

[Stamp for the Palace Hotel, Shanghai China]

Jan. 10.17

Dearest mother,

We have just a batch of newspapers + among them the one you sent containing F.A.L. [Arnele?]. How horrid he is [illegible] is when he is funny! You sent me Dr. Shaw's article too that came out in the Ledger. I rec'd that 3 or 4 days ago; thank you so much for both. I should not have seen either if you had not sent them, and I am so interested to have them. Bob is interested in the Evening Ledger. I glanced

thro a Survey after reading Frank's flippancy and am now going to read "China in [illegible]." We drove out to Zi Ka Wei after lunch, a very nice quick [house?], a coachman and footman + nice [illegible] costs \$2. for the whole afternoon, from 2 to 7 p.m. Did you ever? We only had it from 2.30 to 4.30 and it got cold + home seemed cozy. So we came in + had chocolate + buttered toast + jam in our sitting room. Such a beautiful room looking right out on the river. Bob with many groans is going out at 7 to do something with Dr. McCracker + I am just going to have a

nice peaceful evening, no dinner (have had enough at tea) + early bed. I use a pink scarf you once knitted for me every night with such comfort. My one warm nightie wore out, so I bought 2 new ones yesterday. They are hideous but comfortable. With Louise's black bed socks + Esthers knitted sack + wound up like a cocoon in that beautiful blue blanket Louise knitted for me a year ago I am very happy. Also Louise's [Jaeger?] blanket + Esther's rug on top. It is [underlined] grand [/underlined] to have enough cover!

We drove home by the Zikawei

Creek + saw the strangest human dwellings, little matting houses, just one small room about the size of a tent, to house a big family. There were scores + scores of them + hundred of brats with the matting just propped over in the middle. Big family living in them. They take up a couple of boards in the floor + a lot get into a space about a foot high (under the floor) + sleep there. You never could imagine a country of such rags + poverty . The rags seem to be literally dripping from them, like the little picture I sent Louise.

I am going to Canton on Wednesday or Thurs next week. Dr. McC. wanted me to go down

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with him this week, but I couldn't bear to leave B. until we get our sitting room looking like home, [gold fish?] etc. So I shall [find?] Dr McC there + come back with him. I don't want to be gone more than 10 days anyway. Everyone says Canton [underlined] is [/underlined] China, and I am sure it will be very interesting. Only not half or quarter so nice as it would be if Bob could come. We do have such good times together. He would love to come, but wants to take Dr McC's place in the Hospital for the 2 or 3 weeks that he will be away. It will give him (Bob) such a good chance to judge

the work, the amount etc. So I do think he is wise not to come with us.

Such a lot of interesting books came from Esther + Shippen today + a peerless box of Whitman from Louise to Bob. I've been longing for Candy (Whitman's) ever since we left San Francisco + these are most delicious.

The books are lovely, we feel so protected with such a lot of interesting ones. I'm going to save 2 or 3 for the steamer. We have our passage for March 9, about the 18th from Yokohama, 9th from Shanghai. Do write c/o The Cook + Sow, Water St., Yokohama, Japan so that we may hear before we sail. We shall go to Japan about March 1st + have between 2 or 3 weeks there. I want to visit Mrs Riddell + her lepers near Nagasaki, + we want to go to Kioto + see the walks + do lots of other things. I wish we could take all the lovely people we have met home with us. Give bestest love to the dear family. Tell Madge I saw such a darling Chow today. He ran into my room + got into my lap + hid under the bed when they tried to take him away. They come

from Canton. Perhaps some will come from there when I do! I'd like to take home a menagerie of them. So would Bob.

Love to Pa.

Your devoted daughter

Dora