

224\_3798

UBCHEA ARCHIVES  
COLLEGE FILES  
RG 11

Nanking  
Corres.  
Severance, John L. 1916-1918

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1170

1916 TRANSFER



January 13, 1916.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Pending more formal action by the Board of Trustees of the University of Nanking, please permit me, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to express our appreciation to you and to Mrs. Allen for your generous contribution for the Administration Building of the University.

We appreciate, also, the careful consideration you have given this matter and for taking into account especially the need for equipment, maintenance and repairs.

I shall be most happy to report your gift to the meeting of the Board of Trustees on Friday afternoon. I will also recommend to the Board that the building be known as the Severance Memorial Building. I am now in communication with the architects and will ask them to submit to us the completed drawings for this building on the basis of \$35,000, cost in China, and will send these drawings to you for your consideration before finally approving them and forwarding them to China.

Will you kindly express our appreciation to Mrs. Allen, who shares with you in this contribution to Christian education in China.

Yours very sincerely,

1171

2243798

John L. Severance

The following pledge copied from the  
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the  
Board of Trustees of the University of  
Nanking, Jan. 14, 1916.

"The Secretary reported that Mr. John L. Severance and his sister, Mrs. Dudley P. Allen, were ready to erect the Administration Building in Nanking, and that they had given to the Trustees \$25,000 each for this purpose, the building to be known as the Severance Memorial Building, in memory of their beloved father. Of this amount, Mr. Severance and Mrs. Allen desire \$35,000, or thereabouts, to be expended for the building, \$5,000 for the furnishings and equipment and that at least \$10,000 be left for a permanent fund for repairs and maintenance."

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1172

John L. Severance

42<sup>ND</sup> ST. BUILDING  
NEW YORK

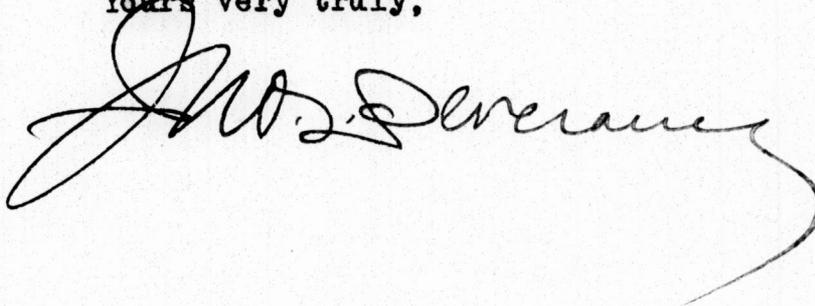
March  
Second,  
1916.

Mr. P. F. Jerome,  
c/o 124 East 28th Street,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Jerome:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 28th ultimo with reference to disposition of the interest on \$1,000. in the general fund. I see no objection to the same being used as suggested by you, although I am not quite sure what the "General Campaign Expenses" refers to. I expect to be at the meeting of the trustees tomorrow afternoon.

Yours very truly,



JLS/B

225  
3798

1173

## NANKING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

JUN 5 1917

November 8, 1916 ~~SECRETARIES~~

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Severance:

I fear it is many months since I have written to you, but I hope you will not lay it up against me. I think that when I wrote you last I told you of the death of Mr. I. Z. Kwei whom your father took so much interest in. We regretted very much that he was taken away. It seems to me very strange that so large a proportion of Chinese students in America come back to China with their health impaired. Doubtless, in many cases, they carry the seeds of disease with them when they go abroad. We have a young man now studying in New York, Mr. Timothy T. Law, who I fear has been over-working, and who should return to us as a teacher in the Seminary before very long.

Your kind gift of gold six hundred dollars last year made possible an addition to our faculty. We were able to secure Rev. Chia Yu Hing who had been a successful pastor at Ichowfu, Shantung, and also at other cities in that province. He is a man of fine Christian character, gentle and modest, but very well versed in the Scriptures, of very winning personality, and able to be a great help to the students in their problems. He is a graduate of the Shantung Theological School, and, of course, one of Dr. Mateer's former pupils. He has some slight knowledge of English and is able to help in translation work. We hope to make special use of his talents in working up our correspondence course. In this he is collaborating with Dr. Systemistker, of the Southern Presbyterian Mission at Chikiang. They hope to be able soon to make a tentative use of the course so far as they have prepared it.

We are also raising one of our assistant teachers who graduated last year, to the position of a full professor. This is Mr. Yu An-Loh. He was in primary school when I came to China twenty-seven years ago, and I remember I taught him and other boys their first English. After he graduated at Nanchow College, he went into the Customs and Post Office Service, in which he continued for many years. He finally decided for the ministry, and came to us leaving a very lucrative position thereby. He is an excellent teacher, quite well acquainted with English, a very satisfactory man of affairs and withal a man of deep spiritual life. The Directors at their meeting last January decided that after the coming January meeting he should be accounted as a full member of the faculty.

I am not sure that the treasurer has definitely assigned in his book keeping the six hundred dollars that you sent to the salaries of these two men. If he did, I am sure that it would entirely meet your approval could you come and look over our plant and work. Being he, however, that the balance left after paying Mr. Chia's salary was assigned toward the expense of our stenographer. We had during the last school year the services of Mr. Sam Woods, son of Dr. Henry M. Woods of the North Kiangsu Mission, Southern Presbyterian Church. We thought this was a pretty good joke on Dr. Woods, as he has

been rather slow to become interested in a union institution. His son's salary we had to find as best we could, and we are still in that unfortunate condition. We have the services of a very efficient helper at present, but she will not be able to continue with us after the New Year. We have been vainly trying for a year or two to get someone from home who would see the opportunity there is for a service of growing value as the head of our office force. At present it is not likely to appeal to one because almost all the work is actual stenography, but there is a possibility of one who cared for this kind of work becoming more and more useful in the institution, as registrar, assistant treasurer, and perhaps eventually treasurer, and director of some at least of the students activities. Of course, if we find the man, we should have to find the salary also. What I started out to say was that it was quite possible our treasurer had made use of part of the gift you sent to meet the salary of our office secretary. I cannot speak definitely about that because Dr. Frank Garrett, who was our treasurer, has been transferred by his mission to an important evangelistic work in another station.

I hope that it will be possible for you to continue your kind gift for this and the ensuing years. We feel the need of adding still more Chinese as well as foreign teachers to our staff. This will be especially important if, as we anticipate, we shall add a post graduate, or degree, course to our school next year. In this department we shall hope to give work in both English and Chinese, and make a definite effort to bring in the volunteers for the ministry from various universities. At present, some of these go abroad for their special theological study; others who cannot go abroad find it so little to their taste to enter the theological schools which now exist and work along in a restricted way in Chinese when they might be doing the same work in English with so much broader literature, and with high school graduates who are years behind them in attainment, that they are deflected to teaching or Y. M. C. A. work, and drop their idea of Christian work altogether.

If you have seen Dr. Williams, I am sure he has told you something of the Seminary and its outlook. I feel the more free to write you of our needs because of my former most pleasant experience of your father's interest in us and our work. We shall hope to hear favorably from you with regard to the amount above mentioned, and if you care to learn more about our needs and to take any special share in equipping us for larger usefulness to come. I shall gladly write you in detail along any line you wish.

With very best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

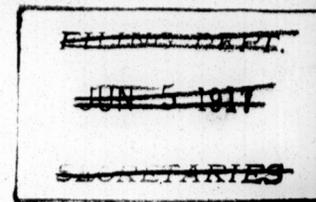
J. C. Garritt

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

John L. Severance

480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Dec. 19, 1916.



Russell Carter, Treas.,  
Nanking University,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Carter:

I am extremely anxious to arrive at an understanding of my obligations to Nanking University, so far as salaries of instructors are concerned. I am therefore enclosing the correspondence that I have in this office. The first is a copy of a memoranda on my pledge book, in which you will note I permit the substitution of Mr. Liu in place of Mr. Kuo and agree to be responsible for his salary for one year from the time of his employment, the maximum amount to be \$800.00. (The last payment I made on this account was Jan. 13th, 1915, \$600.00, to cover the period from Oct. 1st, 1914 to Oct. 1st, 1915. I have never been advised so far as I can learn from any records in my office here when Mr. Liu's engagement began, and possibly he has never been employed. This matter has been brought to my attention lately by the enclosed letter of Mr. Garritt, which more than ever confuses me as to what has been done with my contribution toward salary.)

If you can help unravel this tangle and make plain my obligations, if they still exist, I would appreciate it, and would further ask you to return the correspondence with your reply.

Yours very truly,

John L. Severance

Enclosures  
M.L.

1176

2243798

December 22, 1916.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, O.

My dear Mr. Severance:

I had before me when your kind letter of December 19th was received, the corresponding letters gathered from our own files and had found that the information in our files was not sufficient to enable me to answer your letter in any satisfactory way. I had this file before me waiting an opportunity to take the matter up with Mr. Spear to see whether he had any further light upon this question, but as you know he has been away at the campaign in Detroit and with the exception of a little while Monday has been away from the office all this week and will be until after Christmas, so that I am now wimply acknowledging your letter that you may know that it has not been in any way overlooked. It may of course be necessary for us to write to the field, for we do not want to accept from you your kind remittance covering the salaries of these men without assurance that these men are now employed in the University and that they are hoping that you will be continuing their support.

Yours very sincerely,

RO:M

Assistant Treasurer

1177

2243798

~~FILING DEPT.~~

~~DEC 30 1916~~

~~TREAS. DEPT.~~

December 28, 1916.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, O.

My dear Mr. Severance:

In writing further regarding the salaries of Mr. ZaungTeh Ing and Mr. Liu, may I say that I have spoken to Mr. Speer this morning, the first day that he has been back in the office, and he cannot throw any light upon this but suggests my writing one of the Nanking men home upon furlough which I am doing today regarding Mr. Liu or his successor. As to Mr. Zaung Teh Ing, I am very sure there is no question, for I have been authorized by the field to pay his insurance premiums and have done so within the last thirty days, charging these payments out to the University, and I find in the latest bulletins that his name appears as one of the instructors. I think, therefore, that you are perfectly safe in remitting at this time the \$600.00 for Mr. Ing's salary for the year January 1, 1916 to 1917.

Yours very sincerely,

RC:M

Treasurer

1178

2243798

December 28, 1916.

Mr. M. Gardner Tewksbury,  
23 York Terrace,  
Brookline, Mass.

My dear Mr. Tewksbury:

We are wondering whether you can help us to clear up a question that has arisen regarding the service in Nanking this past year and at present of Mr. Zang Teh Ing and Mr. Liu, whose salaries Mr. John L. Severance of Cleveland has been paying. Mr. Severance in January, 1915, sent us a check for \$600.00 covering the salary in the Seminary of Mr. Kway from October 1st, 1914 to October 1st, 1915. He later, upon request from the field, transferred this support from Mr. Kway to Mr. Liu. Mr. Severance is now ready, and of course has been for sometime, had we properly presented the matter to him to remit for the year October 1, 1915 to 1916, but we cannot give him the assurance that Mr. Liu has been teaching in the Seminary during this period. A letter from Dr. J. C. Garritt written November 8, 1916, reads as follows:

"Your kind gift of gold \$600.00 last year made possible an addition to our faculty. We were able to secure the Rev. Chia Yu-ming who has been a successful pastor at Ichowfu, Shantung. He is a man of fine Christian character and very modest. He is very well versed in the Scriptures, has a very winning personality and able to be a great help to the students in their problems. We are also raising one of our assistant teachers who graduated last year to the position of full professor, Mr. Yu An-lo. He was in the primary school when I came to China several years ago and I remember I taught him

Dec. 28, 1916

and other boys their first English. He finally decided for the ministry and came to us losing a very lucrative position thereby.

"I am not sure that the Treasurer has definitely assigned in his bookkeeping the \$600.00 you sent for the salaries of these men. If he did, I am sure that it would entirely meet with your approval. It may be, however, that the balance left for paying Mr. Liu's salary was assigned toward the expense of our stenographer. I cannot speak definitely about that because Dr. Frank Garrett who was our Treasurer has been transferred by his Mission to improve evangelical work in another Station.

"I hope that it will be possible for you to continue your kind gift for this and the ensuing years. We feel the need of adding still more Chinese as well as foreign teachers to our staff."

From this you will see that it looks to Mr. Severance that his gift of \$600.00 was not applied to Mr. Liu's salary and yet the field has never taken up with him the application of his gift to any one other than Mr. Liu.

I think there is no question as to Mr. ZaungTeh Ing, for I have been authorized by the field to pay his insurance premiums as usual and I see that his name appears in the late Nanking bulletins. His salary was paid by Mr. Severance to December 31, 1915, and I am quite sure that Mr. Severance is now ready to remit for the year just closing. Any light that you can throw upon Mr. Liu will be greatly appreciated, as Mr. Severance is one of the men who likes to have these matters handled in a clear and businesslike way.

I have before me the 1916 Nanking School of Theology Report made under date of January 25, 1916, and I notice under expenditures for the year that the salary account is not itemized but that in the proposed budget for 1916 under salaries, the following names appear.

Chen Chin-yung	- - - - -	\$720.00
Li Ho-fu	- - - - -	720.00
Chang Yung-hsun	- - - - -	720.00
Chia Sien-seng	- - - - -	600.00
Yu An-loh	- - - - -	600.00

Yours very sincerely,

Treasurer

RC:M

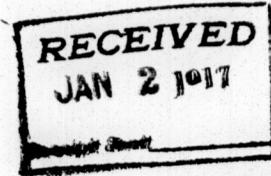
1180

2243798

*Jno. L. Severance*

480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Dec. 30, 1916.



*350.00*  
*500.00*  
*Ex*

Russell Carter, Treas.,  
University of Nanking,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 28th in reference to the salaries for Nanking, and I note that you are writing for further information regarding Mr. Liu.

Herewith please find my check on the Seaboard National Bank for \$600.00 for the salary of Mr. Ing for the calendar year 1916.

With best wishes for the New Year, I am

Yours very truly,

A large, flowing handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jno. L. Severance". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Enclosure  
M.L.

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1181

January 2, 1917.

Mr. J. L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, O.

My dear Mr. Severance:

I thank you for the remittance of \$600.00 covering the salary of Mr. Zaung Teh Ing for the calendar year 1916. I will send this forward at once and write you again as soon as I have word regarding Mr. Liu.

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Treasurer

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1182

1917

January 19, 1917.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Only today have I received a reply from Mr. Gardner Tewksbury, who is studying in New Haven this year and who has been previous to this year in Nanking, and I find that he can throw no additional light as to whether Mr. Liu has been at work in the Theological Department of the University of Nanking this past year.

I have carefully reread Dr. Garritt's letter and I think he means that your kind gift of \$600. was used this past year to effect an addition to their faculty in the person of the Rev. Chia Yu Ming and that as the full amount of the \$600. gold was not needed to cover his salary was either used for Mr. Yu An-Leh or if not definitely assigned on the books to him was used for the expense of their stenographer. After they had been so careful before to ask you to agree to the transfer from Mr. Kwai to Mr. Liu, I cannot understand why they did not write you later that Mr. Liu was not available. It would appear though that they had used your funds in main at least for the purpose for which you gave it, but not to the designated individual.

I know from frequent conversations with Mr. Williams and the trouble to which he went to secure a renewal of the \$5,000 which Mrs. Shepard gave through Dr. White that his feeling is now that with the loss of their Medical Department, it is all the more essential for the general interest of the University that the Theological Department be strengthened in its teaching

1183

Jan. 19, 1917.

staff so that they will command the highest type of students in this Department.

If you are not ready upon the basis of Dr. Garritt's letter requesting that you renew your gift for the year October 1, 1915-16 and subsequent years, would it not be well for either you or Mr. Speer or I to write to Dr. Garritt for a clear statement of their needs as to how far their present income will permit them to properly command this Department.

I think that probably upon the rereading of Dr. Garritt's letter you will feel there is no question in general as to the need and that perhaps it would suffice if with the remittance for the year October '15 to '16 we ask for such a statement as suggested above.

I am returning with this letter all of the papers which you kindly sent me in connection with your letter of December 19th.

Yours very sincerely,

RC:M

Treasurer.

2243798

John L. Severance

FILING DEPT  
~~JUN 5 1917~~  
SECRETARIES

480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Feb. 2, 1917.

RECEIVED  
FEB 5 1917  
Receipt Sent

M  
Russell Carter, Treas.,  
University of Nanking,  
156 Fifth Ave., New York City.

My dear Mr. Carter:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 19th but have been delayed in acknowledging same on account of a death in the family.

[ I am returning Mr. Garritt's letter together with a check for \$600.00 to cover the period from Oct. 1st, 1915 to Oct. 1st, 1916. This will cover any possible expenditures that may have been incurred under the expectation of my continuing the gift. I would be very glad if either you or Dr. Speer would reply to Dr. Garritt and learn just what is needed in this department which I have offered to help and what might be expected of me for the period from Oct. 1st, 1916 on. I think such matters as this should come through your office. Then you would be familiar with the needs of the institution covered by any pledges that I might make.

In writing Dr. Garritt will you kindly explain why I have asked you to reply and that it is not for lack of any interest that I might have in his department.]

Yours very truly,

*John L. Severance*

Enclosures  
M.L.

1185

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

February 8, 1917.

Rev. J. C. Garritt, D. D.,  
Nanking, China.

My dear Dr. Garritt:

We have pleasure in enclosing you draft for \$600.00 representing the gift of Mr. J. L. Severance of Cleveland to the Theological Department of the University for the period from October 1, 1915, to October 1, 1916.

Mr. Severance sent to us your letter to him of November 8, 1916, asking us whether we had the information in our office as to whether Mr. Liu whom he agreed to substitute for Mr. Kwai was actually in service in the School of Theology for the year 1915-16. Mr. Severance, as his father, is particular in these matters and he having agreed to the substitution of the one man for the other I think he was a little disturbed at reading in your letter that these funds were used for Rev. Chai Yu Ming and any balance not needed for his salary possibly being used for the stenographer in your office. We first wrote to Mr. Tewksbury to see if he could give us any light as to whether Mr. Liu was in the Seminary during this period and we have written to Mr. Severance assuring him that even though it was not clear as to whether Mr. Liu was in service that evidently his gift from the previous year had been used for the very purpose intended and earnestly suggesting that he renew the gift for this year and that with the transmission of the money we make inquiry. Mr. Severance now in sending his draft writes:

"This will cover any possible expenditures that may have been incurred under the expectation of my continuing the gift. I would be very glad if either you or Dr. Speer would reply to Dr. Garritt and learn just what is needed in this department which I have offered to help and what might be expected of me for the period from Oct. 1st, 1916 on. I think such matters as this

Feb. 8, 1927.

should come through your office. Then you would be familiar with the needs of the institution covered by any pledges that I might make.

"In writing Dr. Garritt will you kindly explain why I have asked you to reply and that it is not for lack of any interest that I might have in his department."

This surely will give you the very opening that you desire and it will, of course, be more natural for you to send this through Dr. Speer than through me. To save him and to transfer the funds, I am writing at this time.

With very kind regards,

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Assistant Treasurer

Encl.

P.S. I see this draft has been made out to Mr. Bowen's order instead of your own, though I think it will make no difference to you so I am not asking them to rewrite it.

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1187

480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

FILED DEPT.

JUN 5 1917

SECRETARIES

C O P Y

NANKING UNIVERSITY

Agreed to pay salary of Mr. Kuo for one year from time he commences service. To be advised later by Mr. Speer of the amount and date of service.

Payment: Jan. 13, 1915 - \$600.00 from Oct. 1st, 1914 to Oct. 1st, 1915.

Note: May 14, 1915. Agreed to substitute Mr. Liu in place of Mr. Kuo and be responsible for his salary for one year from time of employment.

Maximum amount, \$800.00.

2243798

1188

*John L. Severance*

FILING DEPT.  
AUG 6 1917  
TREAS. DEPT.

NANKING ITEM

From John L. Severance under date of July 12, 1917:

"Salary of Mr. Ing, Nanking ..... \$1200.00  
This is an increase of \$600.00  
over my pledge, to meet the increased  
cost of Mexicans."

The above covers salary of Mr. Z. T. Ing for the  
calendar year 1917.

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

FILING DEPT.

MAY 3 1917

TREAS. DEPT.

February 8, 1917.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
490 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

It is good of you to send on the \$600.00 covering the period from October 1, 1915, to October 1, 1916, of a representative in the Theological Department of the University of Nanking.

It was thoughtful of you to send me a copy of Dr. Garritt's letter. Just as an indication that sometimes we try to fortify ourselves in such matters, may we say that we ventured to take a copy of this letter before returning it to you. We have written Dr. Garritt, as you suggest, asking him to reply through Mr. Speer.

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Treasurer

1190

2243798

John L. Severance

C O P Y .

(Original letter in Mr. Speer's file)

May 4, 1917.

Mr. Robert E. Speer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Speer:

Upon my return to Cleveland yesterday I found your letter of the 19th ult., and also have received yours of the 30th in reference to the proceedings of the Administration Building at Newark. The resolution which you quote in your earlier letter meets with my entire approval.

I note that you have authorized the payment of certain bills against the Chapel and Administration Buildings, but you do not state the amount chargeable to the latter. I shall be glad to know if you are in need of funds from Mrs. Allen and myself for this amount, and if so we shall be glad to remit.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JOHN L. SEVERANCE

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1191

May 8, 1917

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Mr. Speer passed under my eye yesterday your good letter advising that you were glad to learn of Perkins, Fellows & Hamilton's advice that they felt that the Chapel and Administration Building could be built within the price per cubic foot which they had originally estimated for the building at Nanking despite the increased cost in building in China. I am not sure that I can help you any as to time that they will be needing funds for the erection of the Severance Memorial building, save that in one or two of President Bowen's and Mr. Williams' late letters they have remarked that though previously they had been holding our drafts in anticipation of more favorable rates of exchange and had been borrowing money awaiting such time, their later advice upon the field had been to the effect that the rates were likely to work against them rather than in their favor, and I have noticed, therefore, that they have been negotiating drafts which for a while they had been holding back. Also, I noticed the other night in looking over the field Treasurer's report for the calendar year 1916, that they had a debit balance in their building accounts both for the Chapel and for the Administration Building. Their earlier letters stated that there was certain work in the excavation and possibly the laying of water and drainage pipes for these buildings that could be done to better advantage in connection with the layout of the general system, and that they were therefore anticipating this work and doing it all at one time. The January 1, 1917, accounts report an expenditure of \$4115.20 on the Severance Memorial Building and \$3341.41 on the Chapel. *Mr. Day has sent out \$10,000. on 9c*

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant Treasurer

1192

May 9, 1917.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

In writing you yesterday, I omitted to say that I have just paid the architects, Perkins, Fellows & Hamilton, \$1750.00 on account of their work upon the plans for the Administration Building. This was ordered paid at the last Trustees' meeting, I think, - if not, by the Executive Committee. I should, therefore, have mentioned this as additional to the \$4115 expended to date upon the Severance Memorial Building.

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Assistant Treasurer

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

*Robert E. Speer*  
*advised her. Speer*  
*by Wood of amount*  
*7/10*

FILING DEPT.  
MAY 11 1917  
TREAS. DEPT.

May 8th, 1917.

My dear Russell,

The enclosed note from Mr. Severance will be self-explanatory. As you see, Mr. Severance will be glad to forward the amount that you need to pay to the architects on the administration building. Will you write to him, or do you prefer that I should do so?

Very cordially yours,

*Robert E. Speer*  
*ms*

RES-MS

RECEIVED  
MAY 8 1917

2253798

1194

R. E. Spicer

FILING DEPT.

MAY 10 1917

May 9, 1917

TREAS. DEPT.

My dear Robert:

Statement regarding man supported by Mr. Severance at Nanking

Mr. Williams in his letter to you of February 25th, 1915,  
wrote:

"We were so glad to hear of his willingness to provide Mr. Kuo's salary in case Mr. Kuo could still be secured for the University.

"With the recent developments, I do not believe Mr. Kuo will be able to come to us. He has been appointed by the Government in Peking as Dean or Principal of the Second National Normal School to be located in Nanking." \*\*\*

"We have a graduate of the University now studying at Northwestern. He will soon complete the course for his Ph. D., having specialized in Chinese History and Chinese Philosophy. He will be a most valuable man on our Faculty here, and we are counting upon his help in building up the Chinese Department, and displacing the last one of the non-Christian teachers. I wonder whether Mr. Severance would be willing to transfer the support planned for Mr. Kuo to Mr. K. S. Liu. I shall write him about this."

Mr. Severance sent us a copy of his memorandum as follows.  
December 19, 1916, Mr. Severance wrote regarding his obligations to Nanking University and this substitution of Liu in place of Mr. Kuo.

"The last payment I made on this account was Jan. 15th, 1915, \$600.00, to cover the period from Oct. 1st, 1914 to Oct. 1st, 1915. I have never been advised so far as I can learn from any records in my office here when Mr. Liu's engagement began, and possibly he has never been employed. This matter has been brought to my attention lately by the enclosed letter of Mr. Garritt, which more than ever confuses me as to what has been done with my contribution toward salary."

February 2, 1917, Mr. Severance returned Dr. Garritt's letter to Mr. Severance of November 8, 1916, together with his check for \$600.00 covering the period from October 1, 1915, to October 1, 1916. Dr. Garritt's letter is herewith attached.

1195

May 9, 1917.

Regarding this letter, while it speaks of Mr. Z. Z. Kwai and Mr. T. T. Lew, it looks as though the Chinese names had confused Mr. Severance and me, for it would appear as though Mr. Severance sent his remittance to cover an additional year in the Seminary, yet it was sent upon the basis of his having agreed to substitute Mr. Liu for Kuo. The continuation of Mr. Kuo's support in the University would not help Mr. Garritt any in the Seminary and yet it has been Mr. Garritt's letter that has prompted Mr. Severance to send the further remittance. The University has not reminded me of Mr. Severance's promise to continue Mr. Kuo's support in the person of Mr. Liu and it may be that Mr. Liu was not secured to the University. Is not the thing to do now, follow Mr. J. Leighton Stuart's suggestion and see whether Mr. Severance could not be interested to continue this amount yearly to the Seminary for the employment of a member or a couple of members of their faculty, he to take over Mr. T. T. Lew when Mr. <sup>Liu</sup> Liu is ready to go to the field in 1919? It would seem to be a pity to disturb Mr. Severance with this seeming confusion, but a letter of explanation might go to Dr. Garritt, your letter to Mr. Severance being one simply to interest him in the needs of the Seminary and to secure his gift regularly for the maintenance of the needed staff in the Seminary.

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Assistant Treasurer

John L. Severance

480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO. May 18, 1917.

721

Mr Russell Carter  
156 Fifth Ave  
New York City

My dear Mr Carter:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communications of the 8th and 9th. They were forwarded to me at New York and I had hoped to get in to see you before leaving there last night, but was unable to do so.

Herewith please find my check on the Seaboard National Bank for \$5,000 to apply on my subscription to the Administration Building of Nanking University. Mrs. Allen is forwarding her check for a similar amount. These will cover your expenditures and put you in funds for a time at least.

Yours very truly,

John L. Severance

Enclosures  
M.L.

2243798

1197

May 21, 1917.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

I thank Mrs. Allen and yourself in behalf of the Board for your enclosures, \$5,000 each to apply on your pledge covering the Administration Building at Nanking University.

I am writing to the field and will report to them at once the receipt of this \$10,000. My understanding is that they are proceeding at once with the erection of these buildings and the balance over and above expenditures already made on account of the Administration Building will therefore be available to them against further expenditures.

Mr. Williams' late letter indicates that their new Treasurer, Mr. Owen, whom Mr. Day is supporting, is making good and is affording them the desired relief. He has now been on the field four months so that they have had good opportunity of judging of his abilities. He is also entering into work with the young men and is proving in every way satisfactory. We had opportunity of meeting with him personally and were very much pleased with him/

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Treasurer

AUG 8

July 5, 1917.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

*Salary Z. T. Ing*

My dear Mr. Severance:

In a letter just received from President Bowen of Nanking University he refers to the salary paid the Chinese professor, Mr. Ing. You have been supplying the salary in U. S. Gold for some years at the rate of \$600.00 a year. President Bowen writes that on account of the high cost of supplies and because of the greatly advanced rate for silver Mexicans, they have had to make an adjustment with Mr. Ing and with other men looking to their relief, and that Mr. Ing is now being paid at the rate of 1800 Mexicans a year. At the rate of 62 cents for one Mexican this is costing the University \$1116.00 U.S. Gold. I am sorry to say, however, that even this amount of gold will not cover the salary in local currency, for since June 12, 1917, the rate has steadily risen until Mexicans are now costing 66½ cents Gold, or 41½ per cent higher than our old rate under which we made appropriations. At the rate of 66½ cents, Mr. Ing's salary of 1800 Mex. is costing the University \$1197.00 U.S. Gold.

I am simply reporting to you what the situation is in the matter of this salary.

Our appropriations for 1917-18 are going to cost us thousands of dollars, perhaps several hundred thousand dollars, more than it was estimated they would cost due to this very high price of silver obtaining all over the world. You will remember the Board took action authorizing the China Missions to pay missionaries their salaries at the arbitrary rate of 50 cents for a Mexican. This brought great and much needed relief to them. The action dated from October 1st, 1916.

Usually, as silver goes up prices go down but on account of the emergency and disarrangement caused by the war prices of materials, food supplies, etc., have steadily gone up together with the cost of silver.

The rise in the price of silver which, of course, is selling like any other commodity such as potatoes or wheat is due to a number of causes all based upon the law of supply and demand. Several smelters in Mexico which formerly had an output day and night for many months have not turned out any silver at all.

The British Government is attempting to accumulate silver rupees in India in order to pay for the Indian wheat crop and the armies under the British in Mesopotamia are being paid in silver rupees which increases the demand. In addition to this natives in India and in the near east and in Africa are hoarding silver. In Persia the price of silver has doubled and the Board has taken action giving relief to missionaries in their salary amounts. In China the increase in cost is between 25 per cent and 33-1/3 per cent advance. It is a very serious situation for all Boards and for all merchants as well who are obliged

Mr. J. L. Severance - p 2

July 5, 1917.

to make payments in China or in any of these other countries in silver currency. We are doing what we can to relieve the situation and are solicitous over it. The Church consistency this coming year will have to be informed as to the matter and we shall attempt to persuade the Church to take care of the emergency condition by sending to the Board increased amounts to cover the increased cost of the silver money required in these silver using countries.

I hope you will have a very delightful summer.

Very sincerely yours,

D:M

Treasurer

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1200

R. C. Speer



D-C

July 20th, 1917.

Dear Mr. Speer:-

You will be glad to learn that Mr. John L. Severance has sent in among other amounts \$1,200.00 to cover the salary of Mr. Z. T. Dag, the Professor at Nanking. This is twice the amount of his original pledge of \$600.00 and is in response to my letter to him of July 8th, in which I stated that at present rate of exchange (then prevailing), namely  $.66\frac{1}{2}$ , the \$1,800.00 Mexicans which the University was paying to Mr. Dag was costing the University \$1,197.00 Gold.

Dr. A. J. Bowen wrote to Mr. Carter on this matter under date of May 21st. I am simply advising President Bowen of the receipt of \$1,200.00 and will leave to you or Mr. Carter the matter of appropriating the amount or authorizing its expenditure as you see fit.

Faithfully yours,

Treasurer.

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1201

*R. E. Speer*

FILING DEPT.

MAY 10 1917

TREAS. DEPT.

Mr. Speer:

- Copy -

"The Committee on the Medical School reported that the work of the University Hospital had been carefully reorganised by the Board of Managers which had appointed Dr. Sloan as Superintendent; that the Foreign Christian Missionary Society had appointed Dr. Hiltner as its representative on the staff and that the Southern Presbyterian Committee had transferred Dr. Hutcheson from Kashing to Nanking; that the Methodist Board would be sending out this year a representative; that the Southern Methodist Board had already paid \$1000. in lieu of sending a doctor to the Hospital this year, and would probably later add \$200., and that the Methodist, Presbyterian, Christian, Northern Baptist and Southern Presbyterian Boards had agreed to contribute \$600. each toward maintenance. These arrangements in the judgment of Mr. Green fully met the conditions of the China Medical Board's contribution, and Mr. Speer and Mr. Carter had duly certified to Dr. Buttrick that the conditions specified by the China Medical Board had been met and that the China Medical Board had in consequence paid to Mr. Carter for the calendar year 1917 its grant of \$9,250.

"With regard to the China Medical Board's promise of \$25,000. for equipment on condition that a similar sum be provided by the Trustees, the Committee reported correspondence with the China Medical Board, and the following resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the China Medical Board on March 22nd:

1202

2243798

"Resolved that the China Medical Board's appropriation 2138 to the University of Nanking for twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) shall become effective as soon as the Trustees of the University certify that they have secured in cash or legally valid subscriptions from other sources the sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) and that payments on account of the Board's appropriation shall be made in installments on demand, and that the aggregate of such payments shall at no time exceed the aggregate received by the University on its subscriptions for the same purpose from other sources."

The report of the Committee was accepted and approved, and the Chairman authorized to report to Dr. Buttrick the fact that \$13,000. was in hand or subscribed, including the whole entire share allotted to the Presbyterian Board and that letters had been received from Dr. McLean dated April 10th and Dr. North, dated April 9th with reference to the contributions from those Boards, and to ask Dr. Buttrick whether these letters and the funds in hand met the conditions of the China Medical Board's resolution."

1203

2243798

TRANSPORT



June 29, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480- The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Severance:-

I thought you would be interested in the enclosed program of the Commencement Exercises of the Yale University School of Religion, which indicates the standing of Mr. Lew upon his graduation. You have been interested in helping Mr. Lew and will be gratified to know the record he made. He won his Degree of B.D. magna cum laude, and was also given his Phi Beta Kapa from Columbia for his specially high grade of work there, although he had not been there for the full time required for an undergraduate by their rules. The title of his essay, "Religious Education for International Relations and World-Wide Brotherhood" does not fully indicate the line of his work. He made a very careful study of "American School Texts" and their references to China. I hope that his investigations placed before Commissioner of Education Plaxton will prove a help in showing how insidiously and antipathetic such references have been. What is fed to our children in the grades determines to an amazing extent, their subsequent thought and attitude. Mr. Lew is to assist Prof. Coe now on the Faculty of Union Seminary, this year in religious education. After a year there, he will be prepared to return to the Seminary work at Nanking. You may know that Dr. J.C. Garritt has returned to the United States for the summer to be with Mrs. Garritt and their son, Stanley, expecting to return to Nanking for the Fall term. Our Board has acted favorably upon the proposal of the addition to the forces of the advanced theological course. The disciples and Methodist Boards have not yet reported Board action. I feel confident that we shall be able to carry out the plans for the staffing on this advanced course. Tactically this is the most strategic line for the development of the Church and Christian influence in China.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

W.-K.

1204

2243798

1918  
4/20/18  
R. Carter  
Brown

Nanking

(9)

JOHN L. SEVERANCE  
480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

July 8, 1918.

**TRANSFER**

Dr. J. E. Williams,  
Board of Foreign Missions,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Dr. Williams:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favors of the 28th and 29th ult. I was pleased to hear of the high character of the work accomplished by Mr. Lew. I hope some time this summer, or at least in the fall, that I may have the opportunity of meeting him, as I understand he is to be situated in New York during the fall and winter.

I have had a further talk with Mrs. Prentiss in regard to the Administration Building and neither of us can see our way at present to increase our appropriation for it, but, as stated to you when in Cleveland, we have no objection to the \$50,000.00 being used for its construction. As the suggested change in the tower will make so little difference in the cost I rather favor leaving the design as it is at present.

Yours very truly,

*John L. Severance*

EF

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1205

W-C

September 12th, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480, The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Severance:-

I was delighted to know that you would be able to attend a meeting of the Trustees Thursday morning, September 19th. We are expecting a very full meeting at that time. I am also expecting that Mr. John Boh-Ling, who is a member of our Board of Managers on the field. Dr. Buttrick said he regarded him as one of the ablest College Presidents he ever knew, and with him his friend, Fan Yuen-Lin, former Minister of Education in China, who is now spending sometime in investigating education in America.

You will be interested in some data that Mr. Small has sent over- blueprints of the grounds indicating all buildings and some excellent kodak views of the buildings in process.

I am, Anticipating with great pleasure seeing you next week,

Very sincerely yours,

Vice-President.

1206

2243798

~~FILING DEPT.~~  
~~SEP 21 1918~~  
~~TREAS. DEPT.~~

September 20th, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Just to remind you that we do not seem to have received your remittance for Z. T. Ing's salary for the calendar year 1918. We probably should have called your attention to it earlier. We were off on our vacation in August, the time that you have been remitting for this item. I understand that he is being paid \$600. gold at the two for one rate, or 1200 Mex. which at the present rate of exchange would amount to \$1200. gold.

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Treasurer

2243798

1207

*John L. Severance*

480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

September 24, 1918

~~FILING~~

SEP 28 1918

~~RECEIVED~~

9/27

Russell Carter, Treasurer,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Replying to your favor of September 20th, herewith  
please find my check for \$600.00 for the salary of Mr. Ing for the  
year 1918.

Yours very truly,

*John L. Severance*

EF

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1208

UNIVERSITY OF NANKING

NANKING, CHINA

NEW YORK OFFICE

156 FIFTH AVENUE

OFFICERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ROBERT E. SPEER, PRESIDENT  
A. MCLEAN, VICE-PRESIDENT  
RALPH E. DIFFENDORFER, SECRETARY  
RUSSELL CARTER, TREASURER

OFFICERS OF UNIVERSITY

A. J. BOWEN, PRESIDENT  
J. E. WILLIAMS, VICE-PRESIDENT

Sept. 25, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480- The Arcade,  
Cleveland, O.

Dear Mr. Severance:-

*Amman* X *(Sutherland)* X

*Amman* Had we known the rate of exchange for the Mexican dollar which we learned on Friday of last week we should hardly have spent the time we did in Trustees meeting discussing the wisdom of carrying thru the new buildings at this time. The rate announced from Hongkong Bank Friday morning was 99 1/4, practically par, and the bank thought it would go still higher. This would push beyond our bounds the carrying on of the buildings at this time. We shall have our hands full as you had previously advised in caring for our current work and staff, and holding things together until conditions are more relieved. I do appreciate more than I can express the way you ~~have~~ prepared to meet the very adverse conditions. \*

X I shall give myself to an effort to make more secure arrangements for our current expense. X The Language School's building was expected to be completed by the first of September. The new dispensary building of the hospital was contracted to be completed in February, so that part of our building program was already out of the way.

X Now our most hopeful line of development ~~that will~~ not involve increased equipment and overhead charges will be in the enlargement and increasing efficiency of the summer school! Dr. Ernest D. Burton of Chicago University when asked at a meeting of our trustees what he regarded as the most ~~hopeful~~ and significant factor for the development of general education in America replied:- "The most significant and potent factor is the development of the summer schools which brought into the larger Universities the most enterprising teachers in the whole country." This last summer we had enrolled about eighty in the agricultural courses, and a larger number in the educational courses. With the same buildings, equipment, and partially the same staff, it might be possible to attract to the University in the last weeks of June, and the month of July, a very large number of teachers not only from missionary primary and secondary schools, but also from government schools. These men could be given credits toward regular high school and college work.

X Even the second draft and the increased demands of the war work might not preclude our securing several efficient men from the faculties of the Seminaries for teaching the advanced course at Nanking, and I shall hope that these might be sent over and their salaries continued

Sheet 2- In re J.L.S.

Sept. 25, 1918.

by their institutions here.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

W.-K.

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

12 10

~~FILED~~ ~~DEPT.~~  
~~SEP 28 1918~~  
~~TREAS. DEPT.~~

Sept. 27, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480- The Arcade,  
Cleveland, O.

Dear Mr. Severance:-

It is a pleasure to acknowledge your check for \$600. for the salary of Mr. Z.T. Ing for the calendar year 1918. I have referred to my letter of September 20th, and am not sure that I made the situation clear to you. I do not like to be in the position of lacking in appreciation of your generous cooperation in all these financial problems, and so hesitate to write you. I appreciate likewise that you are under no obligation to do more than continue the \$600. Gold that you have been giving for Mr. Ing's salary. On the contrary when the situation was explained to you a year ago that Mr. Ing was being paid his salary at the 2 for 1 rate, the same as other missionaries, you very willingly assumed the cost of that Mexican salary. Today Mr. Ing is being paid \$1200. Mexican and the cost of his salary is \$1200. Gold. Perhaps you understood the situation before and had decided that you wished to give only the original amount. I feel, however, that you would wish me to do as I am doing, and call your attention to the matter at least.

Yours very sincerely,

Associate Treasurer.

C.-K.

1211

2243798

1974

JOHN L. SEVERANCE  
480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

September 30, 1918.

~~ELLING DEPT~~  
~~OCT 7 1918~~  
~~TRUST DEPT~~

RECEIVED  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
20  
110

Russell Carter, Associate Treasurer,  
Board of Foreign Missions,  
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Yours of the 27th at hand. In remitting you  
the other day for Mr. Ing's salary for the calendar year 1918 I  
had entirely forgotten the exchange matter. Herewith please find  
my check for another \$600.00 to complete his salary.

Of course this exchange matter is going to make it im-  
possible for us to do all that we had hoped to do and I must face  
the matter of what things I must cut out in the future.

Yours very truly,

*John L. Severance*

EF

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

12 12

JOHN L. SEVERANCE  
480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

September 30th, 1918.

Dr. J. E. Williams,  
Vice President University of Nanking,  
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

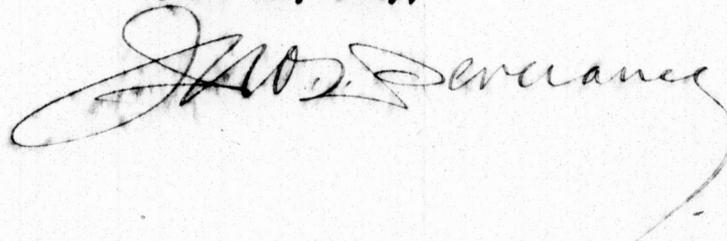
My dear Dr. Williams:

I am just in receipt of your favor of the 26th and regret to learn the situation in regard to exchange and that the present rates make it practically impossible for you to consider new building operations. I, therefore, judge from this that you do not need the money from Mrs. Prentiss and myself, although she had agreed with me to the suggestions for payment that I made to you when in New York. However, we stand ready to advance the money whenever you decide that it is desirable to use it.

I expect to be in New York the latter part of this week ~~the~~ first of next and hope I may have the privilege of meeting you if you are still there.

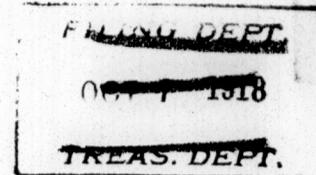
With best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,



2243798

12 13



October 4th, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Thank you very much for your additional  
check of \$600.00 thereby covering the complete cost of Mr.  
Z. T. Ing's salary of 1200 Mexicans for the calendar year  
1918.

Very sincerely yours,

RC:M

Treasurer

12 14

2243798

FILING DEPT.  
OCT 22 1918  
TREAS. DEPT.

JOHN L. SEVERANCE  
480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

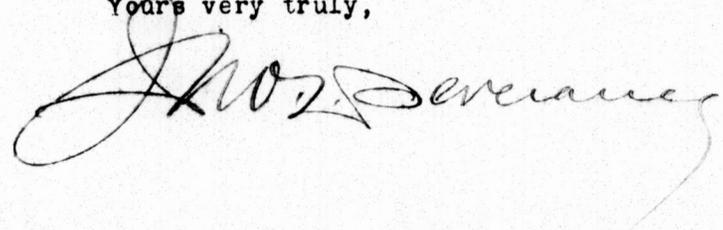
October 14, 1918.

Russell Carter, Treasurer,  
University of Nanking,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Carter:

Yours of the 10th to the members of the Finance  
Committee regarding the further grants to Mr. Williams while in  
this country at hand. I am entirely agreeable to the suggestion you  
make, viz: \$55.00 per month for rent of apartment and \$100.00  
additional for supplementary allowance. The only question I raise  
is whether \$55.00 for rent is enough to supply him a satisfactory  
apartment.

Yours very truly,



EF

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

12 15

October 23rd, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Your last letter was received in due time. I was not in the city the latter part of that week, but inquired on Saturday and Monday. Then you had probably returned to Cleveland. In my recent trip west I expected to attend the Christian Church Convention at St. Louis and meet a number of speaking engagements in churches at St. Louis, and the Iowa and Nebraska synods, but failed owing to the prevalence everywhere of influenza. I made the trip to St. Louis but was not able to meet a single appointment. I had hoped on that trip to stay over in Cleveland en route but I feared you might be having the same trouble there and so returned directly to Montclair.

The following items which I am sending to each one of the Trustees will, I am sure, interest you.

Letters recently received from President Bowen give a most cheering report of the enrolment at the opening of the Fall term. Letters during the Summer indicated that there would be an unusually large enrolment owing to the fact of the Chinese students returning from Tokyo and not expecting to go again to study in Japan. Under date of September 10th, Dr. Bowen writes:

"We have never had such an opening where the students were back so promptly and the class work and everything started off so well and so on time. The Minutes of the last Faculty Meeting, which we are sending, will give you a lot of most excellent material. Ninety-six new men not including graduates of the University Middle School came before the Committee on admission to the Colleges. On September 10th eighty had been received from these new students."

The outlook is that there will be an increased enrolment in the Colleges of not less than 30 per cent. There will probably be over 300 students enrolled in the college courses. In another letter Dr. Bowen wrote that they were placing chairs on every available foot of space in the lecture room of Science Hall to seat them for chapel.

You will be interested to know that Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Marx sailed on the "Teruyo Maru" from San Francisco October 12th. Mr. Marx will be associated with Mr. Harry Clemons in the English work and give his whole time to teaching English to the students of the Junior College.

1216

October 23rd, 1918.

This time when it is so difficult to secure men from the U. S. to reinforce the staff, you will be pleased to know that Dr. Bowen has been able to add to our staff at Nanking Mr. Sie Chia Shen, a graduate of the University, who has spent three years in the study of agriculture in the U. S. at Cornell and Penn State. To provide for the work which Miss Wixson and Miss Taylor were doing so excellently, and who are now on furlough in the United States, the Misses Stearns, White, and Braasted were secured from the Kuling School. They are women who have had excellent training and will meet the emergency very satisfactorily. Miss Pierce who was in the employ of the University about five years ago, and who did very exceptional work as a teacher, has also consented to come for the period of Miss Wixson's absence. To reinforce the teaching in agriculture two other Chinese returned students, a Dr. Wang and Mr. Tsien, were engaged on the field. They will also cover in part the work carried on by Messrs. Settlemyer and Bullock who are not returning to the University.

The development of the work at Nanking was never more encouraging and reassuring. The Minutes of the Board of Trustees have been mailed to you.

I should like at this time to remind you of the date of the next annual meeting 9:30 A. M. December 6th. The Board of Managers met at Nanking October 11th, and President Bowen writes that budgets and all reports should be here in good time for our next regular annual meeting.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

W:M

12 17

2243798

December 2nd, 1918.

Mr. John E. Severance,  
480 The Arcade,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Under separate cover, I am mailing you copy of the catalog for the year 1918-19 which has just come to hand. Also a copy of President Bowen's report which you will, I hope, read with interest. Please note especially Mr. Reisner's report on the work of the agricultural and forestry departments. Mr. Walter S. Swingle of the Bureau of Agriculture and Forestry of Washington has just been in Nanking and is very anxious for Mr. Reisner to work with Dr. Fairchild, head of the department at Washington, over the materials which they have collected in China. Mr. Reisner could spend his furlough in that time not only with great advantage to the department there but great profit to himself of Swingle's own studies.

The budget for the year 1918 with the Minutes of the Board of Managers meeting have come to hand and we will have copies struck off as soon as possible so that all can have them in hand at our meeting of the Trustees.

I am giving you an excerpt from President Bowen's letter of October 21st, bearing upon the building program which will be of special interest to you, as follows:

"The whole Board was unanimous in the action reaffirming our last year's decision of the need of getting on with our building programme. The special urgency may be emphasized under these points: First, the increasing cost of building as a whole is not so very much greater than it was a year or two ago, and every one, both in Shanghai and here, seems to think that the item of increased cost in building will not be much less for some time and is not sufficient, as it stands, to hold us up in any degree. Then, in the second place, many others here are going right ahead with their building programme. The Shanghai Baptist College have just completed their gymnasium at an expense of \$23,000. They are beginning in a few weeks on a new dormitory. St. John's University has begun upon its new building. The Y. M. C. A. in Hankow, I believe, is going forward with some building project. Of course the China Medical Board in Peking is driving ahead on its buildings. The Associated Mission Treasurers are just purchasing land and getting ready to go ahead with their project of having a union building in Shanghai. So the judgment and practice of others out here are to go ahead without delay. Then, third, our increased attendance most urgently makes it necessary for us to complete our buildings, not only the administration building but the dormitory and chapel. It is exceedingly difficult for us to find class room and dining-room space now. You will note from the enclosed notes re-

1218

garding the attendance this fall that we had just one hundred new students enter at the Kuleo. This attendance will increase if we have room to accommodate it, and we should be in position to take advantage of this movement of students toward the University at this time. If we can begin building immediately at the best it will take a year before we can use the new buildings. Then the war which now seems to be drawing towards its close is going to result in a large forward movement, I am sure, in business and trade, and that is going to result in more money and, consequently, more students in China. The Hospital Dispensary will be completed by Chinese New Year. That will result in a very marked increase in the work over there and the doctors will be insisting more strenuously than ever that we give up the old Middle School buildings so that they can properly care for their work and develop their nurses' training school. So, from every point of view we feel that our Trustees should, if at all feasible, make it possible for us to complete the three buildings. I am sure that you and they must feel that our work is not entirely remote from the objects for which America is fighting in Europe, and these objects will stand out all the more clearly when the peace negotiations are finally taken up, for the Allies then will be obliged to consider some suitable way of governing China and of bringing an end to the unfortunate strife and chaos that now prevail all over China. The work we are doing is directly bearing on this problem of a better China, and so our work is not detracting from the objects for which the Allies are fighting but, rather, is supplementing it in a large way."

Exchange, fortunately, is improving with the close of the war. Everyone is more prepared to face other problems now that the war is definitely finished.

If you are in New York before the meeting of the Trustees, I should appreciate very much an opportunity of talking over any of these questions with you and the problems of the University in advance of the meeting.

With most cordial regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

W:M

12 19

2243798

JOHN L. SEVERANCE  
480 THE ARCADE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

December 9, 1918.

Dr. J. E. Williams,  
Vice President University of Nanking,  
156 Fifth Avenue - New York City.

My dear Doctor:

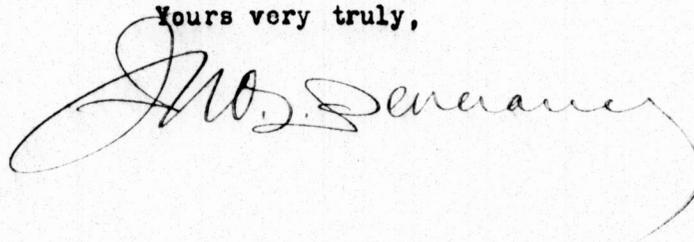
Upon my return to Cleveland Saturday I found your letter of the 2nd which I should have been glad to have had before going to New York, although I think that we covered at our meeting about all the matters that were referred to in your letter.

Regarding the building proposition: As I understand it, it is to be left pretty largely with the Board of Managers to determine when the right time has arrived to proceed. Mr. Carter, as you will recall, made the statement that the exchange situation is improving and I wish to say now that whenever it has reached such a point as he thinks it desirable to take advantage of, Mrs. Prentiss and myself are prepared to forward the balance of our pledge for the administration building fund.

I believe this is along the line of what we have said for some little time and I hope it meets with your approval.

I beg to remain

Yours very truly,



EF

2  
2  
4  
3  
7  
9  
8

1220

December 13, 1918.

Mr. John L. Severance,

#480 The Arcade, Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Severance:

Your letter of December 9th received today. Yes, the matters referred to in my former letter were largely covered at the meeting of the Trustees.

My understanding of the building proposition at present is just as you stated, and the former action of the Trustees at the previous meeting covered the case fully, so there was no need of discussion at the Trustees Meeting. I do hope that exchange will recover somewhat of its former rating although it is yet difficult to forecast what it will do.

In view of the difficulties which Dr. North experienced in undertaking a fair share for the University, I believe you would be heartened sometime in seeing some of President Bowen's correspondence and in realizing how harmoniously we work together on the China end, and how completely denominational difficulties are confined to the authorities on this side. If they were shared in Nanking our situation might be serious, but as long as they are not, the University is a real entity; an institution with a life of its own that is meeting the needs of all the Missions and is heartily endorsed by the Missions. That is the fundamental consideration for us.

It will be an unspeakable relief if the action of the Board of Trustees can be carried out by the co-operating Boards and they can make available for the University two for one on exchange, for the years 1917 and 18.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

1221

2243798