calling in the morning and then in the afternoon have a meeting. The best plan seems to be for me to speak first and then the Bible woman. Then she can make anything I have not made clear, clear to them. Lots of women are here from

further out in the country. And some of them are so stupid. They know it too and so often make no effort to learn anything. Most of them can learn quite a lot if we have patience in teaching and they put their minds to it. Yesterday we preached about the man in the fifth chapter of John who was ill 35 years. And today we preached about the rich man and Lazarus. By the way one of our old women in Changteh has read clear through the gospel of Matthew and started in on the gospel of John since last June. Those of us who know what a job it is to learn Chinese characters know that is no small job.

Mr. Bannan started to Shanghai this week. They will have to wait three weeks there before being married. Miss Hurty whom he expects to marry was to have started from Australia two weeks ago. He sent us back one of his beds to use when we have company. Miss Chaffee and I each have our own but we are glad to have another for company. They will live in a house that is already furnished. So there are quite a number of things from the house he will still not want. We foreigners are all supposed to know what is going to happen and the Chinese not. The other day ~~when~~ when they brought in the bed the gate-keeper asked me where Mr. Bannan was moving too and somebody had to change the subject. It is good thing not to understand too well at times.

I got Alice's letter last week enclosing the two dollars. I wish there was more time to write and thank her for it. As little as I get done you would think I could do a lot of letter writing.

But this letter must close unless I think of something more tomorrow. I have spent a good part of the evening talking with the Bible woman. So many things in the Bible I like to talk over with her to get her viewpoint and to be a help one to the other. She sometimes tells me, "you do not know how dark our hearts are."

With love to all of you,

Hazel Todd.

Changteh, Hunan, China.

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國

Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

Feb. 22, 1924

H I H S M C



8, 1924

Changteh, Hunan, China, May, 18, 1924.

Dear Mother:-

I am late again about writing. This letter should have been written last week. But just did not get it done. And because yesterday was a hard day about all I am getting done today is to pack up to go to the country tomorrow. The children came out very well. There were thirty-seven in all. I hope the time will come when we can divide them up for teaching the lesson. Their ages range from babyhood up to the "teen" age. When I got through there was a note here from the Christian Missionary Alliance asking me to come over and take the evening prayer-meeting with the school girls. That school numbers about seventy-five pupils but only about forty <sup>were</sup> present last evening. I wish you could have heard those girls pray. That did one good to hear and also to hear what they prayed for. The father of one girl works in an evangelistic band very much like Dr. Kellar's band and she prayed for her father in his work. In all it is a very real prayer-meeting even though they are only girls. My own message was on the prayer of Elisha that his servant's eyes might be opened. I told the one who invited me before speaking that she would not ask me over again. But she has asked me now to come over and speak to all the girls in the school. This is only just telling you and not for the purpose of bragging. I was thinking last night that after all while it does take such a long time to prepare to do things like that yet it is most certainly worthwhile. After all my work seems scarcely begun.

Since my last letter the most important happening here was the meeting of the Presbyterians ~~last~~ week. Two or three branches have joined together for this. I mean branches of the Presbyterian church. We only saw those who came on their social evening when all the other missions in the city were invited too. I do not know whether they would let us in on it or not. Our station of course is run on Presbyterian lines. Of course the C. I. M. might not permit it. On the other hand the church of England branch of the C. I. M. and their missionary branch work together, meet together and are governed by the same men. Of course they have their own corner a thousand or so miles away so what

they do does not have much to do with us. We all have enough room out here. We had a good time the evening we did see those who came. They invited us over for a lap supper and then they all sang and spoke the rest of the evening. We did have a good time. The next day some of them came over for the prayer meeting at our mission.

Last week we also had two of the others come over for supper and stay all night. We do not have so much company every week. But one of those who came is a nurse in the hospital and needed a change.

I wish we could stay longer when we go to the country but we must get back by the end of next week because of more people going through. This time we expect six people going up. They will want to get through as fast as possible because the hot weather is coming on. Fortunately the farther they go up the cooler it gets. I'm going up they have to cross some rather dangerous rapids. But they say the scenery is wonderful.

It is too bad we cannot divide up some of the rain with you. Just now we can not get meat of any kind. In order to please the idols and induce them to make it stop raining they have stopped killing animals for food. The idea is to not do so either until it does stop so we are playing we are vegetarians a few days. Have you read that serial children's story in the "King's Business"? While it is supposed to be a true story most of it is so very different from what I know of China. In the first chapter it speaks of this mother and daughter having a ham sent them from America. For the most part hams here are two or three times cheaper than they would be in America. And sometimes there is even a great deal more difference to say nothing of postage. There are many other things that to me seem just as strange. But of course they were in another part of China and China is a big place. The pigeon English seems the strangest of all. In our part of China the only Chinese who make any attempt to speak English to us are teachers in the new learning, post office officials or those who get big salaries with some foreign firm. Much less would they speak pigeon English among themselves. Of course in big cities some coolies learn a little English but that is not in the interior where the scene of that story is supposed to be laid. You probably see a lot more about China that is just as

far from being true to life. It is those who come out and stay a few weeks who generally do the writings. It is like bringing up children those who know more about it do not generally have so much to say. Those who have been out here thirty or forty years do not have so much to write. Some time when I can afford to I would like to buy a few books on China by those who know what they are talking about.

I am almost sure I have written about receiving the Lindsay paper. It has come quite regularly. For the most part I like it very much. If only I had some ambition a letter might have been written to them.

We have made three attempts since my things were packed up to get to the out-station and at last we are here. The first day we missed the boat. The second day when I should have told the Bible woman to get ready to come it was raining. This morning the weather was fine. Most of the Presbyterians were on the boat going on farther to a mission meeting. They will be back the next day. It seems good to be back here. People are far more friendly than they have been before. So many recognize me now but how little difference that makes. The big thing is whether or not they recognize ~~our~~ Lord. If only they would get to know Him how splendid it would be. We saw one blind woman we had met when we were here before. That time we had taught her a prayer she still can repeat. The daughter opposed us as much as she could. And this time we would have liked to teach her a verse but we did not succeed. It takes a lot more patience to deal with the spiritual babies and those who are lost than it ever would with real children. The Lord still must do a lot for me before coming to be a true shepherd of the flock such as one should be.

There are some other things to be written I can not seem to think of now. Your letter written in April came last week. I do not have



June 2, 1924

Changteh, Hunan, China.

Dear Mother:-

It has been ever so long since I have written but longer since hearing from you people. The main thing that takes up our time just now are the people passing through but after the people who are here now are gone we may have no more until fall. The first party are going up river and because the water is so high they are not yet far away. They were seven in all a doctor and his wife and three children and a new doctor and a new young woman. These were Germans. The children spoke both German and Chinese but no English. So I did not talk with them much as their dialect is a bit different than the one here. One little boy had chicken pox and their mother did not get much because of not being well. But they mostly amused themselves. They staid nearly a week.

The second party were also four grown up people and three children. The oldest couple had a little girl with them about seven years old. Their three older children are in school. They are going to spend the summer with the children and then leave them all in Chefoo while they go home on furlough. The others had two very small children. One was two and a half years old he was sick while here and did a lot of crying things began wrong when he first got here when he threw a lot of eggs out onto the walk. But the little sister ten months old is named Joy and she lived up to her name while here. They are going to Australia and New Zealand first and then to California if they can afford it. He has a brother who graduated from the Institute last year. He was there only such a short time before I left that I can not remember him. But what seemed more important to them I did remember

the young woman who is ~~not~~ their sister-in-law. Of course they had never seen her. I invited them to go and see you folks but the expense may stop them from going to California. And it will be a year probably before they go there at the least. ~~And~~ ~~the~~ people who are here now are one from Canada and one from Kentucky. They have been little they ~~two~~ years old. ~~On~~ ~~the~~ way down from the station they were robbed. Among other things the wedding and engagement rings were taken. Kweichow province where these people except the Germans were so dangerous. And it almost impossible to send things up to them as they are so apt to be taken on the way. These last people may not go home on furlough now. But they had to come on account of her eyes. It is so near their furlough time though that they may go home before they go back to their province.

One of the women from Chungteh left for furlough ~~this~~ ~~morning~~ ~~and~~ ~~was~~ ~~mentioned~~ ~~in~~ ~~my~~ ~~last~~ ~~letter~~. She did not expect to go home for another year. But her sister died leaving ten children all under eighteen and the baby is only nine months old. In the family are one or two pair of twins. It is doubtful whether she will ever get back to China. She left things though as she would if she were coming back. When she went home before it was when her mother died and she thought she would need to look after her father. Then he married again and she packed up and came back to China. She had with her one of the others in the house who needs to get away to the hills early.

We have not been to the out. station since my last letter. We might have gone this week if they had not been moving. The Bible woman's husband has gone to look after

the place. And one of the deacons has gone to sell books and take the services. And the evangelist has come down here to help until we come back from the hills in the fall. Perhaps it will be a good plan all around. But we really should have an evangelist for each place.

Last week we went outside of the city for prayer meeting. The water is high and there is such a swift current that it only took half an hour to get there but two and a half to get back. Two of the city gates have been closed some days to keep the water out of the place. Of course this city is built on the bank of the river and the wall which is fifteen feet high and several feet thick is some protection in case of floods even if for no other purpose. Of course they <sup>are</sup> a little help against robbers or in case of fire.

This is June 2 George's birthday. He must be nearly as tall as you are. People along with ages are so apt ask about how many brothers and sisters we have. One of them said once that they would not all know me when I go home. But one of the foreigners who heard it said it would be more likely for me not to recognize them as they are the ones who change. She may be mistaken however for my memory for faces often does help me out. I am beginning to see it means even more to them to have us recognize them and then there are often other things that makes it mean a lot to know them. But while on the subject when the kodak was sent me for Christmas I often wished it had been used or some other to take snapshots of some of the folks at home.

The children's meeting is not growing as it might. Last Sunday there were twenty-two. They were better also than most any children I ever taught at home. There are four of them now who know the twenty-third Psalm. One suggested learning the

June 2, 1924

Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

June 2



June 19, 1924

Changteh, Hunan, China, June 19.

Dear Mother:-

I am starting this letter here and hope to finish it on the boat. It would suit me better to wait until week after next or at least until next week. But the boat we want to go on is here and is not likely to come up again because the water is low. Also Mrs Chaffee is about played out. But even she had not planned ~~had not~~ to go so soon. But ~~some one~~ else is to blame for our going so soon. Mr. Bannan reserved a cabin on the boat and then wrote us about it. He always does seem to want to look after us. Sometimes we need it. It is good thing for Miss Chaffee to get away. His new wife is a trained nurse and no doubt she has had her hand in it.

We had a very good time in the country where I was the last time I wrote. If we had not went on the day we did we would not have got to go. It came out of the Bible's woman's son getting beyond her control so she could not manage him so we went to take him to his father. His father does not want ~~him~~ either so we had ~~to~~ rather we did bring him back. The boy is in his teens and has consumption and is so bad. But we had the best time we ever had there. We planned to stay a week and were there ten days and then I was not ready to come away. Some of these sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ become very dear to us. And sometimes I do not like to go away and leave them. Paul must have felt it very keenly when he had to leave some of his new converts as he "committed them to the Lord on whom they had believed and went on and left them.

Those who come up out of heathens surroundings meeting temptations we never knew. How we do long after them at times. We know that the Good Shepherd knows all His sheep by name. And if we ever get to have a heart life His we must do the same. It costs tremendously to do things.

and feel about things as he would have us do. Yet we realize more and more is nothing and even less than nothing in comparison with what He did for us. One old woman was exhorting me not to go away this summer. She said it is not very hot now and if it does get hot said she would come and fan me. And at the out-station one or two are so young in the faith ~~are so~~ young. These first fruits are so precious. We have one perhaps the newest of all converted only four months ago. She is just my age and is the step-mother of three boys. Her husband is an official and so many are looking to see how she does and gets along. We ought to do a lot of praying for her. Another woman the Lord gave us last year is doing well. It truly is one by one so far as we are concerned but some of them will probably be able to do far more than we ever can. While there we had meetings nearly every day. Three times over twenty women came. And we had other opportunities besides. Those who came those three times were brought in by the other inquirers. Because the Bible woman was sick we did not get to go out much. One day we had been out and just came in when two simple old country women came in. One of them when asked why they came said "we have heard people say that you could tell how a person's soul can be saved and came in to ask about it." The Bible woman then preached to them a long time. In fact we both ~~preached~~ ~~with~~ them and at the end prayed with them.

Some of this letter looks like hen scratches but when the boat is moving it is like sitting in a rocking chair or worse for we do not know which way we will jiggle next.

This letter was started while some of the school children were taking an examination in Bible. One wrote that Abraham built

the ark. Another said that Moses was swallowed by a big fish. It takes ones down after trying so hard to teach them and then to get things so twisted. On the other had one boy from a heathen home in answer to the question about what danger Moses met with when a baby wrote about Pharaoh wanting to kill the babies, his being adopted by Pharaoh's daughter, and his mother being hired to care for him and then ended up that it was because God took care of him that he was saved. Teaching the children is no easy task!

I have arrived at Hankow. We got here yesterday which was Sunday and we are going out this evening. We have been buying a few things today. We bought a double boiler and a few other things for the kitchen that we are leaving here until fall.

Yesterday I got a package from Toronto. There were a number of little things in it. But the main thing was a pretty light weight tan sweater. It is made slip over style and has brown stripes at the bottom. It will be fine for cool evenings at the hills. Our money is much better now than in the fall and winter but even now we would not buy much in the way of clothes. I have one new ready made dress though and cloth for another one so ought to be able to make that do.

I had thought of staying here several days but they insist on my going right on up to Peking. Going so early we ought to come back earlier. One reason they wanted us to come early is because they were afraid there might be fighting again in Changteh. It sound rather cowardly but if it is so I am

just as happy to be away from there for the time at least. Of course we feel sorry for the people. But we could do little if there. And the men missionaries go to such a lot of worry and trouble about us when there is any danger we like to save them the trouble if we can.

This letter must close now and be mailed. The rest of the news can be saved until next time.

With love to all,  
Hazel Todd.

June 19, 1924



Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

June 19, 1924

- JUNE 25, 1924

Huling, Kiangsi, China, June 25, 1924.

Dear Alice:-

Please forgive me for waiting so long to write and then going at it with a pencil. Some of my things have not arrived here yet, and I fear some of them are on the way getting soaking wet. We are having a pouring down rain. I would much rather have things under a roof than being carried up the hill.

You may wonder why I have not written. But between you and me and the gate post I have not known what to say. It made me feel a lot worse though, <sup>to</sup> find out about your hair being cut than to hear the people out here shooting guns and doing some of the other things. Probably it is all my fault we have grown so far apart and I am sorry as can be about it. For you enjoy that sort of thing and it makes me want to weep. Our long hair may be a nuisance to care for at times but since we have it we have no right to cut it. We must always remember that there is a kind of conforming to the fashion of this world that while it may be pleasing to men may be decidedly not pleasing to the only One whose good pleasure we do seek or care anything about. You can not know how thankful I am that Glenn is not the sort of young man who cares for that sort of thing. I would have been better pleased still if he had let you alone until your hair had time to grow. This is enough on the subject but this is only the beginning of what there is to say.

Your letter also came about the linen. That is coming latter. There will be two luncheon cloths with a half dozen napkins to match each and two dresser scarfs. It is not so much lack of time as lack of opportunity that has made me neglect it. These will all be light weight linen.

When you wrote about your engagement, I wish could have been as happy about it as you were. But if the Lord had His way in the matter it will surely be alright. But those things are much too serious for us to decide for ourselves, much less let anyone else do it for us. But now do not forget that we give the Lord first place in our lives and if we ever give Him second place we will live to regret it.

My things have come since this letter was begun but I will finish in pencil just the same. Some things were wet. But most of the things I care most about were dry. That was because the more common things were packed at the top and bottom. The box was lined with blue cloth and few things have some blue on them. The outside is covered with Chinese pigskin but the rain went through. You can imagine it was quite a rain. I will be glad when the sun comes out so things can be dried. But if does not clear off soon we will have to use a charcoal fire. That method dries things but also smokes.

It seems good to get here again. There is more going on than I care for but perhaps that is my laziness. My chief desire is to get ready for fall in every way. Preparing some of the food for the sheep and to get some other study done. Of course I have fulfilled the law so far as that is concerned but who wants to stop there? I am only up with about the fifth grade in knowing Chinese and that is not enough to suit me. There are always such a lot of meetings to go to up here also. One of the teachers who was in B. J. when I was there will be here this summer. Also Dr. Cleland B. McAfee one of the head men in the Presbyterian church is expected to be here to speak. So we will have a treat in that sort of thing. You see that we do not deserve any pity. We get a chance to meet and hear the very finest

of people. Anyway most of us would not be in any  
hurry to go down but we want to see our own  
people again. It is not even that kind of good time though  
that we like but it is just the consciousness that we are  
not the world's to be and that something like it.

Saturday because we wanted green peas  
tell me. Note if you are here a note to her I never really  
saw flies before. The two old maids have a pair of cats. And  
there are two kittens. At last the mother cat had them outside.  
Then she put them upstairs and later in the garret. After she  
moved away I went up there alone Chinese morning prayers  
to get something. A few seconds later my legs felt like they  
were hundreds of pins sticking in them. And when I looked  
my stockings looked like they had been liberally peppered with  
them. It looks like for every half inch there was one. But I  
took no pains to look but tore away a stitch I had on my  
my suit and put in a my stop bucket and filled it with  
water in less time than it takes to tell about it. Then I picked  
off flies and killed them until bell rang for prayers. I had to  
lead that morning but had a rather warm time doing it  
for no less than twenty of the things had to be picked off after  
prayers. I kept on fighting them the two days before we left. That  
night I dreamed they were eating me alive. From now on  
no cats live in our house and for fear of getting into such  
a congregation of flies again I hope to have my own canvas  
cot in the hall for taking to my country. But in justice to them  
I saw many times more flies than anything I have seen all the  
rest of the time I have been here.

My last letter had all the news so this must close.

With much love,

Hazel Todd,

Changteh,

Hunan,

China



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Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

1924



July 7, 1924

Dear Mother:-

Huling, Kiangsi, China July 7, 1924.

It has become too dark to study now at six o'clock because of a very heavy fog so will see if there is light enough to see to write by. It is nice and cool up here and we are having rain about every day. In fact we are having too much rain. Both now and three years ago this place has reminded me so much of Sierra Madre. And when it rains the water runs off just as fast. Also the soil is gravel like that. But it is down below they are having floods. One place not far from here about a hundred people were drowned. Also many people on the way here are delayed. So much of the time one needs a sweater and one has to cover up at night. Of course when it stops raining it will not be so cool. But it is comfortable most of the time here. Just for a few minutes now you would almost think the rain would dissolve things.

Your letter came this week speaking about your dream about my coming home. It seems a long way off even yet. Yet the time is almost half way up. A lot of work must be done before that comes. So many of <sup>the</sup> things get so we do not care to go home except to see our own people. In talking with someone last week who has been out here twelve years, she said "now that father and mother are gone what is there to go home for?" So many seem to be like that. That woman's father and mother have both died since she came to China. We like our brothers and sisters of course but on the other hand we yearn after the sheep out here not because of their strength and good points as much as because of their weakness and faults. They have plenty of faults too and so many things we look on as big sins they seem to think are alright. It almost makes one's head swim to even listen to some of the things.

I'm passing through Hankow I got weighed. I now weigh 135 pounds just about the same as four years ago. Everyone says the first two or three years are the hardest out here. Of course later on they get tired. But at first people are so much more apt to become ill in other ways. Perhaps one reason is they do not know so well at first how to care for themselves.

About the biggest nuisance here are the peddlers. There must be well over twenty come everyday. Many sell hand made lace and embroidered things, others sell beads and all sorts of such trinkets including candle-sticks and bells, others sell fruit, others baskets of all kinds. In addition there are lots of tailors and shoe makers. Most of them speak a little English and like to air it but with the greater number one ought to be able to talk prices with them in Chinese.

One thing I like up here are the walks but I feel already like going back to Changteh or somewhere else to get to work. This hill and the hills around it is beautiful. And one thing that makes the place more attractive is that everything is green. The houses are most of them built with gray stone. Some houses have roofs painted green, others are black or red. It really is quite a village up here for in the summer time well over two thousand people come. There are lots of new houses built since three years ago. But in the winter time there probably are not many over two hundred. And most of those are school children or invalids. And of course some one must be here to take care of them. There are two boarding schools that take in children from six years old up. One school is for American children the other is for the English children. There are also two hospitals up here. One has special arrangements for the tuberculosis patients. Tuberculosis is so very common here in China.

This letter has been set aside for two or three days. Saturday I had to move from one room to another besides do some other odds and ends. Yesterday being Sunday I did not write. And today I studied a little, went to hear a lecture and went out for the afternoon. I went to see two of those I met the first winter in China. One was the housekeeper in the house where we first study the language. The other began to study Chinese about the same time as I did. Yesterday for the first time in China I met Mrs. Rutledge. Mr. Rutledge is busy at Changsha this summer so can not come. Generally Dr. Keller does not come away for the summer but this year he has gone home on furlough so Mr. Rutledge needs to stay to look after things. Mrs. Rutledge looks better even than she did in Los Angeles. She was there in Los Angeles more than a year of

the time I was there.

There are so many people on the way here who are hindered because of floods. I have not heard recently from Changteh but we know the people there have been afraid there would be a flood this year and have strengthened the inner embankments considerably. It looked like they hardly expected those nearest the river to hold. In Changsha they say the river rises twenty feet in normal flood time and this year it has risen thirty-nine feet. They say also that in the American Consulate building there the water has come up to the second storey. But we foreigners are not the ones to suffer from a thing like that. There must be a great loss of life among the Chinese and a terrible loss of property. Our Mission property is all quite high so there is no need to fear for it. Also almost all of our things of any value are upstairs. We have to look after things anyway before we leave not only because of dampness but also because of white ants.

I am having my winter coat I brought out turned to the wrong side. Four winters have made it look shabby on the sleeves especially. Also I am having one old dress turned over. But I must have my new voile dress made soon. Possibly while up here I will also get a plain dress made for everyday. Some of my everyday things are getting worn out. Also we have to have extra things because it is so hard at times to have things washed and dried. One can do with less if things can be washed one day and ironed the next.

This letter has rambled all over again and since I have run out of things to say had better stop.

With love to all

Hazel Todd,  
Changteh,  
Hunan,  
China.

Hazel Todd,  
Changteh, Hunan.

July 7, 1924



Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

July 7, 1924

July 22, 1924

Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

July 22, 1924

July 22, 1924

Nanking, Kiangsi, China, July 22, 1924.

Dear Mother

Up here on the hill where we do not seem to have anything to do we see it get around to write even less so than before we are having a good time. But what three years ago would be for me a great deal seems very different now. It is not easy at first to learn to get along with people of other nationalities. And especially the English have ways so different from ours. And most of the people in the house I am staying are English; later as well we get to like them. I am in a room with two others both Finnish ladies. One was a high school teacher before coming to China and the other is almost equally well educated. Both can speak six or eight languages. In a mission like ours we get to see the best of what is in other countries besides our own. And it is worth something just to get to be a little broader minded in some respects. In the room next to me is a son of Hudson Taylor the founder of the mission. Both he and his wife seem like very fine people. There are very few Americans in the house containing more than thirty. Among those few are Mr. Strothers Christian Endeavor secretary for China and his wife. Besides the most of them have been in China twenty or more years. Some people would not care for them for company but I would. We have a lot to learn from them.

I had some other things come yesterday. Everything is just fine but I am afraid you robbed yourself. The hat is very pretty one and I shall enjoy wearing it. And Iabelle put such a lot of work on the dress. She made every thing else so well also. And the ribbon is so pretty. I need something like it for the brown serge dress I brought out just for a small bow in front. Also I had my white dress made for graduation made over and the collar of that now opens in front and will use a bow for that. I had been using a small piece of black ribbon but will enjoy a change. It looks like the under things would last until furlough the skirt too for that matter. The way the women wash our things with no rub board or wringer seems to make them last longer. Only I intend to wash the dress myself when it needs it because I want it to look nice a long time.

Last night we had a great treat in having the chance to hear

Dr. Evans was in town. He gave lectures at several places for five days, three days on the Pacific and two days on Episcopians. He also preached Sunday morning at Los Angeles the first of the week. I was there. Before the meeting was over a lot about him was said but afterwards some of the people in the house said I had not heard too much. Dr. Evans is a young man, than Dr. Torrey and not so well known. But his subject matter is just about as good and he is a much better speaker than Dr. Torrey. So everyone who enjoyed hearing him that is those who are orthodox do. While here the School of Religious Education had the nerve to ask for the church building at that hour suggesting that perhaps there were those who would like to attend both and that his meetings might be put at some other hour than had been announced. The matter was then passed before those who came the first time and out of more than a hundred people two or three wished to attend both. Thus it proved as the leader had said that there were not many who wanted to attend Dr. Evans' lectures who also wanted to attend the School of Religious Education. That organization is not much interested in the Bible except as a place from which to get text or to pick it to pieces but is far more concerned about social service.

It came back from the tailor looking like new. Of course when it was turned they had to work new button holes. But they mended the place where the old ones were so well that unless one knew where they were you could hardly find them. There was also a hole burnt in the cuff and since it came back I can not find the place because it is mended so well. It cost a little over two dollars to have it done but it certainly looks like a new coat. Chinese tailors are much better at mending over old things than making something new.

While Dr. Evans was here last week they had a reception for him and invited those who had been at the Moody Bible Institute or at Los Angeles. There were nine of us from Los Angeles and about twice as many from Moody Institute. The best part of the program was the talk Dr. Evans gave us. I met a few from Los Angeles that I had not met before. Also I met one young woman from Moody Institute who has gone through Changteh many times when I was not there. It is good to have a chance



like that to get better acquainted.

My examination papers came back from the examiners last week. This time the paper was marked 91. Not a high mark of course but I never will shine on language work. At any rate once and for always the required work on the language is done. But I often feel like only a beginning had been made. Now that I do not have to study I seem to enjoy it all the more. More than that it will be good to get back to the plains and at work out in the country and children and women are so much in need of the gospel. It will be about a month yet before we go back.

I have word again that the Draffins are expected back soon. They were to have left Australia the early part of the month. They are going to take the oldest little girl to school and then come down to go on to their station about the first of September. I wish I were going back to be with them but probably there is no such thing going to happen. Ruth the little girl they are leaving in school was six years old in May. She has already been in kindergarten in Australia but she does seem rather young to be so far away from her parents. We all think that is a hardship of missionary life. But Ruth has had malaria most of the time since they have been at home on furlough and has not been able to throw it off there and at their station it is much worse for that. Also the things they are likely to learn from the Chinese is likely to be much worse than to have bad health.

I am glad Charlie got through grammar school. I suppose both he and George will be in high school this year. They all seem to be growing up so fast. I alone seem not to chance and yet that end of next year I may become a senior missionary. That sounds old and dignified does it not? And yet to think of that and all it means my heart indeed says "not worthy." We may choose other callings but this one calls us. Our hearts, hands and feet are not clean enough to choose it for ourselves. And when it comes to being the high priests unto the people we should be carrying their burdens upon our hearts and shoulders and the marks of holiness we should have we realize our own strength is worse than useless. It is all His love, His strength and His holiness, yes and His wisdom.

With much love,  
Hazel Todd.

Changteh,  
Hunan,  
China

Aug 2, 1924

Aug 2, 1924



Mrs C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

Aug. 2, 1924

Xuling, Kiangsi, China, Aug. 2, 1924

Dear Mother:-

We are still up here on the mountain and will be for another three weeks. By a month from now school will be starting and during September I want to do as much work as is possible right in Changteh except for a few days or a week at the out-station. And from the first of October until the end of the year there ought to be two months work done in the out-station and the villages around it. This is planning long ahead I know for there is a bare possibility of my being moved somewhere else. And we never do get indispensable anywhere. If we ever think we do we get some teaching on the subject soon.

Nothing very unusual has happened recently. This week has been the Xuling Conference. The Modernists have had full sway from beginning to end. So I have considered their conference a good place to stay away. Mr. Strothers the secretary of the Christian Endeavor Society for China and many others are thinking of making a protest. There may be need of doing something more than to protest.

We can not listen to the things we have been hearing this week. Less has been said in private than in public. But among the things he said in private are that the notes in the Schofield Bible are poisonous and most dangerous. ~~He also~~ This main speaker said was that evolution was as much an established fact as any fact in the universe and that the third chapter of Genesis had better be rewritten. We of the C. I. M. do not naturally think very much of such a man. The Bible Union no doubt will have something to say about the matter next week. I wish when Dr. Evans and Dr. Mc Innis were here we could have heard them more often.

Our most recent news from Changteh was of the floods. The water was almost up to the top of the inside embankment. I hope that does not break. They were using boats on some of the streets outside the wall. How I wish that you might have had some of our over abundance of rain during the spring. Some things like that we may sometimes think could be divided more evenly.

I like that ribbon Isabelle sent better almost every time I look at it. It is not on a hat but used for a sash going around twice as she probably intended it to be. It does match my new vide at night but that

I had let the Chinese tailor put strings on of the material. It is trimmed only in needlwork done in black. Around the neck and the bottom of the sleeves are flowers done in chain stitch. And on each side of front almost forming a yoke is smocking. There is also smocking in the front and back below the waist. It is joining the smocking that the strings are put. It really is a pretty dress whether it sounds so or not. So far I have only worn it once and that was to go to a lecture.

This year I have not gone for such long walks as last year. I seem to be far more lazy than even then. Of course one reason is that we do so little walking at Changteh. So often we are in a hurry and must take a ricksha when we do go out. But with all my sitting down work I weigh less than years ago when on my feet so much more. Perhaps though from now on up here I will walk more. And I am always promising myself to study less and get out more but it never seems to come to pass. But you know just about how well I like books and to study them.

It is a problem even now to buy things for Christmas to return for what we always get there in Changteh. We have such a strange variety of things to choose from. It is just possible some in the homeland may like the Chinese things but out here neither Chinese or foreigners care for them as much as foreign. In foreign things it is mostly cheap stuff from Japan with a price that is not low. Perhaps though the trouble is that we all try to hard to get something for nothing. Really good things whether Chinese or foreign always do cost. We saw some beautiful vases and small boxes lately of Chinese lacquer work done on silk anyone would liked it. But it was anything but cheap. The same is true of some of the handwork or the things done in stone, silver or brass. But brass is great deal cheaper than one would expect here.

We may go for a couple of picnicks this week. We will not have anything unusual to eat but will just be out for the day. It is only in the summer time we can spare time for such larks as that. But I wish we were back in Changteh or some place else. Kuling has its charms but there is something better.

This letter was started Saturday but could not be finished then because I had such a headache. So I am finishing this letter on your birthday. I hope you are having a good time and

that you did not have to work so hard. It often does seem that we girls have helped so very little. And now you will be having only Winifred to help. I sometimes think now that we young people are inclined to get altogether too much interested in our own affairs. Perhaps the boys will have to learn to help also before it is too late.

I have been trying to do my hair up in a figure eight today. It is just as hard to manage as ever. But yet about the only time I ever have any real sympathy with the people who have their hair cut is when it comes time to wash it. Then I would gladly share some of my hair with other people. But to go back to the figure eight there is a little too much hair even for that. It is most too thick next to my head.

This letter is made up of odds and ends and nothing in it seems really worth while. As I said before there is no real news to write this time.

With love to all,  
Hazel Todd,  
Changteh,  
Hunan,  
China

Aug. 22, 1924

Xuling, Kiangsi, China. Aug. 22, 1924.

Dear Mother:-

Your welcome letter written last month came day before yesterday also the good letters from Winifred and from Gordon. I am always glad to hear from them although I so seldom write to them. Because I write so seldom they must think of me more as a very distant aunt than their very own big sister. When I see them again they will be so much changed. I am glad they are getting on in school. Someday they will far exceed what any of us older ones have done.

It was a disappointment to hear Father is so discouraged again about the place. Of course it has nothing to do with me unless my furlough when it does come has to be spent in California and even that would not really make much difference to other folks. We are ~~only~~ pilgrims and strangers here on the earth anyway. But you and Father ought to have a good quiet place to rest where so much thought does not need to be taken about money. The boys will have to locate themselves anyway in the end. Our fathers and mothers can do a lot for us up to a certain point but to make any life plans for us is usually beyond that and I hope Father will take that into ~~in a~~ <sup>in</sup> consideration in making a change. According to my opinion the best any father can do for a child is to give them a chance to get a good education. He may like to give them something else but the things that will be most useful will be what they work for themselves.

That was not the only disappointment that has come this week. But I was prepared for this one. Miss Chaffee for health reasons is not coming with me when I go back to Changteh and there is some doubt about her being able to return at all or not. So I will be all by myself this fall for a few weeks at least. The Draffins will come later in about two or three weeks after arriving there but whether they will stay or not or if they can send someone else has not yet been made plain. But it is one of the "all things" of Rom. 8:28 and I am sure things will be alright. The Chinese can be so helpful when they want to be. We have a good cook and good Bible woman and a fair teacher and evangelist. Besides that we have a book-seller and two door-keepers. Of course the book-seller and one door-keeper stay at the out-station. We have

quite a lot of things to talk over in the few days yet I am still to be here. Her winter clothes must be packed up and sent to her. Also most of her work may be turned over to me. Some of her work most probably will have to be dropped. I do not know what has gone wrong with her but it has something to do with her stomach. She always does have to be altogether too careful about what she eats. She is quite weak and just now is having to spend most of her time in bed.

I have already ordered coolies to carry my things and a chair to go down the hill a week from today. Probably I will be going with others all the way. And when we come to the end of our boat trip we are only about a half mile from the place where we live. The others there in Changteh always look after us so well that I sure there will be no trouble about going the rest of the way. Also each year my knowledge of language increases and that does make it some easier. Everyone says it is much more safe for us than for Chinese young women here and in some ways <sup>while</sup> traveling is not nearly as convenient as at home it is more safe.

Dr. McInnis who was here in Xuling some weeks ago is here again. This time he is only giving ~~lectures~~ lectures in English. I like to hear him just so well when he speaks to the Chinese because then one gets to hear how the things he has to say should be said in Chinese. I do not envy an interpreter's job for some speakers use such long sentences that one ought to have a good memory to remember it exactly as given. Also there are so many things that are hard to translate exactly. Nouns and verbs can usually be easily translated if they relate to common things. But abstract terms even when referring to anything as simple as a plan, compromise or reconcile are real problems sometimes and one can not stand a half hour to think of it. Then there are things that are very full of meaning to us that have no meaning to them such as love between husband and wife and many things related to the home. But the Bible itself they understand often better than we do. It seems to be the complicated things that are the hardest for them to translate and understand.

I have not written Sabelle yet to thank her for her part in sending the parcel. More than one has copied the princess slip and my dress is being copied also. Even though others have a dress like mine it does not make much difference for we separate in a few day and

will perhaps not see each other again. It is coming very near the time to go down the hill now. Then we will not have to be so particular about what we wear. We will then get on our working clothes, sweep down the walls and try to have the servants get the other things clean. But on whole I shall rather enjoy living alone a short time. I should like to go to the out-station for a couple of days before anybody else comes. If no one is there I could take the cook and that would be quite a help, not only in looking after the food but in many other things on the way coming and going. The round trip fare would be about twenty cents and we have to pay him by the month anyhow. If I were alone the out-station could still be looked after but how the villages around can be managed I do not yet know. That is a bridge that does not yet have to be crossed. By the time to do that perhaps someone will be raised for the work.

It has been warmer than it usually is up here this summer but the evenings have been nice and cool. So it has been a good time to rest. I have also studied in my Chinese Bible Esther, Job, Psalms 41-150 and Proverbs and have studied some in Chinese besides. I hope to study clear through my Mandarin Bible before coming home on furlough and do some other Chinese study besides, how much depends on other things that have to be done. We do not study all the time even though up here because we do attend a few concerts, lectures, etc. It is remarkable what good things they do have here. It is a real treat to hear some of the things. This week I heard one very good concert sang by more than fifty people. It was Spohr's "Last Judgment." It took about an hour and a half to sing it through. Of course part of the time is taken up by solos and duets.

You will not get much out of this letter I am sure but it is high time it was started off on its way. And I will try and write before getting back to Changteh.

With love to all,  
Hazel Todd,



Aug-22, 1924



Mrs. C. A. Todd,  
Strathmore,  
Calif.,  
U. S. A.

Aug 22, 1924