4-11-1918

Letter from May-ling Soong Chiang, 1918-04-11, Shanghai, China, to Emma Mills

May-ling Soong Chiang

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11 April, 1918

My dear Dada:

As I wrote you sometime ago, Mr. Liuk of my brother's office is leaving for the States. I am sending you a package by him, I suppose this letter will leave on the same boat that he is going to take.

As he is only a bookkeeper, I hardly think you would care to have him call at your home to deliver the package. All in all, though it would be preferable for you to call for it yourself at the office of MacDouvell-Chow Corporation in N.Y. City. Look up the address in the telephone book. I have forgotten the address of their N.Y. headquarters, and as Burks is not home yet, I cannot tell you where to go to.

In the box are two pieces of silk, and a silk tam o'shanter. I have a tam just like it, [page break] and I simply could not resist the temptation of having a similar one made for you. It will be ideal for walks, and as it is very "dressy" looking, you will find lots of need for it. Tack it up if you need to. I am awaiting to see how you like it.

I am sending you some gray brocaded silk for a dress. I wish I could have gotten one more yard for you: but as it is in great demand in Shanghai, that was all I could find in the shops. You can, however, use gray chiffon sleeves and collar, and if necessary lace the hem. With your perfectly white complexion and dull ash-gold hair, you will look a vision in it. I wish I could see you. The other piece of silk looks like dull gold, and is for an evening dress. You may be
interested to know that it is from my
great-grandmother's things. Do what you like [page break]
with it.

I wanted to send Grandad some candy: but
I am afraid Mr. Liuk won't take kindly too
many packages in his trunk. I am
asking Brother to [] him on the subject.

I have grown very thin these last few
weeks. Mother cried the other night, because
she said that it hurts her to see me
looking so pale & wan. It does seem
queer that I seem to have lost all my
flesh, and yesterday I weighed only 107 lbs.
When you consider that when I left you,
I weighed 129 lbs-130 lbs, you may
wonder what has happened to me. The
family is talking of sending me off
to recuperate. But for a certain reason,
I don't take kindly to leaving home now.

With love
Daughter
11 April, 1915

My dear Dada:

As I wrote you sometime ago, my brother's officer is leaving for the States. I suppose he is going to take a package by him as he has been in to leave on the same boat that he is going to take.

As he is only a bookkeeper, I hardly think you would care to have him care at your home. You would care to have him care at your home. It would be preferable for you to care for it yourself at the office of Mac Donnell-Chan's Corporation in N.Y. City. Look up the address in the telephone book. I have forgotten the address of their N.Y. headquarters, and as Burke is not home yet, I cannot tell you where to go to.

In the box are two pieces of silk, and a silk tartan o' shanter. There is a team just like it.
and simply could not resist the temptation of having a similar one made for you. It will be ideal for weathes, and as it is very "dressy" looking, you will find lots of uses for it. Jack it up if you need to. I am awaiting to see how you like it. I am sending you some gray brocaded silk for a dress. Bunting Goods have gotten one more yard for you, but as it is in great demand in Shanghai, that was all I could find in the shop. You can, however, use gray chiffon sleeves and collar, and if necessary face the hem. With your perfect white complexion and dewy ash-gold hair, you will look a vision in it. I wish I could see you. The other piece of silk looks like dull gold, and is for an evening dress. You may be interested to know that it is from my best great-aunt's things. So what you like
with it.

I wanted to send Grandad some candy; but Sam says he thinks it won't look kindly to see many packages in his truck. I am going to ask Brother to sound him on the subject.

Have grown very thin these last few weeks. Mother cried last night, because she said she knew her to see me looking so pale. It does seem to have lost all my green that I seem to have lost all my flesh, and yesterday I weighed only 107 lbs. Now, you consider that when I left you, I weighed 129 lbs - 130 lbs, you may wonder what has happened to me. The family is talking of sending me off to recuperate. But for a certain reason, I don't think kindly to leaving home now.

With love - [Signature]