

184-3288

UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Lingnan
Corres / Fin. records
Martin fund 1914-1953
Mason, George C. 1909-1913

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Virginia

H. S. Martin

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THE CANTON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

嶺南學堂

TRUSTEES

SAMUEL MACAULEY JACKSON, D.D., LL.D., PRESIDENT
W. HENRY GRANT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS: "CANCRISCOL," HONGKONG AND CANTON
CODES: C.I.M., MISSIONS, A.B.C., 4TH ED.

FACULTY COUNCIL

CHARLES K. EDMUNDS, PH.D., PRESIDENT
W. K. CHUNG, M.A. (CHINESE) DEAN
ANDREW H. WOODS, M.D., VICE-PRESIDENT
HENRY B. GRAYBILL, M.A., PRINCIPAL
CLINTON N. LAIRD, M.A., TREASURER
CHESTER G. FUSON, B.A., F.R.G.S.

March 14/14.

Dear Mrs Martin:-

I venture to send you the enclosed reprint from
^{Chinese} "The ~~Canton~~ Recorder" published at the Presbyterian
Mission Press in Shanghai. It is an account of the field work I
have ~~been~~ doing during my vacations from the College.

Of course before I was married such expeditions were
easier. I do not wish to leave Mrs Edmunds so long at ^a time and she
cannot come along because of little Elizabeth^b. So after I make my next
trip I shall probably stop such long expeditions.

The College work is quite enough to ^b ~~absorb~~ ^b all my ener-
gy any way. I have however used these surveying trips as recreations.

The College grows ^a space, and taxes all our resources
of every sort. It is a hand-to-mouth^u existence and yet the results
are substantial. Some 410 students are now in attendance and the religi-
ous tone and life were never better. Some thirty conversions were
made last year and the present interest is significant.

I wish you could see our primary school, 97 boys
and 14 girls, under most able ^{and} ~~our~~ enthusiastic teachers. I am ^{ur} ~~sure~~
you would be encouraged to expect great things for the future or
rising generation in China.

Some day when I get a little ahead of the problems
that just now press for ^a immediate attention, I am going to suggest to
you some needed alter^aations and additions to Martin Hall which, if

0387

March 14/14.

~~if~~ possible, we should be enable to carry out in order that this fine ^{building} ~~Blg.~~ may for all time be adequate^a in both appearance and "functioning" for the prominent place it so justly holds on our ^a campus and I have often thought that you would be interested enough ~~ish~~ to help us in in this, if it is feasible for you to do so later on.

Mrs Edmunds is still busy getting settled in our new home for Dr ^{and} Mrs Woods who live^d in it while we were in U. S. A. have only a month ago moved into their ⁿ our new house. Unfortunately I have myself been ill for three months and am still ^{nv} convalescent and am really writing ~~from~~ Hong Kong being away from the College on the doctors' orders. I expect to return to-morrow and get again in ~~happ~~ress for it is ^{im} possible to resist^t the call of such a tremendous opportunity as the school ^a faces at this time.

Were Mrs Edmunds here I am sure she would join me in hearty greetings

Sincerely Yours,

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Sept. 12th 1914

[17]

CAZENOVIA, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Edmunds—
Your letter reached me
on the same day as one
from my brother, in which
he told me of their pleasant
meeting with you, and of
their regret at being cut
out of their Canton visit,
and seeing you again.
They all speak of the
pleasant talks you had,
together, and of your kind
will in offering to show them

0389

of Japan, with which they were very ⁽²⁷⁾
much pleased. They found it a most
picturesque country, & the odd customs
and sights, very interesting. I don't
think any part of the East impressed
them very favorably as to cleanliness.
but that they did not expect. They
collected lots of curios, souvenirs, and
pictures - taking many photographs,
them selves. I have been delighted fully
entertained learning about all they have
seen and done. For they are good
travelers, and seldom miss anything.

Thank you, very much, for the photo-
graph, & the paper. I was much
interested in both, as I am in every-
thing connected with the College.
Do you think this frightful war
will have any bad effect on such
work, or that of Missions? It must,
certainly, do harm in one way. Showing
people of a lower civilization, that Christianity
has done no more for the so-called
Christian Nations to prevent them from
such wholesale slaughter, and for
no adequate cause. It is a blow that
Christianity will be long in recovering from.

(37)

the College - I certainly wish
They could have seen it - I
think They would have been
interested, and I, surely, would,
in hearing about it - They
might have had more time
in China, for They were de-
tained several days in Japan,
on account of quarantines -
and were nearly a week
late in reaching home, which
They did the first week in
August - They did not regret
the delay, for it gave them
time to see quite a good deal

(47)

I certainly congratulate both
you and Mrs. Edmunds, on
the ~~the~~ ^{CAZENOVIA, N. Y.} advent of the dear little
son - & Elizabeth, upon having
a brother and playmate!
You must all be happy over
it. I hope both mother and
son continue to do well. I hope,
too, that you are feeling better
than you did, a while ago.
My brother & his wife, ask to be
remembered to you, and to say
how many, many times they have
regretted not seeing you, again.
With sincere regards for you -
self and Mrs. Edmunds -

Very sincerely yours -
Virginia S. H. Martin

Mrs Martin

COPY OF HAND-WRITTEN LETTER

Friday

Dear Mrs. Martin,

I send you herewith a photo of Martin Hall which is the best we have secured thus far. Please add it to your collection in the folio.

Sometime a new roof should be put on "Martin" and I should like you to consider this as something to do for us in due course. There is no immediate hurry about it, though it should by all means be definitely scheduled, as not only will the appearance be greatly improved and brought in harmony with adjacent buildings, which being built later have a "Chinese style" to the roof, but the capacity of the attic can be greatly increased at the same time. As I say, however, this is not immediate; though it should be scheduled and plans should be preparing now. I am going to look into the matter of plans for this alteration when I get back to Canton. I shall hope to report to you further when I return to U.S.A. in January as expected.

I greatly enjoyed my visit with you a few weeks ago and trust you are still quite well and that you will have a pleasant summer.

Cordially yours

Chas. K. Edmunds

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For Chase
July 17th 1917

My dear Mr. Edmunds -
Your letter came on
Saturday, and the photo-
graph yesterday after-
noon. Thank you, very
much for both. The pic-
ture of Martin Hall is
fine, and I can fancy
just how it looks. I have
put it in my portfolio -
I have looked through
the latter several times -
and read the letter. It
gives me a great deal

of pleasure - and I appreciate it thoroughly - as well as your kind thought in bringing it to me - I shall be hoping for another addition to my collection, a photograph of yourself, when you have one -

I was surprised to receive a letter from you from New York - for I thought you were expecting to sail July 7th -

About the roof for Martin Hall - no doubt it will add greatly to its appearance -

and I hope it may be possible to
have it - When you get the plans, and
know the cost, and when it would
need to be done - I will then be able
to say just what I can do in the
matter - When I see you, or hear from
you about it -

Thanking you, again, for both photo-
graph and portfolio - I am,

Very sincerely yours -

Virginia S. St. Martin -

I have not forgotten your request for
pictures of Mr. Martin and myself - If I
can get them from the negatives, it
will be a pleasure to send them to you -

J. V. St. M.

The winter and spring in America in order to
increase the support of our work. Probably
the family in or near New York
March 8, 1917.
and I shall hope to have an opportunity to
see you and to have Mrs. Edmunds
children also pay you a little visit.

Mrs. Henry Martin,
Fox Chase,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Martin,

I want first to thank you for the
beautiful calendar which you sent Mrs. Edmunds
and myself at Christmas time.

I wish that I could get more leisure to
write at greater length to you and other
friends in America, but as you probably realize,
we are kept very strenuously at work here in
order to meet the tremendous opportunity which
we face.

I have noted with pleasure the recent
establishment of an additional Martin Scholarship

I am forming a collection of portraits of
our leading American friends and I should very
much like to have a good picture of Mr. Martin
to include in our collection, which will be
hung on the walls of this administrative
building, either a cabinet photo or one of
larger size: I would also hang a copy of it in
Martin Hall, and, would you also be good enough
to send me a cabinet photo of yourself? These
should be sent unframed, well protected by
cardboard, by registered mail.

Mrs. Edmunds and the children are leaving
here in May and will spend the summer in Iowa.
I expect to leave here in October and will spend

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the winter and spring in America in order to increase the support of our work. Probably we will locate the family in or near New York, and I shall hope to have an opportunity to see you and to have Mrs. Edmunds and the children also pay you a little call.

Doubtless you get the newsletters that go out from time to time and I will not burden you with a longer letter now other than to say that our work is progressing very rapidly and in a healthful way and I wish very much that you could see it for yourself.

Faithfully yours,

CKE/AB

President.

I have noted with pleasure the recent establishment of an additional Martin Scholarship

I am forming a collection of portraits of our leading American friends and I should very much like to have a good picture of Mr. Martin to include in our collection, which will be hung on the walls of this administrative building, either a cabinet photo or one of larger size; I would also have a copy of it in Martin Hall, and would you also be good enough to send me a cabinet photo of yourself? These should be sent unframed, well protected by cardboard, by registered mail.

Mrs. Edmunds and the children are leaving here in May and will spend the summer in Iowa. I expect to leave here in October and will spend

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Feb. 12, 1918.

Mrs. Henry Martin,
Fox Chase,
Philadelphia, Penn. U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Martin:

I am sending you under separate cover some recent photographs of Martin Hall the details of which will make clear the direction from which the photographs have been taken. The view from the southeast, that is the picture in which bamboo branches appear in the upper left hand corner is the view had from Mr. Graybill's house which is the nearest staff residence to Martin, and I think you will agree that this shows very well the excellent proportions in the design of the building.

This building at the present time is our main dependence for housing the instruction not only in the Secondary School but in the College and it also provides quarters for some of the members of the American staff. In general it may be remarked that the western half of the building, that is the left hand portion in the photo just referred to, is devoted to the Secondary School while the lower two floors in the right end or eastern section are given over to the College, and the eastern half of the third floor to living quarters of staff. The large central room of the second floor is the physics laboratory, and the room beneath it entering from the steps directly is the Museum.

With reference to the picture taken from the north west which shows the two dormers on the north slope of the roof you will see

0399

also that we are so crowded for space that we have had to enclose the northern verandas with temporary wood and glass sash so as to take care of drawing classes and mechanical laboratories on the second floor, and to provide kitchen, pantry and bath-room space for the living quarters of the staff on the third floor. As soon as we have additional space to care for these things in an additional building all this glazing which encloses the second and third verandas on the north side will be removed and the lines of the building from the north will correspond very closely to the southern aspect, especially if we add more massive sides to the steps on the north front and give some more pleasing treatment to the dormers which have had to be put in in order to give proper access to the attic.

My brother is now here as Resident Architect. He is, by the way, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, and one of the things that I expect him to solve for us in the course of the next year or two is what treatment to give to the middle of the north facade of Martin and to the roof as a whole including the reformation of the attic in order that we may greatly increase the capacity of the building and at the same time enhance this northern aspect, because this is the side which will face the great cross esplanade. This facade was not emphasized at the time the building was built because at that time we expected to put this cross esplanade to the south of the building, but after further study of the whole lay-out it has been decided by the Architect and confirmed by the Trustees that this cross esplanade should go to the north of Martin Hall inasmuch as in the meantime we have been able to acquire the hilly land which lies to the northeast of Martin. In former years, particularly at the time Martin was begun Dr. Wisner, my predecessor, considered this land as impossible of acquisition.

Mrs. H. M.

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2-12-18

Martin is by all odds our most essential building at the present time and has been used to its utmost capacity ever since the first floor was free of workmen.

As you may remember Mrs. Edmunds and the children are already in America and I myself am hoping to join them certainly for the summer, leaving here in March to be with the Trustees in New York about the middle of March.

I suppose you have heard that Mr. Grant's mother passed away in November. He himself, I believe, is in none too good health at this time and I am very anxious to get to America to strengthen the interest in the College there and also in the hope of relieving Mr. Grant sufficiently that he may come out to visit the College again, as he has not seen it for ten years.

With sincere best wishes for the rest of the year, I am

Cordially yours,

President

CKE-C

Pictures No. 1760, 1752, 1765 and 1762 enclosed.

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FOX CHASE
PHILA.

Jan. 7th 1921

Mr. Chas. K. Edmunds-

My dear Mr. Edmunds-

I was glad to have your
note, enclosing receipt, for ever
since hearing from you, in
the Spring, I have rather ex-
pected to see you, and was
wondering if you had re-
turned to China. I had not
heard of your locating, near
New York, with your family -
& certainly congratulate you
on having in a more accessi-
ble place than California.

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FOX CHASE

PHILA.

[27
over

I also received the very pretty
card from Mrs. Edmunds and
yourself, for which pleasant
reminder, I thank you both.
Please tell Mrs. Edmunds that
I enjoyed her nice letter so
much, and almost feel as if
I had had a chat with her.
I am going to write to her
before very long -

From all accounts, the C. C. C.
seems to be prospering greatly
these days. I am very glad -
I only wish I were a Carnegie.

0403

~~S. Plimpton~~

~~Mrs. V~~

~~Cheney~~

~~Letts~~

~~Cowen~~

~~Strought~~

~~A. Mott~~
~~Watson~~

~~and~~

Clothes

Hardware

and paper

~~books~~

~~Picture~~

~~Flags~~

~~slides~~

FOX CHASE

PHILA.

and could do something really worth while for it - It does seem to me a great work, and the true way to help China, by educating her young men and women, and giving them right ideas - for they do not seem to lack brains -

I hope if you are in Philadelphia, and have any spare time, you will get out to see me -

With kind regards, and good wishes for the New year, for you and Mrs. Edmunds -

Very sincerely,

Virginia J. H. Martin

COPY

February 3, 1931.

Mrs. Virginia S.H. Martin
Fox Chase
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mrs. Martin:

We have been under such a strain in the effort to secure funds for the buildings so badly needed by young women eager to enter Canton Christian College, and it has been so difficult under present conditions to raise funds for that purpose, that your generous pledge sent me by Dr. Young and Mr. Murray yesterday has made a profound impression upon us all. The President of our Board has been ill for several weeks with pneumonia and is just now out of bed and has not yet left his home. I telephoned him immediately upon receiving this report, and I assure you that the news I gave him of your wonderful friendship to the University will serve as the best kind of tonic to bring him speedily back to sound health. Mr. Grant, for so many years the Secretary of the Board, and familiar all these years with the generosity of your husband and yourself toward the University, would wish to join me in thanks to you, but he is now on the Pacific going to Canton to supervise the work of putting in the proper equipment for safe drinking water for the 1500 persons on our campus, a health measure needed for years past, and which we were enabled, through a bequest received some months ago, at last to supply. We shall be all the happier to go ahead with the erection of the first building for young women students, rendered possible by your generous promise, now that we know the greatly increased number of girls on the campus will have their health safeguarded by a splendid modern water supply. I wish we might look forward to having you as a guest on the campus when the new building is dedicated.

Dr. Henry joins me in this expression of thanks and in all good wishes to you.

Sincerely yours,

ODW.VB

Olin D. Wannamaker
American Director

Pledge dated January 29, cancelled
through substitution of new pledge,
is returned herewith to be destroyed
by you.

Personally appeared before me Olin D. Wannamaker known to me personally and did declare under oath that the above is the copy taken from the files of the Trustees of Lingnan University of a letter dictated to Mrs. Virginia S.H. Martin, dictated and signed by him on February 3, 1931.

Elizabeth M. Cloud

NOTARY PUBLIC, NEW YORK COUNTY
New York Co. Clerk's No. 103, Reg. No. 5-C-187
Certificate filed in New York County
Commission Expires March 30th, 1935

0406

make 3 copies

Froy Chase

Oct. 28-131

Mr. Oliver Grauman & Co.

New York City

My dear Mr. Grauman -

In reply to your letter of the 20th,
I want to assure you of my interest
in all that Livingston is doing - and
hope there will continue to be steady pro-
gress - But as to the \$50,000 - it is far be-
yond what I can undertake for
the University - \$25,000, is about the limit

I have many close to me who need
all the help I can give them - and
other things, also, to which I contribute
regularly - you see we cannot con-
fide our gifts to one special enterprise -
so many are worthy, & needy -

Thanking you for your letter,

Sincerely yours,

Virginia S. H. Martin

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FIDELITY-PHILADELPHIA TRUST COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE COMPANY

July 11, 1932.

CABLE ADDRESS
"FIDELPHILA"

RE: ESTATE VIRGINIA S. H. MARTIN, DECEASED

Trustees of Canton Christian College
of Canton, China,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Gentlemen:

We give you below an extract from the will of the late Virginia S. H. Martin, viz:

"NINTH: I give and bequeath to the Trustees of Canton Christian College at Canton, China, whose offices are located at 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City, the sum of Twenty-five thousand (25,000) Dollars to be added to the Endowment Fund of said College and to be known as the "Henry Martin Fund".

"TENTH: I give and bequeath the sum of One thousand (1,000) Dollars to the Trustees of said Canton Christian College for the purchase of such books for the Library of said College as such Trustees may deem helpful and uplifting to the students.

"SEVENTEENTH: All inheritance and succession taxes shall be charged against the corpus of my residuary estate, so that all gifts of chattels, legacies and life estates hereunder shall be paid over, received and enjoyed without deduction for any such tax."

Will you please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD DIGBY BALTZELL
and

FIDELITY-PHILADELPHIA TRUST COMPANY

By Thomas Stewart

For Vice President
EXECUTORS

TS:GS

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MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT entered into this Ninth day of November, 1933, between EDWARD DIGBY BALTZELL and FIDELITY-PHILADELPHIA TRUST COMPANY, Executors under the will of Virginia S. H. Martin, deceased, parties of the first part, and OLIN D. WANNAMAKER, American Director of the Trustees of Lingnan University, party of the second part,

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, Trustees Lingnan University claim against the Estate of Virginia S. H. Martin, deceased, the sum of \$24,850.00 as the balance due on a pledge signed and executed by decedent on January 15, 1932, as well as a legacy of \$25,000.00 to Trustees of Canton Christian College (which was the corporate name of Trustees Lingnan University prior to the change thereof and which has at all times had a continuous corporate existence, first under the name Canton Christian College and now under the name Lingnan University) under Paragraph Ninth of the decedent's will, and a further legacy of \$1,000.00 under Paragraph Tenth of the decedent's will; and

WHEREAS, the said claim is disputed in part by the parties of the first part; and

WHEREAS, an agreement has been reached for the compromise and settlement of said claims upon the terms herein set forth;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises it is mutually covenanted and agreed by the parties hereto as follows:

1. Parties of the first part will forthwith upon ratification hereof, as hereinafter provided, pay to

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Trustees Lingnan University the sum of Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000.) in full satisfaction of its claim on the said pledge of January 15, 1932, and will at the same time pay in addition thereto to the Trustees Lingnan University the full face amount of the said two legacies of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.) and One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.), respectively, for the respective purposes as set forth in said paragraphs of the will.

2. Upon the receipt of the said sums, Trustees Lingnan University will release and discharge parties of the first part and the Estate of Virginia S. H. Martin, deceased, of any further liability with respect to debts, claims, legacies or otherwise from the Estate of Virginia S. H. Martin, deceased.

3. This agreement shall be subject to ratification by the Trustees of Lingnan University and upon such ratification shall be binding as between parties of the first part and Trustees Lingnan University, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York. In the event of the rejection of this agreement by said Trustees, it shall be without prejudice to the rights of either party in the premises.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the individual parties hereto have set their names, and the corporate party hereto has caused this agreement to be duly executed on its behalf by its corporate officers thereunto duly organized the day and year

first above written.

Edward Digby Ballwell
Esq.

FIDELITY-PHILADELPHIA TRUST COMPANY

BY *J. E. Tramm*
Trustee

Attest:

Louis Busch
Asst Secy

Executors under the will of
Virginia S. H. Martin, deceased.

W. J. Hamman

American Director Trustees
Lingnan University.

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June 24, 1953

THE VIRGINIA S. H. MARTIN (MRS. HENRY MARTIN) FUND

Pledge and Bequest

In January 1931 Dr. Sherman P. Young, then doing promotional work for Lingnan, obtained a pledge for a certain amount from Mrs. Martin, who had for many years been deeply interested in Lingnan, and whose husband had given the money which made possible the erection of the first permanent building on the Lingnan campus. When Dr. Young reported to me that he could have obtained a much larger pledge, if he had been able to use an estate pledge card, instead of an ordinary pledge card, I immediately consulted an officer of the Methodist Board of Missions and got the exact form of estate pledge used by that Board, which I was told had been proven to be legally binding. I had cards printed immediately and sent some to Dr. Young. Mrs. Martin then signed a pledge card for the amount of \$20,000, with certain specifications.

When Mrs. Martin was later informed that the purpose for which she wished to have her gift used - the erection of a dormitory for women students - could not be effected for less, probably, than \$50,000, she declared that it was impossible for her to pledge so large an amount, but she did increase her estate pledge, in January 1932, to \$25,000. She stipulated that this money should be used for the erection of a dormitory for women and, to the extent that might be possible, for its maintenance; and also that any gift she had made to Lingnan since February 1931 should be considered a partial payment of this pledge. She had made a gift of \$150 during that interval.

Mrs. Martin had already written into her will a bequest for Lingnan University in the amount of \$25,000 in memory of her husband, to be known as the Henry Martin Fund and to constitute a part of the endowment fund of the University. She had also entered in the will an item of \$1,000 for the purchase of books for the Library.

Certain relatives of Mrs. Martin denied that her estate pledge was valid, holding that she had intended only to ratify by this pledge the bequest of \$25,000 already contained in the will. Lawyers were engaged by me, under advice of the Trustees, and the case was taken to court. Our lawyers had informed me, however, that this estate pledge could not be legally collected because it had been witnessed only by me, and Pennsylvania law requires that an estate pledge be witnessed by two disinterested persons. Just before the case on the calendar for a certain day was on the point of being called, our lawyers, under constant contact with me, offered to accept the sum of \$17,000 out of court from the relatives in settlement of the contest. This was accepted by the opposing parties. At that very moment the case was called, and our lawyer informed the judge that it had been settled out of court. In spite of the fact that the estate pledge was not legally binding, it perfectly clearly represented the will of Mrs. Martin, and I was happy to have been able to make a settlement in the amount mentioned.

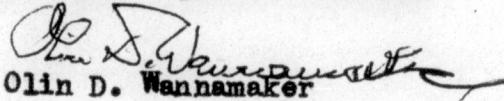
There was considerable delay before we finally obtained the money due us. The relatives opposed payment of approximately \$1,500 due on the several amounts. Since our lawyers informed us that the brothers of Mrs. Martin were financially poorly situated, our Trustees did not insist on payment of this interest. The \$17,000 must have been reduced to a net sum of \$16,850, through the subtraction of \$1,500 referred to above. I do not recall whether the legal fee was subtracted by

0412

our Trustees from the net proceeds obtained from the estate pledge or was paid out of current income. This fee was \$1,500. I contested it as being unreasonably large, but the officers of our Board instructed me to pay it.

The memorial bequest of \$25,000 was made a part of the endowment of the Trustees. Interest earned on the estate pledge has always been added to that sum to increase it with the hope of being ultimately able to ~~erect~~ erect a dormitory for women named as desired by Mrs. Martin - Virginia S. H. Martin Hall.

The \$1,000 for books was made available in equal portions, by decision of Dr. Henry, the Provost, to Professor Frank and Professor Hoffmann for books needed in the Departments of Chemistry and Biology respectively. Professor Hoffmann used his half of the sum. The balance remains on our books, theoretically subject to a request from Dr. Henry Frank for the Dept. of Chemistry. Since the situation is now completely changed, it is my judgment that, this small balance could reasonably be donated to Chung Chi College to aid with its library problems. I will so recommend to the Trustees of Lingnan University, partly in order to clear the books of this small special account.


Olin D. Wannamaker

June 24, 1953

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George C. Mason

1909-1913

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In addition to Mr. Mason, this letter was also sent to the following:

General James H. Hubbard, The Broad Exchange, Broad St., New York City.
Mr. Frank A. Munsey, 175 Fifth Ave., " " "
Mr. Walter Jennings, 26 Broadway, " " "

"The Cecil," Baltimore, Md., Oct. 22, 1909.

Mr. George C. Mason,
10 Wall St., New York City.

Dear Sir;--

Dr. Amos P. Wilder has given me a letter of introduction to you and has urged me to call upon you to tell you something of the large enterprise which we have under way in Canton, aiming to give a modern education under Christian auspices to the youth of South China. I should greatly appreciate an opportunity to outline briefly to you what we are doing, and as I am to be in New York from the morning of Oct. 25th to the morning of the 28th, I should be glad to call upon you at any time you may name during that interval, either during the day or in the evening. I shall appreciate the courtesy of a reply, addressed to me at Room 918, 156 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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ESTATE OF JAMES HENRY SMITH

WILLIAM SMITH MASON
GEORGE GRANT MASON
GEORGE SIMPSON EDDY
HERMAN S. LE ROY
EXECUTORS

No. 10 WALL STREET

NEW YORK

October 25, 1909.

Charles K. Edmunds, Esq.,
Room 918, #156 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of 22nd inst. with enclosure from Mr. Wilder, was duly received. I was unfortunately out-of-town when Mr. Wilder passed through New York, but I had a little correspondence with him relative to the Canton College, and regretfully advised him that it would not be possible for me to become interested in it. I shall not be in town to-morrow, but if you care to call I shall be very glad to see you either at 10³⁰ A. M. or 2:30 P. M. on Wednesday the 27th.

Will you kindly telephone my office, Rector 74, if you desire either of these appointments.

Yours very truly,

Geo. S. Mason

GGM/AHD.

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SHANGHAI, China. May 6, 1910.

Mr. George Mason,
10 Wall Street,
New York City.

My dear George:

I note your handsome gift to Yale and I congratulate you on this. You deal with the things that abide when you put foundations under Christian education any where.

I am still hopeful that the work at Canton will secure your attention when you get round to it. After some four years here, the investment of money in Canton College strikes me as so tremendous a return that I venture to enclose you correspondence that I have just received from President Charles K. Edmunds. You need not return it. I want you to remark the business-like vein that runs through Edmunds' reports. You understand that this College is the biggest thing in South China; it reaches the sons of Chinese officials and high class young men, - something the ordinary mission school does not do. The medical man is McCracken,

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the football crack. Laird, also of the faculty, is a brother of the Philadelphia architect. The faculty is made up of a dozen men of the best American colleges, and these fellows are all fine types of men who are learning the language and putting their lives in to China. Believe me, George, if you send for Edmunds ("The Cecil," Baltimore, Md") and ask him what he wants, you will be building better than you know. You have the money and I have the information as to China; and you know me well enough to believe I will give you the best counsel I have. Make a start in Canton. There are endless millions for education in America; but China's four hundred millions of people stand on the threshold, and it is a case of the "one thousand-fold."

All Yale men rejoice in both you boys. You did us credit even before your splendid gift!

A brother of Anderson Phelps Stokes is my guest at present. It seems to be a fine stock.

Very truly yours,



Enclosure.

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No. 10 WALL STREET
NEW YORK

July 8, 1910.

Amos P. Wilder, Esq.,
U. S. Consul,
Shanghai,
China.

Dear Mr. Wilder:-

Your good letter of May 6th with enclosures was duly received. I presume that I will have to confess sooner or later, so may as well do it now, and state plainly that I do not measure up to your standard by any means. I never had the explorer's interest in new fields. I am not keen about world-wide affairs, and even as a small boy I persistently avoided contributions for foreign missions, and I must admit that this feeling still exists within me. I would much prefer to give for almost any worthy cause in our own country, but I have no enthusiasm I fear for the project that is so dear to your heart. I am sorry that this is so but I doubt if I ever change this decision.

We had a Black Hall School Alumni Reunion a week ago, and although only about twenty were there we all enjoyed it keenly. The Prof seems to be in better health than ever and the

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--#2 Amos. P. Wilder, Esq.

July 8/10.

school is prosperous.

With all good wishes to you and
yours, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

George S. Mason

GGM/AHD.

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Dear Edmunds
Keep at him
I will never let
him go
Mildred

0421

July 26, 1910.

Mr. George G. Mason,
10 Wall Street, New York.

My dear Sir:-

The illustration I mentioned is opposite page 38 in the President's Report which I am mailing you today. It is a view of our water supply, in a nutshell, or rather in stone jars. Teachers, families, students, workmen, all told about three hundred people on our grounds, and this with servant labor is the entire ^{drinking} water system and supply. We have an engineer, Mr. A.R. Knipp, on our staff, who is competent to install a water supply system, when that is made possible.

Please now turn the page to the illustration on the opposite side. That reinforced concrete building, a dormitory now finished and occupied by about one hundred students, has been built by Chinese hands with money provided by Chinese people. Nearly enough more money has been subscribed by them to build a second similar dormitory, soon to be erected, and they do say they will then go forward with the third. Now do you know, that's pretty good for the 'Heathen Chinese' don't you think so? And it shows appreciation that is a high testimony both to the Character of the Chinese and to our work.

Speaking of gifts by the Chinese, this also will interest you. Last May Dr. Samuel Macauley Jackson, President of the Board of Trustees, pledged \$10,000 for a residence for the President. Dr. Jackson is an author and editor and not one who should be expected to give any such amount of money. Last January Mr. Arthur C. James gave me \$4,000 to be used as the

0422

Trustees saw fit, and Christmas last, I received from Miss Helen M. Gould \$6,000 for a professor's house such as is shown opposite page 36.

The thing that just now will help most is that which, as you may say, will keep the breath of life in us. It is hard to raise current expenses and building funds at the same time; our work is growing rapidly, and we do need help on current expenses to hold us steady while we grow and while we are getting the notice of the world. A little later the world will take notice and then things will come easy, but if you want to help us just a little, let the shadow of your hand fall on our current expense account, which as you will see from our four page statement, will require some \$16,000 in gifts this year.

I thank you, Mr. Mason, for that kind patience with which I know you have read this letter.

Sincerely yours,

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Oct.31,1910.

Mr.George G. Mason,
10 Wall Street, New York.

My dear Mr. Mason:-

I know that you will be very much interested in the enclosed correspondence, or I would not trouble you with it. My own letter isn't so much, but wont you please read it before reading the reply, which I include in the second page of this letter and enclose in the original envelope. I would enclose Miss Gould's personally written letter but being in the nature of an obligation to the College, I suppose I should not let it go out of the office. Will you please return her envelope in the envelope I enclose for it.

(Continued on second page)

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The following is a copy of reply to my letter:

"Lyndhurst,
Irvington-on-Hudson

Dear Mr. House:

We are at present making our plans to move to town so I have given up my reception day, and I fear I shall be too busy to make appointments to see people till after we move to town on the 8th.

I was interested in the layout you sent me, which I have asked Miss Campbell to return, and in the bulletin.

I notice by the bulletin that the initial installation of a water-supply and drainage system for the Canton College would be \$10,000 and while I do not feel it possible to promise the sum you suggested I shall be willing to promise \$10,000 for the purpose I have mentioned, if you think that will be a help.

Very sincerely,
(signed) Helen Miller Gould.

Rev. Herbert E. House,
Canton Christian College,
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City."

Perhaps I am a little intoxicated with the happiness I feel both in the strong faith and support of Miss Gould, and in the fact that our College is to have water, abundant and convenient, with drainage. The list of vital "Present requirements for Physical plant" from which Miss Gould chose this exceedingly important item, is as follows:

Water Supply and Drainage System	\$10,000
Pier \$1,000; River Wall \$2,000	3,000
Power House, lighting, pumping, laundry, shops	5,000
Telephone System	1,000
Time System-Master clock and ten others	500
	<u>\$19,500</u>

The above items are found on page 38 of the Bulletin, second copy of which I am sending you.

Could anything be finer or more fitting than for you to join hands with Miss Gould to do this whole thing. It would make her very happy, that's sure, and we would have a jollification meeting over it, if you could. Such a deed on your part would put the College in splendid physical condition for its great task; it would bring a vast and growing satisfaction to you and be through the College a work for China and for the Kingdom of God worth while .

Mr. Mason,

p. 3

The third item, Power House, etc., for \$5,000 is all that is really needed to complete that portion of the work, which naturally is connected with the water-supply and drainage system, and thus to fill out Miss Gould's gift. But \$10,000 to equal her gift would do all mentioned in the "Physical Requirement," and in the words of a man we have all heard of would be "Bully."

I would simply mention that funds would not be required for this latter part of the work before next summer.

Very sincerely yours,

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10 WALL STREET
NEW YORK

Nov 3^d 1910.

Dear Mr. House -

The information sent
relative to the affairs of the
Canton College is very interesting
but as I told you, there are
many things of greater moment
to me at home and I shall
not therefore be able to make
the gift you request -

Sincerely yours

George S. Messersmith

Herbert E. House Esq
156 5th Ave

0427

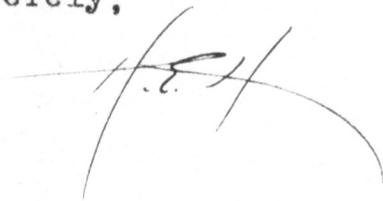
October 10, 1911.

Mr. George G. Mason,
10 Wall Street, New York.

My dear Mr. Mason:-

I feel that your kindness gives me permission to send you from time to time items of peculiar interest regarding the Canton Christian College. I enclose, therefore, copy of a portion of a letter from one of our students who has recently come to America. I came to know this young man very intimately while in Canton. He is an able, earnest man of the type of men destined to be the future leaders of China. The letter gives the spirit of these young men, the advance guard, the men on whom the first heavy burdens of the regeneration of the Empire are to come.

Very sincerely,



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May 23, 1912.

Mr. George G. Mason,
10 Wall Street, New York.

My dear Mr. Mason:-

I called at your office yesterday with Dr. Andrew H. Woods, Vice President of the Canton Christian College, hoping to see you and interest you further in the College. The doctor returns next week from Philadelphia for a few days, and may also be here later in the summer. He is a rare man and I am sure would enlist your interest and confidence in the College.

The Trustees have received an urgent call from the Chinese of Canton to go forward and enlarge the facilities at the College. The College now stands in the foreground and is recognized by the Chinese as the leading school in the Two Kwangs, somewhat as Rugby, Eton and Harrow are in England. It faces today this opportunity: South China has collected thousands of students into schools, but these schools have no competent educational superintendents and teachers. The government and people turn to the Canton Christian College to supply this need. We are now in a position, if we can secure adequate support, to educate a large proportion of the teachers, editors, writers, bankers, preachers and other professional men for the whole of South China, under the advantages which attend the spiritual and disciplinary conduct of a Christian school.

It becomes more and more evident every day that the

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No. 10 Wall Street

New York.

COPY

Mr. Mason to Dr. Wilder

JUL 8 Rec'd

April 16, 1913.

Amos P. Wilder, Esq.,
American Consul-General,
Shanghai, China.

Dear Amos:-

Please note the familiar greeting. It is, I will admit, a very difficult task to overcome the reverential deference due an old instructor, no matter how many decades ago that was, but I feel quite immune with at least 10,000 miles between us!

Your notes of January, March 3rd, and some clippings in the meantime, have all duly reached me, and I appreciate them very much.

We all mourned the loss of the Professor, and the Alumni, though Bob Peet, tried to carry on the School. The effort showed how strong the influence of Mr. Bartlett had been. As the number of boys entered was very small, and as the old school building burned down during the Christmas holidays, Black Hall School is now no more than a memory.

I was glad to be of some assistance to the Canton Christian College, and though I was strenuously opposed giving to the institution some years ago, every item of news that I have obtained in regard to it has fully confirmed your opinion of its work. The men here in charge of its affairs seem to be of the right type, and the institution certainly has my good wishes. I shall, of course, hold you wholly responsible if my investment in it ever turns out badly! I should judge from the tenacity with which you

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#2. Copy of George M. Mason's letter to A.P. Wilder.

have sent out your approval of the institution, there must be an almighty streak of Scotch in you!

Just now I am very busy with the affairs of the Yale Stadium and additional playgrounds, and in this work I meet a number of Yale men of our period. Frank Trowbridge is about the same as ever but slightly more deaf.

I hope when you next come home that you will let me know in ample time to get hold of you. I enclose some picture-postals showing our lovely outlook and house at Tuxedo Park.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) George G. Mason.

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