taken with us anything we pleased to.

Dinner this evening with the MacMurrays. Mrs. is a charming young woman, married only a year or so and has a small baby which required her frequent attention. Mr. and Mrs. were most kind and I saw a good deal of them during my stay. Mrs., among other things, went to much trouble to find for me some good Chinese silks. She had a Chinaman bring several packs of various piece-silks, coats, obis, etc. (all genuine old ones) to her house; from the hundred odd I picked out a few, including a fine old Mandarin coat.

By the way, nothing is as cheap here as formerly; the standard of value is the Mexican dollar. This usually ruled at 50 to 55 cents per gold dollar; now it is 75 to 80 cents and still going up. A silver "Mex." will not, however, buy more to-day than when its value was 50 to 60 per cent. -- less measured in gold -- in fact, it won't buy as much; scarcity in certain commodities is putting up prices of all, aside from currency fluctuations. Money exchange in China is a curious and complicated performance; paper money and small coins are issued by each province and are current at par only where issued; therefore, to prevent ruinous discount, it is necessary to obtain local currency in each large city. The Mexican silver dollar coin is, I believe, accepted everywhere, but not paper money. The Mexican dollar, "big money" is exchangeable in Chinese money shops for 110 cents in fractional coin ("small money"), although the hotels and the shops will generally not recognize such a difference in value.

August 28th. Another beautiful but hot day. I have fitted myself out with yellow silk and white linen togs and now dress like the average European here. This A.M. we visited the "Temple of Heaven", going there