

There will be forty-two boatmen, but many of them will be on shore most of the time, pulling the boat by a rope attached to the mast. This is necessary when there is no wind, also in the rapids. When it rains a canvas awning over the front of the boat protects them. Our rooms are aft under the cover. We have a kitchen stove, a dining-table, chairs and provisions in the first room, back of which are the sleeping-rooms. Miss Rosher's and mine is the one where the rudder is regulated. Miss Rosher is on her way to Chunking, as a nurse under the Friend's Society of London.

The famine in Hupeh Province is very severe. They have pulled up their young plants and eaten them, and it is reported that they have even killed and eaten a woman. Rice is being sent up, for there is nothing for them to buy.

All the way the Lord has been answering your prayers for our protection and care. We have from the beginning of our journey had things very pleasant, and found many friends. We come now to the more dangerous part, but have nothing to fear, even if death should face us, for the same kind Father watches over us. The river is rising, but is not very high yet.

YANG-TSE-KIANG NEAR FU-CHEU, *April 30th.*

We are now about one hundred miles from Chung-King, and expect to reach that city on Monday, May 3rd. The shortness of our journey indicates its prosperity and pleasantness. We have been favored with a good boat, a very nice captain and a capable and trustworthy crew. I know that many friends at home are praying for us, and so I take it as an answer to prayer that we have had no accident since we left