

To be copied

Friday, 6 December, 1945.

Chief, Secretariat,

I thank you for your welcome letter; received some time ago. "Enough of the day, has been the evil thereof" has been the burden of my song for some time now. Inaction, so far from getting more and more settled, seems to become more and more un-settled, and one does not feel much inclined to write.

I was glad to hear that the things I got for you had arrived. You do not say a word about how you liked them - I hope you did. Nor have you said anything about the supposed missing parcel that we had traced here as having been properly delivered at your end. You have still here the mate of the big Kong. He's blue and white fish vase, but it will have to wait till other things are sent, as it would be too expensive to make a special shipment of the vase, which is too big for the post, and would have to go at freight. You ask about my position etc. When the next regime went out, all the offices automatically ceased to exist as it was at the government here ceased. I had 2 positions, one as advisor to the Board of War and another as Commandant of the Chinese Legation Guard. In this latter capacity I have been retained as advisor, but as all pay has been reduced by half, and as this again comes around every 2 months or more, the pay is more in the way of promise and good intention than a tangible fact. However, I have found that whenever I, from a native standpoint, cared see no opening, God has invariably found a way for me. But for His protecting arm, I do not know where I should have been at

July 2nd 1917

Dear Mother

July 2nd 1917

I have not felt very well since  
 I was shot to hear that the troops I got for you had  
 arrived. You do not say a word about how you think  
 I am - I hope you are. You see for your health  
 about the supposed morning papers that we had to read  
 but on board they probably discuss or say and for  
 you will see the words of the day. It is true and white  
 for you, but it will be to wait till other things are over,  
 as it would be too expensive to make a special shipment  
 of the one, which is too big for the post, and would cost too  
 a flight. I am all about my position. When the rest returns  
 went out, all the advice and information I have to share  
 as the government has ceased. I had a position, one or two  
 to the front of the and another as Commandant of the Chinese  
 Police Force. In this latter capacity I have been retained as of  
 course, but as our help has been reduced by half, and as the  
 cause seems very I would be sure, the trip is more in the way  
 of promise and good intention than a tangible fact. However,  
 I see from the volume I, from a matter that I must, cannot  
 see no opening. It has inevitably found a way for me. But  
 for the present, I do not know when I shall see you or

at times. Human mind would perhaps be inclined to explain it all as coincidences, but it is no such thing, I can see God's hand in it all, and no other explanation is possible. This feeling gives me great happiness and contentment of mind. I know that come what may, He is ever here with His omnipotent love, and will see me through. I had been in hopes of being able to come to America this year that is now drawing to a close, but apparently it has not worked out that way, and my visit I now hope, may materialize in 1929. I cannot start from here till I have a settlement of my collection in America and of what I have here now. The option is up on April 1<sup>st</sup>. There are no difficulties as far as the collection is concerned, all agree to buy, but there are apparently some difficulties as regards Mr. Furman. Whether they think he is wanting too much for himself or not, I cannot say. I have had offers from others to disperse of the collection, but in fairness to Mr. Furman, I have decided to entertain any proposals till his time-limit - April 1<sup>st</sup> is up. If nothing has transpired before then, we shall then see what will be the best course to take. I do not worry, I have left the whole matter in God's hand, He knows what my intentions are, and I pray that He will find me working to do His will, whatever form it takes. This letter will reach you about New Year, may it bring you my most sincere, loving thoughts and wishes to you and to your family, and for all near and dear to your hearts, but grateful thanks for every kind thought word, or deed in the past year, and above all a grateful heart to God who has given me your friendship.

Ever your friend,

Norman Leitch

