

3 HSI-CHAO HUTUNG  
PEKING. CHINA

July 8, 1927.

My dear Gertrude,

Your letter of June 13th has just arrived and I want to thank you at once for your prompt arrangements with the University of Chicago Press. They have written me also concerning the matter and state that the book will probably be issued this autumn.

I am glad to hear also that the three Museum boxes and the box of rugs have arrived in excellent condition. I am sure that when you come to open them you will enjoy their contents even more than you did when we were purchasing them together here in Peking. I sent you sometime ago a clipping concerning a rug owned by Mr. Ballard, which will help you to appreciate even more your own two beautiful rugs.

My wife and Mary have been in Peitaiho for a couple of weeks and I am expecting to join them shortly. I have been delayed here by some necessary work. Some timid souls left here in March for Korea or Japan, but as soon as it was possible for them to get their breath they returned either to Peking or Peitaiho. Civil war is about us on all sides, but that condition has been more or less permanent for the last five years. No one knows how long we shall be under our present military overlordship in Peking, but even if a change comes the probability is that it will make but little difference to us. When you are living in such bad times, it does not matter much whether they are a little better or a little worse. At any rate, we expect to be able to stay here, so that if you decide to come back again this winter you may hope to find us with the same latch-string open for you.

With kindest regards to your mother and all best for yourself,

Yours as ever,

*John*

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