

Pictaihs Beach  
Aug. 2, 1923.

Dear Mother:

I let the letter to  
Grace answer for my home  
letter last week, and I'm late  
in writing this week because  
there have been so many  
people coming and going.

Three of our last month's  
household disappeared on  
Monday morning bright and  
early, and Olive T. left  
yesterday. The same time 4  
others from Peking came to  
join us and we still have

6 in the house.

It has been pouring rain all day so we have had good opportunity to get to know the new arrivals.

We took the long donkey trip over to Chin Wang Tao last week. It was a cloudy day, and heavy rains came after we reached the city, - but cleared up after we got through our dinner and we had a nice trip back.

It was most impressive seeing the 5 American destroyers now in port there and 7 big merchant boats being loaded for foreign ports. The city is owned by a big English company which has coal mined in the hills back of them and beautifully laid out. There are lovely shaded walks and beautiful gardens around the homes.

There ~~are~~ is a large camp of soldiers American, half way between here and Chin Wang Tao out for target practice. They were doing it with a vengeance when we went by, - firing out toward the sea, - making us detour for 500 yards and more. This put us right into the middle of their camp and we

had a good view of their tents + life ~~as~~  
we went through. It must be a terri-  
bly monotonous life, - the life of a soldier  
in the Far East! They are isolated  
from all human life and have nothing  
at all refining in their lives. No wonder  
so many of them go astray.

You have forgotten about the two  
big compounds we have in the foreign  
concessions in Hankow. I live on  
one which contains only schools  
for girls + women. The other has  
the Chinese Cathedral, St. Paul's, 2  
boys schools and residences for the

2.

Bishop + 5- other families  
and our diocesan offices.

There is an English com-  
pound, but it has only a  
church + residence for the  
clergyman, who is Canadian.  
Only English speaking people  
worship there.

You are right. There is a  
foreign hospital in Harkow  
used only for us + that is  
just  $2\frac{1}{2}$  blocks away from  
our house.

All the soldiers in China are  
bandits as often as they are  
soldiers, - so the people in

Shantung will be as safe as anybody else in China. They turn bandits because the government doesn't pay them and this is the only way they get a living.

I thought Grace was going to Raleigh for her summer work. Why did she change for Greensboro?

I'm so glad you have a good minister for W. — this summer. Greenville is a queer place to serve. They miss Herbert Cox, don't they? We have just been wishing today for an auto ride and the good roads to go on.

I hope J — writes me the date for the wedding as soon as it is set.

I must stop for this time.

Love from  
Venetia