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UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
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Yenching
Corres
Hamilton, Carl 1927-1929

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File under "Hamilton"

June 16, 1927

MEMORANDUM REGARDING POSSIBLE GIFT FOR PURCHASE
OF PRESIDENT HSU'S GARDEN, Yenching.

This garden is a very beautiful bit of land of about ten acres in size, just north of our present site and linking up with our present LANG Yuin Yuen, *the beautiful garden which is for Chinese residences.*

In November 1926 in an interview with Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Luce found that the only thing that he would be interested in would be securing additional land which would round out present plans or protect present property. This was mentioned in a letter to Dr. Stuart.

In April Dr. Stuart wrote that he thought the way was opening up for this land to be purchased and that it would cost not more than \$10,000 or \$12,000 gold.

Today (June 16, 1927) Mr. Hamilton was seen again. He is not so situated that he could take up the matter immediately but would like to do so in the near future, but he could make no definite promise. He did not want his name mentioned in the matter at the present stage, but intimated to me that he had every hope and intention of doing this bit of service.

In reply to his question about the urgency of the matter I told him that sometimes an opportunity passed which would not come again and that the earlier the matter was attended to the more certain it would be of a successful conclusion. Thereupon he intimated that he might be able to give \$5,000 before he could conclude the whole amount and that a mortgage might be placed on same until he could complete it. He has a large ground plan of the University site and I am inclined to believe that he will carry this matter through within the next twelve months.

Mr. Hamilton (apparently due to some unhappy experience) is not interested in Christianity as such, but having been in China, is deeply interested in that land and believes in raising up leaders for China. I do not think he is opposed to Christianity but rather does not think that the addition of it in our work will do a great deal of good. I am inclined to think that he will revisit China at some time in the future. He is a man of artistic temperament and interested in serving others. He does a good deal to help poor boys get an education or a business position.

A. Luce

0874

June 16, 1927

H. Stewart

Dear Leighton:

In May immediately on receiving your letter about President Hsu's Garden, I saw Mr. Hamilton and found him busy rearranging his office and he asked me to come again. Today I had a good interview with him, with the result as indicated on the attached memorandum. He is a comparatively young man and has some very admirable qualities. He intimated to me that he might, of course, do it at once, but that there were other obligations resting upon him at the present moment that he first ought to meet; but I have every reason to believe that he intends to carry this matter through.

He said he had some \$300,000 worth of obligations to meet by July 1st. I have an impression that after that, if the opportunity out there to buy shaped up to a critical point we might be able to get him to give the first \$5,000 and a definite pledge for the next 5,000.

You will of course keep me in touch with the matter from your end of the line. It might be well to send me some photographs if the garden is in shape there to make a good impression with these photographs. He is a man of a tickle temperament. He has visited China already and no doubt will visit it again. I feel very hopeful about his carrying this matter out, as almost completely hopeful as any matter could possibly be short of a definite pledge or the money paid over.

Ever truly,

H. S. L.

A memo of this
is filed under
the name of
Carl Hamilton
N.Y. City

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學大京燕
YENCHING UNIVERSITY
PEKING, CHINA.

Mr. Hamilton

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

AUG 20 1927

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS:
"YENTA"

July 29, 1927.

Dr. H.W. Luce,
Office of Peking University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Harry:

Certain inquiries I made yesterday make me exceedingly dubious about any prospect of buying the President's Garden. It seems that President Hsu has more or less definitely in mind the establishing of a school, possibly even of college grade, on these grounds. He maintains now a middle school in the city and his thought seems to be to develop this into a college. While I have no idea that he can secure, or is willing to contribute the large sum of money necessary to carry this out, yet it is possible that he has some way to do so, and in any case the idea is sufficiently in his mind to make our prospect of purchasing the property exceedingly slight. I shall continue inquiries and should at least endeavor to prevent the location of another school so near to us. However, I want to raise the question of the possibility of interesting Mr. Hamilton in something else. If he is artistic and is ready to help education in general as beneficial to the Chinese people would he not contribute even Gold \$5000 towards beautifying our grounds which would include the use of some of the marbles now of priceless value secured by us from the old Summer Palace and worked into decorative bridges, etc; also a pavilion or two. Such a gift ought to appeal to his artistic interest, and at the same time give him a sense of helping

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forward the cause of liberal education in this country.
I hate awfully to lose this potential gift because of
the obstructions in the way of the one piece of land
which has been put up to him. Meanwhile, if by any
good chance the President's Garden proves available,
I shall cable at once.

As ever yours,

J.H.S.

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February 6, 1928

Report of Mr. H. W. Luce on Carl Hamilton, 50 Broad St., New York City

The original proposition of Mr. Hamilton was to buy President Hsu's garden. It was later found that this garden could not be secured and on Dr. Stuart's return to the United States last fall it was decided to ask Hamilton Mr. ~~Hsu~~ to give his \$10,000 to purchase and develop the athletic field on the Northeast corner. Since then Mr. Luce has made several attempts to see Mr. Hamilton but he is almost always out of town.

In January Mr. Luce was talking to him over the phone. He seemed very cordial, said he was about to leave for a long trip but would be glad to see Mr. Luce the latter part of March on his return. Mr. Luce has made note of this and at that time will endeavor to see him.

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May 19, 1928

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

As a result to our conversation yesterday, I am jotting down a few items relative to the two pieces of property of which we were speaking.

I find, on referring to our plans, that with regard to the athletic field, it is about four acres in size, planned to include a quarter mile track. The plan is to put up cement bleachers. Part of the land is already purchased and as soon as funds are in hand the balance should be secured, the total expenditure being \$10,000.00. This athletic field adjoins closely the beautiful gymnasium now being erected on Chinese architectural lines by a gift of Mr. Franklin H. Warner of this city.

The other plot of land, known as President Hsu's Garden, is directly to the north of our present campus and is about twenty acres in size and will cost \$10,000.

If we can complete the purchase of these two pieces of property, so far as I can peer into the long indefinite future, the land question for Yenching University would be settled. While both pieces of land are very important, I suppose if we had to choose between them, the athletic field would be somewhat the more urgent.

I should be very glad if you could send me a note expressing your intention so that there could be a little memorandum of it here. I am sure you feel as I do that the whole is a tremendously fine project and one which I believe through the years will give increasing joy and satisfaction to any who have had a share in its development.

It was a great pleasure to talk with you yesterday, not only along university lines but also in regard to art and those fine things in the youthful human spirit with which you are so closely in contact. Blessings on you in all your plans.

Under another cover I am sending you some pamphlets which may be of interest to you.

Ever most sincerely yours,

Mr. Carl Hamilton
50 Broad Street, Room 1735
New York City

HWL:LM

0879

Hamilton

June 4, 1928

Dear Leighton:

I had a fairly good and sympathetic interview with Carl Hamilton. He either is the biggest bluffer that I have ever met in all my life or else in due time we shall get \$10,000 or probably \$20,000. I laid both the President Hsu garden and the Athletic Field before him and he was inclined to take either one and, at his own suggestion, he intimated if his affairs turned out well he would take both. I asked him to write out what his intention was and he suggested that I write giving him the data in regard to each field, the size, etc., and he would do so. I immediately sent him the information but up to date we have not received any reply from him. I do not think that this means that he has changed his mind, whatever that state of mind actually is.

While I was with him he was talking over the 'phone with people about selling pictures worth \$300,000 or \$400,000 and he also told me he was in process of raising money on these pictures. I have known for a long time that he has been very fond of buying up very expensive pictures. Over the 'phone he spoke of having what is regarded as the greatest existing picture of the Crucifixion worth \$800,000 or more.

He also intimated that he would do this thing right away, but that would mean that he would not pay some obligations that were really due and that would be hardly fair to the other fellow. In this matter one guess is as good as another, but judging by all he said and by every outward sign I would say that the situation looks very hopeful.

I would suggest that you put down in your memorandum book the item of writing me as to the situation of these properties making the matter as urgent as the truth will allow and getting the letter to me by September 10th. I would then cull the facts from that and present them to him at that time. Of course, if a critical situation arises in regard to either of these places, you might cable but I would not do that unless you felt it was very necessary to our securing the land. I think our best plan is to give him a little more time.

I also wrote to Mrs. Blaine and Cyrus McCormick telling them how gratified I was at hearing of their decision and that, while formerly I favored a building (at a period when the first need of the University was to get a roof over its head), now I favored endowment and was delighted at the change they had made in the plan.

I take it for granted that you saw Trull and decided what was to be done about the Sewickley church and its support.

I hope also that the matter of completing the infirmary may be taken up this fall because I feel it would be very embarrassing to ~~carry~~ on much further without completing this building for which we have had the funds in hand so long.

We think of you as crossing Russia about this time and wonder if you will be able to make Peking on scheduled time. Hoping that you will have a good trip and that Peking will be peaceful by the time of your arrival,

Ever truly yours,

H. W. Luce

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University
Peking West, China

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CARL W. HAMILTON
50 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK CITY

June 23, 1928

Mr. H. W. Luce,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Luce:

In response to your letter of May 18th I am writing to say that it is my intention when my personal affairs permit and if you then lack either the \$10,000 to complete the athletic field or the \$10,000 to purchase the so called President Hsu's Garden of about twenty acres to contribute \$10,000 for at least one of these very desirable projects. My interest in both these needs is so great that it is a source of very genuine regret that I cannot now supply one of them or state definitely just when I can.

The pamphlets which you sent me have been received and looked over with interest.

Very sincerely,

Carl Hamilton

CWH:MEH

copy sent Dr. Luce 6-26

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Carl Hamilton

June 28, 1928

After receiving Mr. Hamilton's letter of June 23, 1928 to Dr. Luce expressing his "intention" of a gift at some future date, Mr. Wannamaker called June 28, 1928 explaining that the campaign for \$500,000 was closing June 30th and asking whether Mr. Hamilton could possibly make his intention a pledge to help us in meeting conditions of the Boyd provisional \$90,000 pledge. Mr. Hamilton explained that he had for several years been paying off heavy obligations for which he was in no way responsible and that he had determined not to obligate himself for the present. He is sincerely interested and will almost certainly contribute to the University when he feels able.

O. D. Wannamaker

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Carl Hamilton
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Peking, China
July 7, 1928

Rev. H. W. Luce
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Harry:

Your fine letter of June 4 has just reached me as I am starting today for Shanghai to attend the Council on Higher Education. I certainly am glad that our elusive friend Mr. Carl Hamilton is still being pursued by you and that you feel so hopeful about some sort of fruitful outcome. It so happens that in the three weeks since I returned here, I have been informed that it is now quite possible, if we act promptly, to secure the President's Garden at a price even smaller perhaps than originally thought of. The new nationalistic regime is making all those who hold property under the Imperial grants somewhat anxious about their ability to maintain their claims. President Hsu is aging and some of his closest friends are actively interested on our behalf. This combination of circumstances will make it possible for us to secure within the next few weeks what might otherwise be permanently lost, certainly at any such figures. If, therefore, Mr. Hamilton really decides to assist us in this matter, I suggest that you cable authorization. The total cost not to exceed \$10,000 gold. It may even be secured for half of that amount, though the larger figure should be authorized for contingencies.

The matter of the Athletic Field is not so much of an immediate opportunity that may need immediate action, but seems to me an even more important acquisition from the standpoint of university development. The gymnasium is now under construction and at its completion it would be ~~so~~ a very great advantage to have the important field features immediately adjacent to it instead of at the end of the campus farthest from it. This latter place was intended to be only temporary and could be permanently occupied for tennis courts, and other games, less related to the gymnasium and to sporting events. The two holdings which we have not as yet acquired are being held more or less on a speculative basis at figures higher than we had intended to offer. With the increasing value of property around us the intimation is that this price will go up rather than otherwise. This combined with the return of K. A. Wee as our physical Director next winter and the desire to stress this important aspect of student welfare makes me inclined to urge that between the two, the north east corner is of greater benefit to the university, although you will share with me the sense of the desirability of the President's Garden. I need not say that you can assure Mr. Hamilton of the eager expectation with which we are awaiting favorable decision on his part. I doubt if he could invest such a sum of money anywhere in the world where it would bring more joy and benefit to educational and cultural welfare than in helping us in one or both of these projects for which at present we have no other available funds.

I have received a letter from Oliver Bronson telling me that you are to be at Hartford Seminary. I am delighted at this outcome and congratulate the Seminary as well as yourself. I hope you will find it a most congenial task and you will certainly have a delightful community in which to make new friends. Meanwhile, you can be assured that the old one still love you and wish you all happiness, and success.

As ever yours,
(Signed) J. Leighton Stuart

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August 21, 1928

My dear Mr. Hamilton:

When Dr. Stuart reached Peking in June he discovered that an exceptional opportunity to purchase the "President Hsu's Garden" was developing. On July 7th he wrote me a personal letter saying: "Since I returned here I have been informed that it is now quite possible, if we act promptly, to secure the President's Garden at a price even smaller than that originally thought of. The new situation is caused by changes in government, by the marked aging of President Hsu, and by the deep interest of some of President Hsu's closest friends in behalf of the University. This combination of circumstances will make it possible for us to secure in the next few weeks what might otherwise be permanently lost, certainly at any such figure..... I suggest that you cable authorization, the total cost not to exceed \$10,000. It may even be secured for half that amount though the larger figure should be authorized for contingencies."

On August 13th, Dr. Stuart cabled the Trustees that immediate action must be taken and urged that funds be made available at once to complete the purchase at a cost "not to exceed \$5,000." This indicates that, at this opportune moment, the cost would be about half the amount of any previous price. The Trustees are eager to take favorable action but find it impossible to do so unless the needed funds are secured or at least guaranteed.

We do not know whether you are so situated that you could give the proposed cooperation in this matter at the present time, but I felt that the situation was so important and so urgent that I should share our information with you.

I am hoping you are having a fine time this summer with some of those boys who have so wonderfully won your heart.

Most cordially yours,

Mr. Carl Hamilton
50 Broad Street
New York City

HWL:BB

0885

August 22, 1928

Dear Mr. Wannamaker:

This is just a short note to let you know the results that have come in from our letter of August 10th. We have received to date in cash and pledges (mostly cash) from this appeal the amount of \$3649.00. Included in this are two \$1000 gifts, one \$500 gift, and a lot of small contributions. I have been quite busy trying to keep track of everything but so far have managed very well. The weather is much cooler and that helps a lot.

Just this minute Mr. Garside came in to say that Mr. Carl Hamilton had pledged \$15,000 to purchase both the President Hsu Garden and the Athletic Field. Dr. Luce came in yesterday afternoon and he and Mr. Garside spent about three hours trying to compose a letter to Mr. Hamilton telling him that Dr. Stuart had cabled that the Garden could now be bought for \$5,000 and saying that, because of Mr. Hamilton's interest in this matter, Dr. Luce felt he would wish to have this information. No one felt particularly hopeful over the outcome. It seems that Mr. Hamilton has a very special interest in a group of boys and one of these boys died quite suddenly yesterday. Mr. Hamilton received Dr. Luce's letter this morning and telephoned immediately that he would pledge \$15,000 - \$5,000 for the Garden and \$10,000 for the Athletic Field as a memorial to this boy.

Miss Van Sciver tells me that you are having a nice restful vacation. I hope that Mrs. Wannamaker is feeling much better and that the three of you will thoroughly enjoy your stay there.

Sincerely,

Mr. Olin D. Wannamaker
Bromley House
Peru, Vermont

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0886

August 22nd, 1928

Mr. Carl Hamilton,
50 Broad Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Hamilton,

All this day my heart has travelled with you; and though I never saw the dear lad of whom you spoke, I have felt, in the few friendly hours we have spent together, something of the depth of your wonderful love as it radiated out to two or three of these boys who had been blessed by your friendship. I have found my heart respond so spontaneously to you in our hours of intercourse that I feel I share your present sorrow and grief perhaps more than you can realize.

It was very beautiful to me that you should think, when you were almost crushed, of the possible Memorial to the lovely boy. It so happened that the Executive Committee of the University Trustees was meeting within fifteen minutes after you telephoned me, and the matter was laid before them. In their behalf I would express to you their deep and sympathetic appreciation of your proposal; and, at their suggestion, I have prepared and send enclosed a copy (with duplicate) of a form in which, so far as I could get it over the telephone, I have tried to express what I felt would be in harmony with your wishes. If I have not succeeded in doing so exactly, we can of course make adjustments. As soon as you send the word, we have been authorized to cable Peking.

I thank you for sharing with me this part of your inner life. Believe me,

Appreciatively and understandingly yours,

HWL/G

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New York City, August 25, 1928

In consideration of an agreement on the part of Yenching University

- (1) to purchase the tract of land known as President Hsu's Garden immediately adjoining the Yenching University campus on the north, this tract to be known as the Hamilton Gardens, and
- (2) to purchase a suitable tract of land for an athletic field for Yenching University, including the construction of a track and such bleachers and other apparatus and equipment as is customary on a general athletic field, this field to be known as the Roxor Pearce Athletic Field,

I hereby pledge to Yenching University the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to be utilized toward the purchase of the above-named tracts of land, this amount to be paid as follows:- five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) on or before October 20th, 1929, and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) on or before January 20th, 1930, with interest at the rate of six per-cent per annum from the approximate time such purchases or expenditures are made.

Signature C. W. Hamilton

Address 50 Bowd St N.Y.C.

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Hamilton, Mr. Carl W.
50 Broad St.,
New York City

Aug. 25, 1928

Pledge \$15,000 for 1928 Camp.-Campus (See pledge letter of
Aug. 25, 1928)

Gift received **8*25-28**
Receipt slip at -----
Entered on control record ✓
" " acct. card ✓
" " contrib. list ✓
Serial No. on L. and card **408,**
Pledge label attached ✓
X-file cards
Letter ack. sent 8/22/28
Checked for O. L.
" " class card
" " stencil

Payable \$5000 by Oct. 20, 1929
and \$10,000 " Jan. 20, 1930

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August 29, 1928

Dear Leighton:

On receipt of your letter and cable, we took up the matter of funds for the President Hsu's garden with Mr. Hamilton. Our letter reached him just at the time his heart was particularly touched by the death of one of his pet boys, Roxor Pearce. You know he is very fond of helping boys through school and college and this boy was at Taft. He called me up by telephone and I went down to see him at his residence - one of the most palace-like private apartments I was ever in, hung with very costly pictures. Within a day or two he signed a note which Mr. Garside has here in the safe, a copy of which we enclose and which will tell its own story.

The note Mr. Hamilton gave calls for payment sometime before the end of next year but, if Andrew Mellon takes a costly picture that he is selling him in September, his plan is to pay the money within a month or two. Mr. Garside has already cabled you in regard to purchasing the President Hsu's garden.

You will, of course, note that the amount is for \$15,000. Approximately \$10,000 of this is to go into purchasing the additional land for the athletic field and giving it proper equipment such as bleachers, running track, etc. After I had talked the matter over with you and believing I was expressing what you said, I gave Mr. Hamilton to understand that this \$10,000 would not only buy the land but would also make possible a good running track and cement bleachers. If I have not quoted you rightly, then we shall have to correct it. At the suggestion of Mr. Merle-Smith, we lumped the \$15,000 and did not separate it though roughly speaking \$10,000 is for the athletic field and \$5,000 for President Hsu's garden. In addition to our agreement to make the athletic field a very good field, it is important that President Hsu's garden be put in good condition so that it would be at least a beautiful place. You know, of course, how much that would mean to Mr. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton is making no conditions for what President Hsu's garden should be used. He said you could fill it with dormitories if you so desired. It is possible you may wish to use it for residences, but, whatever the use it is put to, it is very important to see that the garden is arranged so that it would be a pleasing place to go to and would seem worthwhile to Mr. Hamilton if in time he should come to see it.

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Mr. Hamilton inquired about the Tsai Tae garden and I told him we were renting it for a period of years. If it should be possible to buy that now, I feel about 99.9 per cent sure that he would be willing to add this to the President Hsu's garden and have the whole thing called the Hamilton Garden. It is quite possible that they might be more willing to sell now than they have been heretofore. At any rate, there is a very real chance from this end to get the money for it.

Furthermore, Mr. Hamilton would also be interested in the purchase of any land anywhere about there that ought to be secured now for athletic purposes. He has in mind the securing of enough land to have several athletic fields for general use so that a larger number of boys and girls can participate. He would plan for innumerable tennis courts and a golf course if the latter seems to be desired. I have told him that I feel sure you would be willing to draw a map of all the surrounding land there, making a typewritten statement of what each section of it would probably cost together with fixing up same. He spoke of the famous St. Paul's preparatory school near Boston which has now six or seven different athletic fields, and I recall that in 1912 when I was urging Shantung to get more than fifty acres of land that, at that time, Yale had one hundred and thirty acres in their athletic fields. It would seem to me that Yenching now has an opportunity to get all the land it needs for every purpose for a long time to come, for, although Mr. Hamilton has in mind particularly the athletic site, he is not the kind of man to stickle on small items and it would be quite possible to place buildings on this land if later it seemed well to do so.

In addition to this, Mr. Hamilton spoke of possibly later being willing to support an athletic director. While he was not as definite about this as he was about securing adequate land, it would be one of the things that would no doubt appeal to him. Not knowing just what the status of Mr. Wee is, I did not mention the matter, but left it entirely open. It can be taken up later when these other matters are settled. I think it would give Mr. Hamilton a good deal of joy if athletics might be developed there to such an extent that Yenching might take a share in national athletics and, in time, even send her best athletes over here to compete in international athletic contests.

I am sure that you will be glad to think that our land problem can thus be rounded out in good shape.

Ever sincerely yours,

Dr. J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University
Peking West, China

HWL:BB

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August 30, 1928

My dear Mr. Hamilton:

At Dr. Luce's request we are sending you by messenger one copy each of the General Plan and the Birdseye View of the University. We are having some small copies of these made and shall forward them to you as soon as they are finished.

We are also sending you seven colored views of the University and are writing to Peking for additional ones which we shall be glad to send you when they arrive, though this will, of course, be sometime in the fall.

Very sincerely yours,

Acting Campaign Office Secretary

Mr. Carl Hamilton
50 Broad Street
New York City

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- 1 General Campus View
- 1 Single Dormitory (Men's College) with lake reflection
- 1 Dormitory Group - across lake
- 1 Campus View with Men's Dormitories on left
- 1 Proskford Hall
- 1 Bridge
- 1 Gate

0892

PEKING UNIVERSITY

September 6, 1928.

To the Committee on Finance, Property
and Investment:

We have received the following cablegram from Peking, under date of September 1st:

"Athletic field can be secured land needed will not cost more than Gold \$5,000.; do not need (or there is no need) payments President property in the near future."

Mr. Hamilton's pledge of August 25th promises up to Gold \$10,000. for the purchase and equipment of this athletic field, payable not later than January 20, 1930. His pledge also states that he will pay interest at 5% on whatever expenditures the Trustees make for the athletic field before the principal of his pledge is paid.

We should have a meeting of the committee in the near future to discuss this and other pending matters. Our office will, within the next few days, telephone to the members of the committee in or near the city, to arrange for such a meeting.

Very sincerely yours,
D. A. Gasside
Secretary,
Peking University.

BAG/L

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File - Carl Hamilton

CHINA UNION UNIVERSITIES

Fukien Christian University
Lingnan University
University of Nanking

Shantung Christian University
West China Union University
Yenching University

CENTRAL OFFICE

Cable Address
Nanfushan, New York

150 Fifth Avenue, New York City

B. A. GARSIDE, Secretary and Treasurer

Telephone:
WATkins 8703-45

Yenching University

November 3, 1928

Reply letter to BAG

Memo. to Campaign Office:

On October 8th we sent Dr. Luce an extract from President Stuart's letter of September 1st discussing the status of various land purchases the University is hoping to make, and reporting also the delay in the negotiations for the purchase of President Hsu's garden. We asked Dr. Luce what he thought of interesting Mr. Hamilton in the other needs of the University as set forth by Dr. Stuart. In reply Dr. Luce wrote as follows under date of October 10th:-

"Answering your question: I think Hamilton matter would better just stand as it is. Dr. Stuart has now a chance to make out a whole plan of land needs to lay before Hamilton in due time. Hamilton would not then make any distinction as to Women's and Men's College land. With him it all ought to be treated as a unit.

"In the meantime it might be well when the Athletic Field is actually in hand and they begin to fix it up, to tell him of the progress. If it seems best to mention the Pres. Hsu Garden delay it could be done tactfully by reference to the fact that a bit of ~~mental~~ delay, etc., had arisen, but all could probably be ironed out. Until the Pres. Hsu Garden is attended to I do not think it would be well to mention other land save as in due time Dr. Stuart makes out the whole plan for land as suggested to him."

done

BAG-H

B. A. GARSIDE

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Yenching University

November 3, 1928

Dr. H. W. Luce,
422 Farmington Avenue,
Hartford, Conn.

My dear Dr. Luce:

I find I have not formally acknowledged your reply to my letter of October 8th.

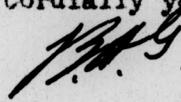
I quite agree with your suggestion that the best thing to do is to make no further approach to Mr. Hamilton until we have more detailed information from Dr. Stuart on the subject of further land needs of the University.

We are passing on to the campaign office your other suggestions regarding communications to Mr. Hamilton as to progress of negotiations for President Hsu's garden and the athletic field.

Within a few days now we shall know how the fortunes of the presidential campaign are to be settled. I am sorry that you and Mrs. Luce will not have a hand in the battle. Margaret has gotten the idea that I am a supporter of Al Smith and is very much incensed over the matter. I suppose I will sooner or later relieve her anxiety but for the time being I am letting her worry. It will take her mind off her other troubles.

Give my best regards to Mrs. Luce.

Cordially yours,



BAG-H

CC: Campaign Office ✓

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~~Hamilton~~ C. U.

November 16, 1928

Dear Hilda:

Sometime ago when Mr. Carl Hamilton made his pledge of \$15,000 to purchase President Hsu's Garden and the Athletic Field we sent him copies of the best of the colored photographs which you sent us last spring. If you are having any new ones made that are particularly nice, we should like to have copies to send to him. Dr. Luce says that Mr. Hamilton is particularly interested in art so that the more artistic things would appeal to him. I believe he would be more interested in campus views showing something of the landscape rather than views merely of buildings. You will know, I am sure, what is best to send. We shall be writing you a little later about what we shall soon be needing here in the office.

rec'd 3/1

We are now making one last grand effort to finish up the campaign by January 1st. It's rather hard going just now but we are still hoping to make it.

A copy of the Yenchinian has just come in and looks quite interesting.

Tomorrow Mary Cookingham is having a tea for Mrs. Frame and all the Yenching community is turning out. It is always fun to get together like that for here in New York one seems to see people so seldom. Mrs. Frame is in the city for a meeting of the Yenching Committee. William Hung was down last week and we heard that Lucius Porter was coming in but so far haven't seen any sign of him.

As this letter won't reach you much before Christmas I am sending along Christmas wishes with it.

Cordially,

Miss Hilda Hague
Yenching University
Peking, China

BB

0896

December 21, 1928

Mr. Carl W. Hamilton,
60 Broad Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Hamilton,

You will be interested to know that we have now received from President Stuart news of the successful completion of negotiations for the purchase of the Roxor Pearce Athletic Field on the Yenching campus. In a recent letter, Dr. Stuart wrote as follows:-

"It will be of interest to know that we have completed the purchase of the two holdings which are necessary to complete the athletic field. These were secured at a total of slightly over LC \$7,000, as against LC \$9,000 which we had anticipated as necessary."

We have now paid the field's drafts, totalling G.\$3,500, drawn on us to provide the funds needed to complete the purchase. We are pleased that the purchase could be completed so promptly, and even more gratified that the price was so low as to leave a generous margin for constructing the track, bleachers, and other essential features of the field.

Progress in completing the purchase of the Hamilton Gardens has not gone quite so rapidly. Negotiations have been held up for a time by some of the delays which are so common in all oriental bargaining. President Stuart hopes, however, that the next few months will see the completion of this purchase also.

We have had many assurances from the field that everyone on the staff and student body join with the Board of Trustees in warm appreciation of your generous pledge to provide the funds needed to purchase the Hamilton Gardens and to purchase and equip the Roxor Pearce Athletic Field. In accepting your pledge we are anxious to follow out your wishes for both these tracts of land, and will be glad to have your comments and suggestions at any time.

You will be glad to know that the Yenching promotional campaign has this week been successfully completed, with \$500,000 in cash and pledges for the original objectives of the campaign, and in addition more than \$200,000 for other important objects not listed with the original askings.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ F. H. Warner
President, Board of Trustees

CC Campaign Office

/s/ B. A. Garside

0897

January 5, 1929

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

Since Mr. Garside wrote you on December 21st regarding the purchase of the Roxor Pearce Athletic Field and reporting the progress toward the accession of the Hamilton Gardens, we have received interesting news from Peking which I excerpt for your interest from the faculty Bulletin of November 15th.

"The new Athletic Field was formally opened on Saturday last when the field was the scene of much activity. Hotly contested events took place between teams composed of faculty and student members. There was indoor baseball, basketball, volleyball, shinney hockey, deck tennis and tether tennis, these last three sports being introduced into Yenching for the first time. All proved very popular. The field will be open on week days from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. For use during the week-end the time will be announced later."

May I add that we successfully completed the general Yenching campaign before our time limit expired on December 31st and have definitely secured the conditional pledge of \$90,000 made by two of our friends as part of that campaign. We have been receiving within the last few days some additional pledges and it seems as if we shall have a considerable surplus beyond the minimum amount required. This surplus will help to take up the shrinkage that always occurs on pledges extending over a period of years.

With sincere wishes for your health and with all good wishes for the coming year, I remain

Cordially,

Assistant to the President

Mr. Carl W. Hamilton
50 Broad Street
New York City

OBW:BB

0898

COPY

Peking, China
February 9, 1929

Dr. H. W. Luce
Hartford Theological Seminary
Hartford, Connecticut

My dear Harry:

I have intended for a long time writing you regarding the purchase of the President's garden, but have waited in the hope that something more definite would take place. You can imagine the complications with an aging Chinese scholar who would lose face by selling what his imperial master had given to him, and who perhaps feels that in any case he has no legal title that would hold in a commercial transfer; with a Nationalist Government as yet incompletely organized and while eager for money from any source yet unable to exercise authority as to whether a property like this really belongs to the Imperial family or to the State; with officials of all grades eager to get their commission out of a deal of this sort but unable to give guarantees; with us in the University afraid to make a false move or to appear eager enough to run the price up. Various efforts seemed about to reach a favorable conclusion when something went wrong. I am writing on China New Year's Eve so that it is too late for that additional pressure to help us. None the less I still hope that the place can be secured with a little more patience and bargaining. You will use your judgment about describing the situation to Mr. Hamilton.

You indicated in a previous letter that he might be interested in other land purchase. You will recall the group of small holdings in the track of our Women's dormitories extending southward. These people have been holding out because they know they have us at a disadvantage and have been holding out at an exorbitant figure. It seems now, however, that we can force them down with a little pressure to a total figure of not more than LC\$15,000 and possibly less. If you think this will appeal to Mr. Hamilton it is of very practical benefit to us to get rid of these people who are quite an undesirable colony inside our walls.

Another matter that would, however, seem to me even more urgent than this and which might appeal to Mr. Hamilton in view of his interest in the health of boys, is the financing of K. A. Wee and of his department. Wee is coming back as our director of Physical Education and we have not been able to provide adequately for him or his budget. It occurs to me that if Mr. Hamilton could meet this engaging personality and learn from him something of his own ~~own~~ ideals and purposes, he might be willing to do something, at least providing Wee's own salary or giving an actual grant for his budget. I have written to Wannamaker and if you think it worth while you might take it up with him while Wee is still in the country.

0899

It also occurs to me that you might be able to locate a secretary for us. We need a young woman with missionary outlook, sufficiently mature to be contented and of the type which you can easily visualize us as wanting. There may be someone at Hartford. If so, please communicate with Garside to whom I am writing on the subject. I shall not go into further details as to local news except to say that things are going quietly but steadily forward. I was very happy to have Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus McCormick come out here a few days ago while they were in the city on a world tour, and have lunch with me. With only three days to see Peking, he took a good slice of his time for this purpose and of his own accord talked about the building in memory of his mother. I showed him the vacant place for the fourth recitation building and the site seemed to be quite satisfactory. It may be that your efforts in this direction may still be realized. I am writing Wannamaker on the whole matter as there are various complications.

With best wishes in your new work,

As ever yours,

/s/ J. Leighton Stuart

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Hartford Theological Seminary,
Hartford, Conn.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

422 Farmington
Hartford
March 9/29

Dear Mr Wannamaker:

After I had written you, the inclosed letter came from Dr Styart. It is possible that you have a copy but I send this so as to make sure you have a copy before you.

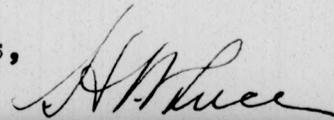
Mr Hamiltons gift was made for the Athletic Field and also for the land to the north. The latter proves illusive as yet, but I have no word as to what has been done about the Athletic field. Could you give me information anout this, for it would of course influence my opinion as to the next best step with Hamilton

I think I could arrange a meeting for Mr Wee. In attempting this I would need to know a little about what Wee is doing this year and what he plans to do on return and when he is to return

Also could you give me more details as to just the type of Secretary Dr Stuart wants and what she is to do when she gets there? Is it to take Miss Hagues place as Dr Stuart's personal Secy. or what?

I am to have some help in typing on Tuesday morning; so it would be good if you could reply on Monday and I would get it Tuesday morning. Otherwise it will have to wait till Saturday. It may take some time to "catch" Mr Hamilton so that we can arrange a call from Mr Wee. Hamilton is "on the wing " a good deal.

Very sincerely yours,



0901

Hamilton

March 13, 1929

Dear Dr. Luce:

It was impossible for me to respond to your suggestion that I get my reply to you on Monday so that you could dictate correspondence on Tuesday.

Regarding purchase of land with Mr. Hamilton's money, the following is the situation. He pledged \$15,000. Of this amount somewhat less than \$4,000 has been used to purchase the remainder of land required for the athletic field. It is roughly estimated that about \$6,000 will cover the cost of equipping the athletic field. This would leave somewhat more than \$5,000 of the original pledge of \$15,000 to use for the purchase of President Hsu's garden.

Dr. Stuart has been hoping to buy the garden for that figure although, as he indicated to you, he is having a good deal of difficulty because of the complications involved in this peculiar situation. You will note that he wishes it were possible to secure an additional \$7,500 with which to purchase the group of small holdings in the track of the women's dormitories extending southward. In other words, if we could get an additional \$7,500 or \$8,000 pledged by Mr. Hamilton, we would hope to accomplish the three things referred to.

In reply to your inquiry about Mr. Wee, I would say that he expects to complete his work for the degree of Ph.D. at Teachers College, Columbia University, and receive that degree in the latter part of the summer. This means that he is having a very thorough training to be the head of the department of physical education. He is not to be merely a coach or even an athletic director but something much more important than that. He is to have primary responsibility for everything pertaining to the health and physical well-being of the student body except what would come strictly within the authority of a medical officer.

Dr. Stuart has had in mind that the University ought to have a highly trained scientist as a director of public health for the community and associated with such a man Professor K. A. Wee as director

0902

of physical education. The man whom he has had in mind for the director of public health is Dr. Atwater who was at the Union Medical College in Peking and who is now engaged in public health work in a highly responsible position in Cattaraugus County, New York. It is to be hoped that Yenching University may not follow in line with American colleges and permit athletics to dominate the student life but that athletics shall play an important part in a general and well conceived program of public health and physical well-being of the students.

In order to carry out such a program we ought to have these two officers of the University and a sufficient annual budget to give them the necessary assistance and equipment. A fund giving an annual income of \$6,000 Gold a year would meet the minimum requirements. Possibly Mr. Hamilton might be interested in making a demonstration by pledging an annual contribution of \$6,000 a year on a five year basis.

I feel that you should be the one to decide whether it seems wise at this time to approach Mr. Hamilton on either of these problems but I shall be glad to discuss the matter with you.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Stuart in order that he may know we are going forward with the matter as rapidly as practicable.

In regard to the secretary mentioned by Dr. Stuart, it is my understanding that this secretary is to take the place of Miss Barnes who acts as secretary to the deans. Mr. Garbide, in his capacity as secretary to the Board of Trustees, is handling this matter. He must formally nominate a person for this position after a committee of the Women's College shall have had opportunity to approve of the candidate. I am sure he will be glad to hear from you if you have any suggestions to make.

Cordially,

Dr. H. W. Luce
422 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut

ODW:BB

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Hartford Conn
422 Farmington Ave
March 20/29

Dear Mr Wannamaker:

It is very difficult to decide what is best to do in regard to Mr. Carl Hamilton. He is a man of strange temperament. I dont think we ought to put up the two items of both the ~~south~~^{north}-west corner land and ~~also~~ Mr . Wee. My best guess is expressed , rather hesitatingly, in the inclosed draft. Mr Garside met Mr Hamilton and it might be well to ask him to consider the matter and this letter. His reaction would be worth while.

If you think well to proceed with this letter or a substitute for it , I would be willing to sign it and send it. I should be glad if you would make any changes in this letter or write an entirely new one. Perhaps you could put it in shorter form. I hope you will take me at my word that I would be quite glad for you to write an entirely new letter or make any changes or additions in this one that seem well to you.

Very sincerely yours,

A. White

0904

March 23, 1929

Dear Dr. Luce:

I have thought quite a good deal about the approach to Mr. Hamilton. It so happens that we have just received some remarkably fine photographs which would give Mr. Hamilton an idea of the kind of thing he is helping us to acquire in purchasing President Hau's garden.

From one point of view it would seem a somewhat more plausible excuse for so early an additional request if, after sending him these pictures, we should say that there is another small piece of land which constitutes a nuisance inside our walls and ask if he could add this to the purchase he has already consented to make. I mean this would seem a little more plausible than to shift to something which, although it is related to the athletic field, becomes a large thing - even an endowment of somewhere between \$25,000 - \$100,000 for the physical education department or an annual gift ranging anywhere from \$3,000 - \$6,000 a year.

Nevertheless, I am inclined on the whole to think that you should send the letter you have drafted. I scarcely think it will offend Mr. Hamilton to have you approach him again at this time, though it is barely possible that he might think we are unappreciative.

One delicate little problem is the time element in the sending of the photographs to Mr. Hamilton and the making of this additional appeal. The courtesy of sending the photographs would be taken away if they are accompanied by the appeal. On the other hand, they should certainly not go to him just after the appeal is made. If they go before the appeal, there ought to be a sufficient interval of time so that it would not seem that we had sent them only for the purpose of preparing for an immediate appeal. On the whole, I am inclined to think that your letter should be deferred two weeks at least.

If you approve I shall follow this procedure. I will mail Mr. Hamilton a note of which I am sending you a copy, accompanying this note with the photographs. I intend to intimate, as you will observe, that some additional proposition may be mentioned to him in the near future. I would suggest that you mail your letter two weeks or three weeks after

0905

I have sent him the photographs.

I feel that it is always better to be frank enough to intimate to a person that you may approach him again in the not distant future than it is to go through the form of showing him a courtesy without any such intimation and then very soon thereafter approach him for another gift.

If you approve this suggestion, just check the enclosed carbon copy and send it to me in the self-addressed envelope enclosed herewith. We will hold a draft of your letter here and send it to you at what seems to be an appropriate time for your signature and mailing. Meanwhile something may occur to suggest a change in our whole plan.

Cordially,

Dr. H. W. Luce
422 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut

ODW:BB

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Hamilton

THE KENNEDY SCHOOL OF MISSIONS
HARTFORD SEMINARY FOUNDATION

55 ELIZABETH STREET HARTFORD, CONN.

W. DOUGLAS MACKENZIE, D. D.
PRESIDENT

EDWARD WARREN CAPEN, PH. D.
DEAN

LEWIS HODOUS, D. D.
SECRETARY

March 23rd, 1929.

Mrs. Blanche E. M. Britton,
c/o Yenching University,
150 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Dear Mrs. Britton:

I have your letter of March nineteenth relative to the pictures Miss Hague sent with reference to Mr. Hamilton. I am to be down in New York April twentieth and twenty-first (Saturday and Sunday), and I am trying to plan to get down as early as Wednesday or Thursday preceeding.

Whether I call on Mr. Hamilton or not will depend somewhat on my time and whether he is in town, but especially whether it will seem wise or not in view of the suggestion that we write to him now, which plan you may have seen mentioned in some of my recent correspondence with Mr. Wannamaker.

Unless there is some good reason to the contrary perhaps it might be well to keep the pictures there until I come and then we can consider which ones, if any, should be sent to him.

I hoped to come down at Easter, but find I must be at the meeting of the American-Oriental Society at Hartford.

With all best wishes,

Ever sincerely yours,

H. W. Luce

HWL/ELK

Since the above was dictated, I have been corresponding with Mr. Wannamaker, as you may know

0907

Hartford Theological Seminary,
Hartford, Conn.

422 Farmington Ave

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Dear Mr Wannamaker:

Your suggestion that my letter be delayed and the pictures be sent with a letter from you, seems good. I would only suggest that you go over again rather carefully the last two paragraphs and see if you would not better state them more as inharmony with the plans he has been interested in, being plans we have in view, and stated rather more briefly and perhaps less^a direct reference to "providing funds". I am fearful it would be taking the edge off of the idea that we are sending him information and reporting the progress made. I think that the more we can ^{keep} ~~keep~~ the two things separate-- since you are sending one letter and I another-- the better it would be. My letter would need to be reworded in the light of the letter you send and, as you say, in the light of the situation a few weeks from now. Should my letter not show it was inspired direct from Dr Stuart, ^{by his letter to me} rather than have it seem to be suggested by the New York Office? I am making these suggestions somewhat at random. I will gladly fall in with what seems wise to you.

I think you are quite right about thinking that the more natural thing would be to suggest the south-west land and will do so still if it seems best to you. The reason I hesitated was that I did not realize that that land matter was so urgent and serious. When Dr Stuart was here the idea seemed to be that, with the N.E corner and Pres. Hsu's Garden in our possession, our land problem would be pretty well rounded out. That was true for the men's college and I suppose that neither of us thought of direct responsibility for the Woman's college land. On the other hand Mr Hamilton probably would not remember any intimations about 'rounding' out (if I did make any) and in view of his interest in guarding land, and willingness to buy more (see my letter to ~~Dr Stuart~~ on this

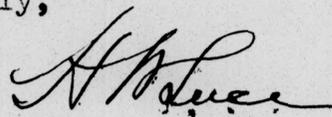
0908

to Dr Stuart in the office files about future land purchases which I wrote at Mr Hamilton's suggestion) we could take that up if you later felt it was best to do so.

The gist of what I am trying to say is this: why not send the pictures with a letter from you, with the idea of reporting progress and of letting him know that, tho the purchase had not been made, Dr Stuart was working on it (This you have done in the first part of your letter) Then about three weeks later send the letter from me asking for either project that appealed to you most at that time.

These are merely suggestions. I hope to be in New York April 20-21 at a meeting at Union Sem. I may be able to get down earlier.

Ever sincerely,



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This is the letter finally received on by ODW + HWJ as
sent with pictures to Mr. Hamilton 4/19/29
BB

April 19, 1929

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

It would be hard for you to realize what it has meant to us to have your generous gift available for the purchase of the land needed to complete the athletic field and also President Hsu's garden. I am sure you have already been informed that the athletic field has been completed by your purchase. We expended for this slightly less than \$4,000 gold. Dr. Stuart estimates that it will cost just about \$6,000 to equip the athletic field. This leaves a little more than \$5,000 of your generous gift for the purchase of President Hsu's garden.

There has been long delay in making this purchase. Land purchases in the Far East, as you know, are delicate and tedious concerns. In this case the situation is peculiar because President Hsu's garden was a gift to the aged Chinese political leader from his emperor. I need say no more to indicate how much finesse must be used both in the buying and also in the selling of this piece of property. Dr. Stuart is doing the utmost to complete the negotiations and to acquire the property for the amount of money still available from your gift. Without having this money ready at hand there would be no chance of purchasing the property, since whatever bargain is struck must be consummated quickly under the existing circumstances.

Dr. Stuart has sent us some photographs intended especially for you. They have not been able to get photographs of the interior of President Hsu's garden because of the fact that it is temporarily occupied by troops and photographs are forbidden. The pictures sent, however, give a fair general impression of these gardens. Please accept these with Dr. Stuart's compliments and thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

Room 1735
Mr. Carl W. Hamilton
50 Broad Street
New York, New York

ODW:BB

09 10

The Hartford Seminary Foundation
The Kennedy School of Missions

55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Conn.

W. DOUGLAS MACKENZIE, D. D.
PRESIDENT

EDWARD WARREN CAPEN, PH. D.
DEAN

LEWIS HODOUS, D. D.
SECRETARY

May 18th, 1929.

Mr. O. D. Wannamaker,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Ave.,
New York City.

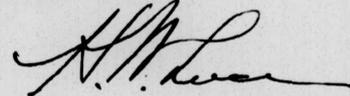
Dear Mr. Wannamaker:

It is possible that you may have noticed the enclosed picture in the New York Times of May 5th. I do not know whether you have any information as to whether these pictures were sold or not. Will you show this to Mr. Garside and confer with him as to how he thinks it might effect the note* which Mr. Hamilton gave for his fifteen thousand dollar gift. I do not mean that we could do anything active on our part at the present moment, but it would be well to have it in mind so to be on the watch for anything Mr. Hamilton might do. It would possibly indicate that he might be able to take up the note he gave us.

I wonder if you have heard from him in regard to the pictures. I do not think it would indicate anything even if you had not, for I do not think he would be a man who would just naturally acknowledge such things.

If it would seem wise to you, I would be quite willing to write Mr. Hamilton telling him about Mr. Wee and suggesting that if he should find it convenient it would be a very pleasant thing for him to meet Mr. Wee. I do not think that in connection with Mr. Wee it would be well to mention his recent marriage, because Mr. Hamilton's marriage has been a very unhappy affair. In addition to the several reasons for Mr. Wee to see him, there would be this one that Mr. Wee might be able to find out the present status of things with Hamilton in relation to Yenching and indicate whether we, on our part, should make more active advances.

Very cordially yours,



HVL/ELK

* promissory note

0911

✓ X to H. W. Luce

May 23, 1929

Dear Dr. Luce:

Thank you for sending the beautiful copy from the New York Times of one of the pictures Mr. Hamilton recently sold. Unfortunately the valuation placed on these pictures in that issue of the Times was greatly in excess of the amount realized by Mr. Hamilton according to a report published in the Tribune. Mr. Hamilton sold the two pictures for a combined price of only \$500,000. The Tribune report said:

"Although \$375,000 paid last night for the Piero della Francesca makes a new high mark in this country the price was modest compared with the \$800,000 figure at which it had been held by the owner. It was learned that \$750,000 had been offered Mr. Hamilton for the two during private negotiations some time ago but that he held out for a larger sum."

I think it would not be wise for us to do anything whatever just now in reference to Mr. Hamilton, though I naturally hope that he may be able to take up his note in the near future. He has not acknowledged the beautiful photographs we sent him of one of the old gardens near Peking. This probably signifies nothing except his usual habit of not writing unless there is something important to say.

Cordially yours,

Assistant to the President

Dr. H. W. Luce,
The Hartford Seminary Foundation,
The Kennedy School of Missions,
55 Elizabeth Street,
Hartford, Conn.

ODW:EMG

09 12



A MASTERPIECE OF THE
ITALIAN SCHOOL GOES
ON THE AUCTION
BLOCK: MADONNA
AND CHILD,
by Fra Filippo Lippi,
From the Carl W.
Hamilton Collection,
One of Two Paint-
ings, Each Valued
at More Than \$500,-
000, Which Will Be
Sold at the Ander-
son Galleries This
Week.

Former Record \$360,000
The former record price for a painting sold at auction in this country was \$360,000 paid by the Duveens for Gainsborough's "The Market Wagon," in the sale of the late Judge Elbert Gary's art collection held at the American Art Galleries a year ago. Although the \$375,000 paid last night for the Piero della Francesca makes a new high mark in this country, the price was modest compared with the \$800,000 figure at which it had been held by the owner. It was learned that \$750,000 had been offered Mr. Hamilton for the two paintings during private negotiations some time ago, but that he had held out for a larger sum.

"The Crucifixion" is described by Bernhard Berenson, the foreign art authority, as a noble and impressive little painting, treated with the utmost beauty. In the center of the composition Christ is seen nailed to the cross. The Virgin, in blue mantle, is seen at the left, near the foot of the cross, supported by Mary Magdalene in red mantle, and at the back by Mary and Martha.

St. John, in a rose mantle, stands in supplication at the right. Surrounding these figures are Roman soldiers, standing and mounted, some supporting crimson banners and lances. The background is formed of a group of low hills and the effect of the group against the golden sky is one of a quiet grandeur.

Duveen Buys "Crucifixion" For \$375,000

Record Sale Price Paid for
Piero Renaissance Work
in Hamilton Collection

Sale Lasts Ten Minutes

Schinasi Buys 'Madonna,' by
Fra Filippo, for \$125,000

By Carlisle Burrows

The painting of "The Crucifixion," by Piero della Francesca, from the collection of Carl Hamilton, of New York City, brought \$375,000 and the Fra Filippo Lippi "Madonna and Child," another fifteenth century Italian work from the same collection, was sold for \$125,000 last night at the Anderson galleries. The former was the highest price ever obtained for a painting at public auction in America, though both prices fell far short of the valuation Mr. Hamilton had placed on the pictures.

Sir Joseph Duveen bought the Piero della Francesca for a client reported to be Jules S. Bache. The "Madonna and Child" by Fra Filippo was acquired by Leon Schinasi, of 2 East Fifty-seventh Street, cigarette manufacturer, who, like Mr. Bache, is making a collection of fine paintings. The sale, which had threatened to be one of the most spectacular in the history of American art, drew a large audience, which appeared a little nonplussed after the brief and slightly apathetic contest for the paintings.

Sale Over in Ten Minutes

Although the two paintings were regarded as the most important to be sold at auction in this country, the entire sale was over in less than ten minutes from the time the auctioneer, F. A. Chapman, mounted the rostrum. The first of the two, which had attracted hundreds during their exhibition at the Anderson galleries, was offered at 9:15 p. m.

The little "Crucifixion," a panel measuring only fourteen by sixteen inches, showed resplendent in its fresh colors of crimson, blue and gold against the green velvet background of the stage. The Ehrlich galleries started the bidding at \$100,000, while several other contestants sent the figure up by bids of \$25,000 to \$250,000. There the offers stood for several moments before mounting again under the urging of the auctioneers.

Madonna Offer Lower
Offers for the lovely "Madonna and Child" began at \$100,000 and progressed more slowly, \$5,000 at a time until Mr. Schinasi made his final bid of \$125,000. At one stage in the contest it looked as though the painting would be sold for only \$110,000, but the price went upward again.

A feature of the sale was the broadcasting of the proceedings over the radio for the first time in this country. The sound of the mounting bids was made available to radio listeners through arrangement with WABC of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

That the paintings did not bring higher prices was regarded with surprise by most dealers and collectors present. The panels represented masters of extreme rarity and both were regarded as fine and characteristic examples of their work. The paintings were acquired by Mr. Hamilton in 1917 from Duveen Brothers, and "The Crucifixion," in particular, was held to be one of the gems of the New Yorker's collection.

A R T

Manhattan's Hamilton

Subtler but just as resonant as the ballyhooing of the late Phineas Taylor Barnum was the publicity which preceded, last week, the public auction of two Renaissance paintings from the collection of Carl W. Hamilton of Manhattan. The two pictures were hung in a shadowy chamber in the Anderson Galleries. Tall candles gave an air of piety to the occasion. Uniformed Negroes stood gravely beside each canvas, so immobile, so harmonious with the austere gloom, that they were nearly invisible. Visitors hushed their voices, lightened their footsteps.

One of the paintings was a *Crucifixion*, painted by Piero della Francesca (circa 1406-92) on a tiny wood panel (14"x16"). Into a golden sky, grievously cracked with age, were lifted the cross, the scarlet banners of the soldiery. Humans and horses were drawn with that rude simplicity of Italian Primitives which is pronounced charming by modern sophisticates. This painting, according to gallery officials, had been appraised by experts at \$800,000. The other, a similarly styled *Madonna and Child* by Fra Filippo Lippi (circa 1406-69), was said to have been appraised at \$650,000.

Loudly intoned by the press, these astonishing appraisals produced country-wide reverberations. The world's auction room record for a painting was a mere \$377,000.* The U. S. record was only \$360,000.† The record for a private sale was \$750,000.** Even this last figure, in the face of the announced appraisals seemed likely to be surpassed.

From the offices of sleek Sir Joseph Duveen, international art dealer, who had originally sold the paintings to Collector Hamilton, came a gala descriptive brochure. In it were pontifical utterances of Bernhard Berenson, famed European art critic who hovers eruditely in the background of most Duveen dealings.

Thus was the public prepared for a tremendous fiscal-esthetic event. The art world whispered names that would surely stir the auction—Mellon, Bache, Widener, Ringling. Preparations were made to broadcast the epochal proceedings to the nation. When the bald auctioneer briskly mounted the rostrum, he surveyed a tight-packed attendance of more than 1,000.

Then, while the crowd gazed at each other for ten minutes of increasing bewilderment, the auction proved a fiasco. True, the *Crucifixion* was sold for \$375,000, breaking the U. S. record. But there was no feverish bidding, there were no great names. The picture was quietly repurchased by Sir Joseph Duveen himself. The *Madonna and Child* went to Leon Schinasi, Manhattan tobacco merchant, for a paltry \$125,000. The auctioneer had to face the fact that between the appraisal

*Paid for Sir Thomas Lawrence's *Pinkie*, by the late Henry Edwards Huntington, famed California connoisseur, in London, November, 1926.

†Paid for Thomas Gainsborough's *The Harvest Waggon*, by Sir Joseph Duveen, in New York, April, 1928.

**Paid for Raphael Sanzio's *Madonna di Siena*, by a U. S. syndicate in London, last year.

total and the realized total was a difference of \$950,000.

A persistent rumor described Collector Hamilton as Dealer Duveen's close colleague, the sale as, in reality, a Duveen sale. Collector Hamilton's careful avoidance of reporters and photographers enhanced this rumor.

Carl Hamilton is one of the least publicized, most picturesque figures in Manhattan life. A laborer's son, he was born about 40 years ago in the mining town of



"STEEL"

He sent his master to Rome.

(See col. 3)

Hollidaysburg, Pa. There were several other children. His zealous mother gave a biblical stamp to his mind which it still retains.

At 15 he worked his way on a freight train to Phillips-Andover Academy. There he convinced the faculty of his right to enter, slept on a self-made straw mattress. He was soon leading his classes, playing in school sports, tutoring faculty children, organizing religious meetings, preaching in the pulpits of nearby towns.

Like most Andover boys, he went to Yale. A suit-pressing business which he organized paid all his expenses, infuriated old-established rivals, left him a large surplus after his graduation (1913). One of his employes in the pressing business, a bright Italo-American boy of eight or nine, so delighted Undergraduate Hamilton (then about 18) that he legally adopted him, later sent him through Andover and Yale. This adopted son now has a son of his own, making Bachelor Hamilton a legal grandfather.

Collector Hamilton was an outstanding member of his Yale class, although an injury to his back, and the consequent wearing of a steel jacket, prohibited any athletics. He was potent in campus religious interests. Single-handed, he removed a heavy mortgage from his fra-

ternity house by personally visiting graduate brethren. Allowed six months, he required only six weeks.

After college he went to the Philippines, where he organized and financed coconut oil mills (Philippine Refining Corp.). During the War, Hamilton products sold well, the Hamilton fortune mightily increased. Returning to the U. S., he lived quietly in Great Neck, L. I. Sir Joseph Duveen and others were commissioned to start an Italian collection for the Hamilton home. They bought paintings by Veneziano, dei Conti, Francia, Perugino, Melzi, Desiderio, Botticelli, Titian. The Hamilton home became a Renaissance rarity, authentic in painting, sculpture, tapestry, velvet, bric-a-brac. When it proved too small to hold the collections, Collector Hamilton moved to a 14-room apartment on Park Avenue, Manhattan.

He is still on Park Avenue. His galleries have never been open to the public, though once he took his collections on a nationwide, personally-conducted exhibition-tour. Post-War conditions injured the Hamilton Philippine interests. From time to time lately some painting has been sold. But the Hamilton collection remains among the nation's best.

Collector Hamilton has aided in the education of perhaps 100 school and college boys. They never know the identity of their benefactor, all transactions take place through a third party. Once a month they write letters describing their progress to Collector Hamilton, addressing him as "Dear Friend."

Prix de Rome

Two visionary young men went to Manhattan, last week, where they joyously, officially learned they had won the annual Prix de Rome, one in painting, the other in sculpture. This most-coveted of U. S. art-student awards entitles each of them to \$1,600 a year, residence and studio, for a three-year period at the American Academy in Rome.

Prizeman Sidney B. Waugh, 25, a sculptor, has an enormous brow, a tiny mustache. Hailing from Amherst, Mass., he has studied at Amherst College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rome, Fontainebleau. For the last three years he has practiced sculpture in Paris, obtaining an honorable mention in the Paris Salon, modeling a war memorial for Kimmel, Belgium. He is fascinated by the burly stevedores who labor along the Seine. One of these solidly planted fellows posed for *Steel* which won the Prix de Rome.

Prizeman John M. Sitton, 22, a painter, comes from Greenville, S. C. He has been studying at the Yale School of Fine Arts, which has turned out five successive Prix de Rome men in the 35 years the awards have been established. He holds medals from the Beaux Arts Institute, the National Academy of Design, has paid much of his tuition by working as a waiter. His painting *Flight from Earth* is a symbolic composition of draped figures soaring above things mundane.

The annual Prix de Rome awards in architecture and landscape architecture will shortly be announced. Award dates differ by circumstance, not intention. After next year the landscape award will be made only in alternate years.

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October 11, 1929

Dear Dr. Luce:

I think Miss McCoy has answered completely various details in your note of October 9th. I was meeting an engagement in Jersey City and she wished to give you information promptly.

I take this occasion to refer to another matter in which we are greatly interested--the possibility of further assistance from Mr. Hamilton. You will recall your and my correspondence of last April. In accordance with an agreement we reached at that time, I wrote Mr. Hamilton on April 19th regarding the successful completion of the area required for the athletic field through the expenditure of less than \$4,000 Gold of his money and of Dr. Stuart's estimate that it would take approximately \$6,000 to equip the athletic field, thus leaving a little more than \$5,000 of Mr. Hamilton's pledge for the purchase of President Hsu's Garden. I explained the long delay in completing negotiations for that tract. We sent Mr. Hamilton with that letter certain photographs President Stuart had sent especially for him.

see letter
10-17-29

We were in some slight doubt as to whether we should present to Mr. Hamilton a request for money for financing the physical education program at the University or for the purchase of still another piece of land known as the "Prince's Garden" about forty-five acres, which could probably be purchased for \$45,000 Box. It is unfortunate that I did not introduce Mr. Wee to Mr. Hamilton before the former returned to China. I really ought to have done this even though without any mention of a gift toward the physical education program. Unfortunately, Wee has now gone. Do you think it would be appropriate for you to take up with Mr. Hamilton at this time the question of a gift, either for the support of Wee's work or for the purchase of the additional acreage of land? For your convenience I send you herewith the draft of a letter you originally wrote, but which we decided at that time not to mail, and also a copy of the letter which I wrote Mr. Hamilton.

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Awaiting your good judgment in this matter, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Dr. H.W. Luce
422 Farmington Ave.

Assistant to the President

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October 17, 1929

Secretary to Mr. Carl Hamilton
50 Broad Street, Room 1735,
New York, N. Y.

Dear madam:

Last spring - April 19th, to be exact - Mr. Wannamaker of this office wrote to Mr. Hamilton a letter in which he mentioned that certain photographs of Yenching University were being sent to him under separate cover.

I have just come across a packet of photographs marked for Mr. Hamilton which leads me to believe that those referred to by Mr. Wannamaker were not sent. The secretary who wrote the letter is no longer with the Yenching office so that I cannot consult her about the matter.

Will you be so kind as to find out, if possible without troubling Mr. Hamilton, whether or not a packet of pictures was received by him about that time? If not, we shall be very glad to forward these we have found.

Thanking you for your help, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Promotional Office Secretary

LM

09 16

CARL W. HAMILTON
50 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK CITY

done 10-23-29

October 22, 1929

Miss L. McCoy,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss McCoy:

I have your letter of October 17,
and I do not seem to find the packet of photo-
graphs you mention so I feel sure that the
ones referred to in your letter must be for
Mr. Hamilton from Mr. Wannamaker.

Mr. Hamilton is at present out of
town and I am sure he will be glad to see
the pictures upon his return.

Very truly yours,

H. C. Smith

Secretary to Mr. Hamilton.

HCS:GF

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October 23, 1929

My dear Miss Smith:

Your search for the photographs is greatly appreciated, as well as your kindness in replying so promptly to our letter.

We are sending under separate cover four enlarged photographs taken in and around the campus of Yenching University. The one in the Prince's Garden shows approximately the type of property for which the remainder of Mr. Hamilton's gift will be used when the purchase has been completed. We hope that before long we shall have some more pictures which might be of interest to Mr. Hamilton since the University has recently held its formal opening.

Very sincerely yours,

Promotional Office Secretary

Miss H. C. Smith
C/o Mr. Carl Hamilton
50 Broad Street, Room 1735
New York, N. Y.

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The Hartford Seminary Foundation
The Kennedy School of Missions

55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Conn.

W. DOUGLAS MACKENZIE, D. D.
PRESIDENT

EDWARD WARREN CAPEN, PH. D.
DEAN

LEWIS HODOUS, D. D.
SECRETARY

October 26, 1929.

Mr. O. D. Wanamaker,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wanamaker:

I would have answered you sooner but your letter came at the peak point of the week and in addition, I wanted to think over the matter a bit as the handling of Mr. Hamilton is a very difficult matter. He is so sensitive that it is very hard to know what plan may be the best. I am sorry that he did not see Mr. Wee for he is very much interested in young men.

In your letter (October 11th) near the end you speak of the possibility of asking him for funds for "the purchase of additional acreage of land". I am not sure that I quite understand what you mean by this. The original gift (for which he gave us his note - Mr. Garside would know about this) was for both the land of the athletic field and its equipment and also for the purchase of the Prince H.S.Hsu's Garden directly to the north.

I have understood that the land for the athletic field had been purchased and put in order; and ^{also} understood a few weeks ago from Dr. Stewart that the Garden had been practically bought. It has been in that situation so many times and then fallen through that this item would want to be verified, though Dr. Stewart made the most optimistic and definite statement about the matter that he has ever made.

Now the \$15,000. was the estimate that Dr. Stewart made for the purchase of the above and it seems to me that it is doubtful if we should ask for additional funds until the original proposition is carried through. Now, I am not informed as to whether he has paid in any money as yet and as to how far the purchases have gone.

If Dr. Stewart should finally decide that the purchase of Prince Hsu's Garden was ~~not~~ indefinite and uncertain I have no doubt that we could get Mr. Hamilton to apply the balance (which was originally intended for the Garden) to the development of the athletic work. This athletic field is named in ~~the~~ honor of a young school-boy with whom Mr. Hamilton had become almost infatuated. Certainly he was enthusiastic to the extreme about him, though this is an element in his nature -

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Oct. 20
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The Hartford Seminary Foundation
The Kennedy School of Missions

55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Conn.

W. DOUGLAS MACKENZIE, D. D.
PRESIDENT
EDWARD WARREN CAPEN, PH. D.
DEAN
LEWIS HODOUS, D. D.
SECRETARY

October 26, 1929.

Mr. O. D. Wanamaker. (2).

- extreme liking for young boys whom he thinks indicate future promise.

To summarize, from what I have heard it would seem to me best that the original plan be completed. If for any reason the Garden cannot be purchased, than to have the money applied to the athletic field but to be done with Mr. Hamilton's permission. After that the approach could be made to him for land or further support of the athletic work. Land and the development of athletics would be the only two things in which he would be interested.

On re-reading the third paragraph of your letter I notice that you say the Garden, 45 acres, could be purchased for \$45,000. Mex. As I understood it, Dr. Stewart's estimate included both the Prince's Garden and President Hau's Garden. I wonder if we have any records in the office or whether Mr. Garside would recall whether I am right in thinking that the original estimate included both Gardens. I have an impression that the Prince's Garden was included in the original sum or that he indicated a desire to secure this land if it could be secured.

In that case, the matter would have to be approached from a different angle. If you will send me a statement of the exact status of the whole matter I would be able to make a more careful judgment as to what would be best to do under the circumstances. I will be down in New York about the 15th or 16th of November and we could talk the matter over at that time, unless you care to write me before. Whatever will help you most will be entirely agreeable to me.

I thank you for your kindness in sending me "The Christian Advocate". I was indeed glad to see it especially as I had not seen such a very fine picture of the front gate. I hope that you feel that the item in TIME was all right. It so happened that ~~for~~ that particular issue both the Special Editor for Foreign Affairs and the Domestic Affairs Editor were ill and my son wrote me that he wished Mr. Goldsborough, Editor for Foreign Affairs could have written it. It seemed to me on the whole adequate and accurate.

Hoping to greet you again in due time,

Very sincerely yours,

HWL:B

0920

ew

October 30, 1929

My dear Dr. Luce:

Heartiest thanks for your letter of October 26th.

I find it very difficult to clear up the somewhat perplexing details pertaining to one or more areas of land added by the University. Moreover, a letter just received from Doctor Stuart informs us that members of the Board of Trustees and one additional friend, attending the Formal Dedication of the buildings, contributed an aggregate of \$10,000 Gold to purchase certain land lying inside the natural boundaries of the campus. Since he does not specify what this land is, we are naturally more uncertain as to the exact situation of affairs. Under the circumstances, it seems to me that it would be wiser for us to make no special approach to Mr. Hamilton at the present time. A first payment of \$5,000 on his pledge of \$15,000 was due on October 20th. We are just now reminding Mr. Hamilton of this payment due.

Do you not think it would be wiser for us to arrange to have Mr. Hamilton and Doctor Stuart meet while the latter is in this country? He will arrive on the Pacific Coast about December 5th and will be in New York approximately by the 15th. Perhaps you could have him meet Mr. Hamilton at some time not long thereafter. I should thin this is a much better approach at the present moment than a letter.

We owe you sincere thanks for the publicity we secured through "Time." I think Miss McCoy has sent our special thanks to the editors. If not, I shall certainly do so now.

With warmest greetings.

Cordially yours,

Dr. H. W. Luce
55 Elizabeth Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Assistant to the President
D
O.O

OLDW*KK

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Copy of memo to JLS

Oct. 30, 1929

Maple

We have refrained from a further appeal to Mr. Hamilton for additional purchase of land or the support of our athletic program. Since the first payment of \$5,000 on his pledge of \$15,000 fell due only on October 20th, it seemed a little premature to press for an additional pledge. Moreover, after considerable correspondence with Dr. Luce I came to the conclusion that it would be far more effective to delay action until you could meet Mr. Hamilton personally. I am requesting Dr. Luce to assist in arranging for the best possible interview for you.

O.D.W.

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CARL W. HAMILTON
50 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK CITY

October 31, 1929

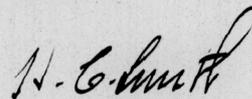
Miss Louise McCoy,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Miss McCoy:

I have your little reminder regarding Mr. Hamilton's subscription toward the campaign fund for Yenching University.

Mr. Hamilton has been out of the city since September 17th, and I do not look for his return until the middle of next month, at which time your card will be put before him for his attention.

Very truly yours,



Secretary to Mr. Hamilton.

HCS:GF

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