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NANKING THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Dr. Speer

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RECEIVED

Nanking, China Jan. 22, 1919.

MAR 4 1919

Return to J. Williams

Rowe TRANSFER

read
Nanking
return

Dr. J. C. Garritt,
c/o Dr. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Garritt:

We have been greatly joyed at your recent letters which indicate quite clearly that you intend to return to us not later than next fall.

We have been disappointed that Dr. Williams has not been able to do anything definite so far. We understand the reasons for this and hope that later something may be done.

This letter however, is written to say that it looks quite certain that Leighton will go to Peking next Fall. We have done all in our power to persuade him that the direct preparation of the Christian ministry is the most important work to which he could be called. Our efforts so far have been vain. This will, therefore, bring to you the information that there is not much hope of our holding him here. Your cablegram moved him somewhat, but did not persuade him.

He will perhaps, have written you explaining his reasons for the step which he is about to take.

What gives me most concern, however, is the fact that his going seems to mean in his mind that the Graduate Course must be dropped. He is now working on the scheme of concentrating the work for college graduates in one place. That one place is to be Peking. He expects to do some teaching there, I believe, and will do all in his power to draw to Peking all men of college grade. I say, this gives me more concern than his going. We have succeeded after years of effort in persuading our Board of Trustees, our Board of Managers and the Missions concerned, that we should carry this new course. We have begun the course and this term have carried it very successfully. The students are well pleased with their work and contented with the whole situation. We have, on the ground of having offered such a course, secured from our Boards addi-

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tional appropriations. This appropriation in the case of the Methodist Mission is conditioned upon the continuance of that course. It is not necessary for me to tell you what it will mean if we now suddenly decide to discontinue this kind of work.

I fear that it will not only affect us in that one direction, but that it will weaken our appeal for men of High School grade. I am sure that they will consider our allowing Leighton to go as an acknowledgment that we intend to lower the grade of our work.

There is one thing which will probably prevent Leighton's going to Peking. It is the only thing which holds for us any hope. That one thing is that there shall be secured at home either sufficient gifts to support our work or the appointment of two or three new men. This would make it certain that we could hold the Graduate Course here even in the face of Leighton's leaving us. I am quite certain that Leighton would not go if he did not feel that he could center in Peking all men of college grade. He has become thoroughly convinced that if he can bring this to pass, he will be doing a very great thing towards training an educated ministry in China.

In one of our Faculty meetings, almost half a day was spent in an effort to persuade us that we should allow the Graduate Course to go to Peking. When he did not succeed in persuading any of us of the wisdom of this move, he almost fully decided to decline the Peking position. Hence, it seems to me that if a move could be made at once which would insure that we can carry here successfully a course for college men, he would decline the Peking position.

~~On the other hand~~ ^{Otherwise}, nothing can possibly hold him here. The question which faces us is whether or not we are to give up the Graduate Course. To my mind, it is quite certain that we should not do so. It is also quite clear that we must have reinforcement, if we are to carry the entire three years of graduate teaching.

One thing which weighs heavily with Leighton is that he believes it will be extremely difficult for us to so increase our Staff as to make it possible for us to carry the Graduate Course. From my conversation with him, I am about persuaded that it will not be possible to call men who are now on the field to our Faculty. The reason for this, briefly, is that men who are able to do the work are not sufficiently conservative to meet the approval of our Board of Managers. Any new Professors who come to us must come from home

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Dr. J. C. Garritt. No. 3.

appointed to this school by the Boards. They will be able to gain the confidence of the Constituency during their language study before they can compromise themselves by their teaching.

In a word, then, if you and Dr. Williams can save the situation, it will be saved. Otherwise, I see very little hope. It is entirely possible that if Leighton goes to Peking, we shall have to allow the present class in the Graduate Course to go with him next Fall. The appointment of two or three men to this school or the securing of some funds would prevent this necessity and perhaps keep Leighton from going. It would certainly make it possible for us to continue this course.

The Graduating Exercises are just over. We have sent out twelve more men to join the ranks of the ministry. The prospects for an entering class are rather good. The Kiukiang school will probably be discontinued, so that all the men from our Methodist work in Kiangsi will be coming to us.

The plans are going forward for the erection of the new plant for the Bible School.

I have just been glad to hear the good news as to your family's health and very much hope that it has continued as you last stated.

We all send our very kindest regards to you all.

Sincerely yours,

H. F. Ross

HRF:R

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Handwritten signature

February
Twenty-sixth
1919

The Rev. J. Leighton Stuart, D.D.,
Nanking University,
Nanking, China.

My dear Doctor Stuart:-

I hasten to acknowledge your cablegram
which reached me on the 19th inst.

I know you will understand the great delight with
which the members of the Board of Trustees of Peking Uni-
versity have received this message. I am sending it out
and fortunately our Annual Meeting will take place shortly,
when we can take some more formal action. We shall await
your letter giving those conditions which you have deemed
wise to suggest, and I need not assure you that they will
receive very careful, and as far as lies within the limits
of our power, favorable consideration.

May I add that personally, I am greatly pleased at
the thought of your taking the presidency at Peking. I am
sure that you will bring to it elements of personality and
sanity of judgment and a regnant Christian spirit which will
mean the highest possible success of the University.

With every good wish, believe me,

Cordially yours,

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Office of the President

PEKING UNIVERSITY.

K'uei Chia Ch'ang

PEKING, CHINA.

Peking, Aug. 17/19

Dear Dr. Smith,

Since writing you as I did in my last letter, the Board of Managers has taken action urging that the Trustees call me to America at once. They have gone so far as to write for reservation on the first sailing after Oct. 1. They all feel very clear that this is necessary, as you will have gathered from Mr. Glysten's letter. It is very fortunate that Bishop Lewis and Dr. Patton have been here just at this critical time. The latter will have written you on the subject, and Bp. Lewis intends to write his views to Dr. North. In view of the rather startling recommendation of the Managers, you may be interested in knowing my own reaction. At first it seemed of all things the most undesirable, and the present to be the most inopportune ^{time} for leaving Peking. The reasons

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for this will be obvious enough to you. On the other hand, there will be little use in working for the internal improvement of the University in the frame of mind which all these out here whose views I know share with me. Having gone as far as I have, I cannot be indifferent to the consequences of my leaving it so soon. But I am quite clear that it is not worth while to stay with it unless the Trustees and we on the field come to a better mutual understanding of our respective functions and relations. I cannot hope that this will be accomplished by correspondence in the light of the experience of the past few months. Not only so, but in a more positive strain, the Interchurch World Movement Questionnaire ~~as~~ submitted by us can perhaps be best explained to the Trustees for their approval by one of us in person, and various hopeful possibilities that have come to our thinking be put into effect. So that I am ready before giving up what seems to me - and I feel safe in saying all the Managers - will otherwise be a hopeless task, to make the trip to the States, prepared to stay as long as may be necessary to start a really aggressive financial Campaign + plan with the Trustees for the development of the institution.

Very sincerely yours, J. L. Stewart.

150 Fifth Avenue

September
twenty-second
1919

President J. Leighton Stuart
Peking University
Peking China

My dear President Stuart:

Perhaps it may not be amiss for one who is a new comer in the affairs of Peking University to give you his impressions of the situation as it stands at present.

I have come to recognize that the managers and the trustees are not gearing up together very well, certainly so far as the impression of the managers seems to be. I think the difficulties were best expressed by Mr. Wheeler in his suggestion that the managers had been going so slowly, because of the embarrassments on the field, that when they suddenly speeded up the trustees were somewhat out of step. However this may be, it is the earnest desire of all whom I have met in connection with the university that there should be the most harmonious and effective relationships between the trustees and the managers. There has been some feeling here that the attitude taken on the field because the trustees have been slow in approving the proposals made was at points precipitate.

I quite realize the personal embarrassment that you must have felt because of the fact that the trustees did not readily approve a number of the proposals which you put forward. I think part of this was due to the fact that the trustees felt that some of the proposals were distinctly to the disadvantage of a sister university, Nanking University, which some of the same boards represented in Peking were cooperating.

Furthermore, with the current income of the university what it is at present, it seemed very difficult to adjust some of the additions to the staff which were requested until the program for the future financing of the university should be more clearly indicated. I believe, however, that these difficulties are matters of the past and that if the university can be navigated smoothly and steadily through the shallower waters of the present she will soon sail out into the open sea under a full spread of canvas.

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I have written to Mr. Gleysteen quite fully concerning recent actions of the Board of Trustees and my impressions of the situation. I think a very great deal depends upon Mr. Luce's coming to a favorable decision to take over the vice-presidency. I believe that we are doing all that we are justified in doing here to urge his acceptance, and I sincerely hope that before long he will receive from the field letters of enthusiasm and hope which will discount the depressing letters which he had for a while. Even cancelling cablegrams do not quite nullify the effect of discouraging letters. I trust that from now on the affairs of the university will be found to take an upward and a forward step.

Your cablegram to Dr. Smith cancelling your letter of August 17th, and Mr. Gleysteen's cablegram cancelling his letter of August 14th received. Much as we would value your presence here in connection with the statement of the financial proposals and in the development of the financial campaign for the university, we are glad that judgment on the field has changed and that you are to remain in Peking, particularly because we agree with you that the present is a most inopportune time for leaving Peking. The property matter and the development of local enthusiasm for the university are most important, and in those respects this year is certainly critical.

May I add that your readiness to come and to take up the matter of an aggressive financial campaign is thoroughly appreciated, especially in view of the understanding that you should not carry financial responsibility. Although the trustees, of course, adhere to the agreement with you that such responsibility should not be put upon you, I know that your interest in the future of the university will lead you to give every assistance possible to the furtherance of its total interest.

As I have written to Mr. Gleysteen, I hope you will keep us thoroughly advised as to developments on the field. I shall do everything in my power to carry out my particular responsibility of effective communication between the field and the home base, as well as any other matters in which I can be of assistance to the university.

I have been trying to remember whether I met you at Nanking at the time Father and I were there five years ago. I find I do not. Perhaps you were not there at the time.

With all good wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

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TRUSTEES OF
PEKING UNIVERSITY

11/3/19

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Office of the President

PEKING UNIVERSITY.

K'uei Chia Ch'ang

PEKING, CHINA.

Sept. 30th, 1919.

Dr. Eric M. North

Methodist Board of Foreign Missions,

150 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Dear Dr. North:-

It is a great pleasure to begin my first letter to you in your new relation to this University and to myself. I ^{have} felt no small satisfaction in the knowledge that henceforth we shall have you to look after our institution at home and hope some day to become acquainted with you personally.

It is very unfortunate that my first business with you has been so long delayed. Owing, however, to a variety of circumstances, which I shall not take time to relate in detail, *it* has been impossible to secure the data necessary for answering the enclosed blanks any earlier. As it is I regret that a copy for you is defaced by corrections due to a difference of opinions among those with whom I have consulted. We have finally decided that the best thing would be to give our figures in local currency, as exchange is so variable, and this would be better than to estimate our relative increase or decrease ^{from year to year} if these were given in gold. As you are familiar with ^{the} bearings of exchange

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on mission work will you kindly explain the situation in your covering letter to the regents and also ask their indulgence for the long delay this time. Would it not be possible for them to supply blanks for next year two or three months before August 1st? This will give us time to fill them in and mail them so as to be in your hands by the above date.

I sent you a cable this morning in reply to your letter regarding Mr. Barbour which read as follows:-

Missions New York

Oamavawawy Barbour, vuomysryry

Stuart.

which was meant to read, „Eric North approve Barbour, specialized in Physics. Our thought is that he could serve us best by preparing to teach this Department. Of course our approval is subject to that of the Trustees and we rely on your judgment. Correspondence makes him seem to be just the sort of man we want.

We are waiting anxiously to hear that Mr. Luce will have finally decided ^{to accept + have started} ~~which delays~~ on some kind of effective ^{promotion} ~~permission~~ of our financial campaign. I might say there is a proposal to have the Colleges of China represent ~~a~~ unified list of askings to the I.W.M. This would coordinate our work and reduce the ^{occasion} ~~institution~~ for alteration in New York. There is to be a meeting of College Presidents Oct 24,25, to review our respective askings and prepare this joint statement. Our Board of Managers has authorized my attending and acting for the University.

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I shall write promptly of the results.

You doubtless have communicated to Mr. Oldham the action of the Trustees electing him to our Theological Faculty, but in case you have not his address I enclose it herewith.

Rev. H.W.Oldham

c/o R.B. Stewart Esq.,

Huntley Gardens

Glasgow West.

Very sincerely yours,

*The mistake of a Russian
typist give point to my inquiry
about Miss St. Clair*

J. L. Stewart

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燕京大學
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Office of the President

PEKING UNIVERSITY.

K'uei Chia Ch'ang

PEKING, CHINA.

TRUSTEES OF
PEKING UNIVERSITY

Oct. 20th, 1919. 7

Dr. Eric M. North.
Board of Foreign Missions
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. North:-

Instead of writing you repeating what I have said in a personal letter to Dr. Smith replying to one from him I shall send you a copy of this and of the letter I have written to Mr. Luce. This would probably cover the ground at least until I get a report from you as secretary.

A ^{the} Word has come from Mr. H.D. Griswold (who is in Presbyterian Board Rooms) regarding Mr. Earl O. Wilson, 102 Lutz Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Wilson would like to come to the University as a teacher of industrial chemistry and it is very desirable that we should be able to offer this course. Those who know Mr. Wilson here approve of his appointment. Mr. J. M. Gibb of your Board will be able to furnish details. The Executive Committee of the Board of Managers have asked me to convey to you its nomination of Mr. Wilson to the Trustees. It will probably be one or two years at the earliest before he will be ready to return to China.

Very sincerely yours,

*you will be interested
in getting Mr. Griswold's
experience of this course
in India.*

J. L. Stewart

*Gibb = 3
years.*

TRUSTEES OF
PEKING UNIVERSITY

11/25/19

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Oct. 20, 1919

"I feel very strongly as do others here that each one of these Union Universities must look to its Board of Trustees for financial support, the supplying of teachers, etc., in the same sense that other missionaries look to their respective Mission Boards. In other words, the Trustees must take the place of the respective Mission Boards in the fullest sense. The Executive Officers of the University on the field are not to have any more financial responsibility than is usually demanded of missionaries who have been trained and equipped for special conditions in the country to which they have been appointed. This is the thought that underlay the condition I made in accepting the call here. I made the suggestion regarding Mr. Luce by way of helping the Trustees in the practical problem which they would have to face if the University is to be in any true sense established. Any of us stands ready -- as for instance Messrs. Luce, Wheeler, King and Gibb do at present -- to help the Trustees in any special campaign or otherwise. I ought to make this point perfectly clear because it affects not only Mr. Luce but myself. I shall continue to act tentatively until I am convinced that the Trustees recognize this principle and accept responsibility themselves. Whether they do this by temporarily utilizing one of us or by dealing directly with the Mission Boards or through special movements like the present I.W.M. or by a paid agent selected in America is for them to decide. ----- As far as the present campaign is concerned, Mr. Luce having once undertaken it would expect to assume full charge with such moral support as the Trustees would gladly furnish. -----

"It is absolutely essential that (the Trustees) find some process by which it can be reasonably hoped that large sums of money can be secured. (It is not merely that I shall resign otherwise.) The morale of the other members of the Faculty is not easy to maintain and the same is true of the Student-body. After the history of the recent years and with embarrassing limitations at every turn and humiliating contrasts not only with Government institutions but also with all other Mission colleges it will be an impossible task to hold things together unless relief is found soon in the assurance of a strong constructive programme ahead. This turns at present upon two material considerations; first the securing of a new site, and second the raising of the money we need for buildings and annual budget. The former of these I am doing my best to secure but it is not easy, neither is the second easy, and I do not want to be unreasonable. You ought, however, to know the facts as I see them. I hope too that you will not misunderstand my personal attitude as in any sense a threat. It is simply that my Mission and old institutions have the first claim, and I would very much prefer being in the work I have been doing and have learnt to love in Nanking, and that unless the Trustees see how to find it possible to equip the University here it is not worth while for me to make the sacrifice I am making and I can count more for the Christian Movement by returning to my former work."

*Letter from Parker to Student
Oct 20, 1919*

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Nanking, China May 21, 1919.

Rev. Edward Lincoln Smith, D.D.,
American Board of Commissioners,
Foreign Missions,
287 Fourth Avenue, Room 820,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Smith:

I have your letter inclosing a copy of one to Mr. Gleysteen and have noted with interest the various items referred to.

I am, of course quite disappointed that the Board did not see its way clear to elect Mr. Luce the Vice-Presidency. He will not consider merely being Financial Secretary, but I am still hoping that the Board may be willing to reconsider and give him the title, not merely for the financial interests involved, but also because of the permanent value he would be to the University. He and I understanding each other as we do, we would be able to share our responsibilities and take turns, as far as necessary, in returning to America. In the event of the Trustees being finally unwilling to elect him to this position, I earnestly hope that they will take active measures to find someone of their own choosing who can carry on a vigorous financial campaign at home. This lack of funds and the inadequate financial basis of the University is to my mind, the most serious hindrance to its development at present.

The apparently hopeless tangle of difficulties from which the men in Peking have extricated themselves indicates a splendid spiritual victory on their part. It is not too much to say that the points that have been so divisive in the past, appear now to be finally cleared up. Even the matter of the site is one that I think the Methodist Board may approve without fear of arousing opposition on the field. But the present appropriations from the Boards for current expenses are absolutely inadequate.

I am glad to note from your letters how keenly alive you are to this fact and I trust you will be able to assist in organizing, with or without Mr. Luce, a process for securing some such income as the University must have.

It is also a very serious disappointment not to have Oldham and Hutchinson elected, though I can see the

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reasons which caused this action. I shall not give up the hope that their election is only postponed, as it still seems to me that they will both add a great deal to the efficiency of the institution. The latter would be of great value in ~~the~~ publicity phase of whatever financial campaign is undertaken.

I also understand why Timothy Lew was not elected, though this is even more of a personal disappointment. One serious deficiency in the University, as it seems to me, is in the number of Chinese on its Staff. Lew has already won a great reputation among Chinese students and will be a conspicuous figure on his return to China. This combined with his personal relation to me and his deep Christian character, would make him an invaluable asset just at the time when the University needs a great deal of internal toning up. He is a high spirited and sensitive young fellow and the tone of his letter to me indicates that he has been quite hurt by the action regarding him. It has led him definitely to decide to come to Nanking. As a matter of fact, he had already been thinking seriously of doing this for a few years for personal and family reasons, but had, after hearing from me, decided to go *direct* to Peking, until after his interviews with you changed his mind. I think it would be well for him to come here until the summer of 1920, but after that, I do hope that somehow he can be financed for Peking. The people here thoroughly understand that they have no claim on him. But they have asked me to let him be with them one or two years, until they can be better readjusted to the changes they are suffering. And I had agreed to this.

I am going up to Peking early next month to the Commencement, and shall have conferences with the Managers at that time. After this, you will hear more definitely regarding whatever matters need to be taken up. Meanwhile, we shall await anxiously the impressions Luce receives from his conferences with the Trustees, and the decisions reached on both sides.

Mr. Wheeler will not sail now until June 14th. It is quite possible that he will go to Peking with me. He can help in the campaign for funds and it may be possible to elect him to the position which Luce will undoubtedly refuse unless he is given some permanent connection with the University in China.

It occurs to me that it might possibly be worth while to retain Timothy Lew through next Spring for the inter-church movement. If this commends itself to you, I think there would be no trouble in my persuading him

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Rev. Edward Lincoln Smith, D.D., No. 3.

to do so.

I want the Trustees also to understand that I have no thought of holding myself aloof from financial worries. Anything that I can do in this supremely important problem ahead of us, I stand ready to attempt to the utmost of my ability.

Very sincerely yours,

J. L. Stewart

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NANKING THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

TRUSTEES OF
PEKING UNIVERSITY

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Nanking, China

June 14, 1919.

Rev. E. L. Smith, D.D.,
American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions,
287 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Smith:

I have just returned this afternoon from a visit to Peking.

You will doubtless have seen accounts of the student strikes, especially in their relations to our University. I hope to write a circular letter to a few of my friends at home and those who are interested in my work and shall send you a copy as it may add a little to your understanding of the situation.

I am glad to report that the old issues which have hindered the two parties in the University from getting together, seem now entirely cleared away. All are apparently entirely satisfied and I think we have a really homogeneous group of people, enthusiastic about the development of the institution. I shall do my utmost to improve the internal ~~workings~~ workings, the quality of teaching, intensive activities, a hearty fellowship and University spirit, both in the Faculty and with the students, and thus prepare the way for advertising and increasing our numbers. While this will be going on in Peking, I hope there can also be a vigorous financial campaign at home. This is the next great need.

It is a pleasure to hear, as I have indirectly, that the Methodist Centenary has yielded \$500,000.00. I wonder if this is at the disposal of the Trustees or is specified for definite buildings, etc. In the former case, would it not be well to let a good part of it at least, be used for immediate endowment? Personally, I think the University needs to increase its Staff and appropriations for current expenses just now more than the needs of the new buildings. Besides, these are always easier to raise money for.

The Methodists are pointing out that the other Boards ought to come across with similar amounts. There is, of course, no obligation upon them to do so, but it is a good leverage. I am endeavoring to see if something can not be done regarding the British Boxer Indemnity and possibly you could take this

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up from New York also. This could be thought of as an indirect assistance through the London Mission. We are also hoping that an amount at least as large as the Methodist figure can be secured from the Hall Estate. You will doubtless know how to deal with this fund. Here again, I wonder if we could not ask for half a million or a million dollars endowment, the interest only to be used for current expenses. The principal could, therefore, remain for the present at least with the ~~Executors~~.

You will be receiving the report of the Publicity Committee which deals with these and other suggestions.

Meanwhile, we are all waiting with intense interest to hear the report of your meeting with Mr. Luce. All concerned are at one in hoping that the Trustees will reconsider their action and elect him Vice-President. We can not conceive why there was objection to this. The fact that he and I both happen to be Presbyterians seems trivial. Before proposing it, I took pains to consult Dr. Lowry and other Methodists and it was only after their strong endorsement that I made the suggestion. They feel even more ready to welcome him now. A hint has reached me from a friend in New York that our Trustees were afraid Mr. Luce would not "vice". Here again, I had given very careful thought to his personality and shall say frankly to you that I am quite aware of those traits of character which might seem to be an embarrassment to me. In other words, I know the worst about Mr. Luce and have weighed these considerations very carefully. On the other hand, he has been a close personal friend for years, and I am entirely willing to take any chances in the confidence that we shall be able to work together to mutual advantage and without any serious friction. He has so many special qualities for this position and I feel so strongly in need of such help as he can give, that I am more than willing to do this, nor can I think of anyone else who could at all take his place. It seems to me that the University will make a very serious mistake to lose the chance of securing him.

The case of Mr. Hutchinson is also one that all of us are disposed to press. I recommended Dr. King as Dean of Graduate schools and he will take this up with the Trustees and with the Methodist Board on his return to the States. He sails August 3d. The reason for this nomination is largely to gratify the older Methodists in view of the way in which other positions seem to have gone to Non-Methodists and in view of their having lost almost all of their contentions in the issues that have been divisive. This appointment of Dr. King has given a great deal of pleasure to the local Methodists and I trust will be confirmed by the

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June 14, 1919

Trustees. It also seems to me that he can serve the University better in some such capacity than in any other way.

Hussey
Cote

Another matter that may be of some help is the case of Mr. Hussey. I sent you a copy of his letter ^{3/20/19} to me and of my reply ^{5/26/19}. While in Peking, I sent him a note ^{6/18/19} asking if he would furnish an itemized statement of actual expenses incurred for the University, together with charges for any work done. I am sending you a copy of his reply ^{6/9/19} this and of my acknowledgment ^{6/14/19}; also a copy of notes on his original letter ^{5/20/19} made by a former member of his staff, Mr. R. A. White. While in Peking, I saw Mr. Bennett of the International Bank and the other Bennett referred to in the notes just mentioned; also Dr. Dunlap and others of the Rockefeller Foundation. They all agree that Hussey is making a big bluff and that the best policy would be to call his bluff. You probably already have this sort of information, but I send this on for what it is worth. He insists that any settlement be made through the Peking office. I note, however, that your contract was with the Chicago office and I would recommend that any transactions be made through that office rather than in Peking. I understand that there are special reasons why he prefers to have the settlement out here. May I also suggest that you do not make any payment to him until he has furnished the itemized statement I have asked for. I feel sure that in order to do this, he will have to include items already collected from the U. M. B. My own feeling is that whatever small items he might originally have charged, we are almost relieved from any moral obligation to meet, in view of his deliberate attempt to extort a much larger amount based upon false statements. However, this is merely to assist the Trustees and not to interfere in whatever plans they already have. My immediate interest in the case is to have it settled as soon as possible in order that we may begin to secure architects' plans as a necessary part of the financial campaign. I hope that we can receive authorization from you in the near future to this effect. Those with whom I advised in Peking think that there is no reason why we need fear to go ahead even now. I might add that it is reported there that Mr. Hussey will leave China within the year, possibly even as early as August.

There is another matter in which I should like your assistance. The Managers voted that I should have a secretary, not only because of the general assistance she would be, but because of the peculiar domestic circumstances, owing to my wife's very delicate health. If we could have a secretary who would also help her in the social obligations which we shall try to fulfill, it would do a great deal to relieve my anxiety regarding her. In fact, unless we have some such arrangement, it

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would be impossible for us to, in any sense, meet the demands of our position and I am sure the University would suffer in consequence. A young lady has been recommended ^{by} a friend in whom we have thorough confidence and I am writing to her, asking that she take up with you the details for her coming out. Her name and address are "Miss Mary St. Clair, 210 Bradbury Building, Los Angeles, California." I should like her to come out this Autumn and enter the Language School. If she learns the language, it will make her more serviceable to me and to the whole University, as well as tend to make her more willing to stay in China. My thought is that she take this position as a regular missionary service with the motive that we all have, that she receive a missionary's salary and that some arrangement could be made for a contract with her for, say, five years, we to pay traveling expenses both ways at expiration of this time, and on some equitable sharing of these for any period between that which the engagement might be terminated. These contracts are sometimes written for three years. I earnestly hope that the Board will be able to approve of this plan and I am entirely willing to leave the fitness of Miss St. Clair to your judgment, together with whatever arrangements made for her coming out may seem to you best. You may be aware that we shall board the first year with Dr. and Mrs. Hobart, which will relieve my wife of the burden of housekeeping, and at the time she will be trying to adjust herself to her new environment. Miss St. Clair could, therefore, be studying the language that first year while giving me some help.

Dr. Wilder and Mr. Porter will probably write you regarding the desirability of Dr. Wicks coming back into evangelistic work for a few years at least. It does not seem to me that until he has had some such contact with Chinese life, he will be the sort of teacher we want in the School of Theology. This comment is based partly upon a conversation with him and partly upon opinions which have reached me both from Chinese and foreigners. My hope is that the American Board may be willing to take over Mr. Oldham as its representative in the place of Dr. Wicks, leaving the future to determine whether Dr. Wicks would ultimately return or not. In the former case, we must have faith to believe that by that time, the University will be able to carry the salary of Mr. Oldham. It is a rare opportunity to secure such a man just as we are trying to improve this School.

I do hope that the suggestion of the Managers that the Trustees invite those whose names were mentioned to a conference at least with the Executive Committee, be carried through. It ought to be of great benefit in helping the Trustees to understand the new developments, the needs and the hopes of those of us out here. Especially do I hope that the Trustees will welcome Mr. Wheeler to our staff. It seems that for two or

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three years, he may have to be supported by his Board, after which time he thinks he will be entirely independent. He also is one of the rare spirits whom the University will be very fortunate in securing, and will bring every quality, financial resourcefulness, athletic leadership, intellectual and scholarly tastes, big ideals and spiritual ^{quality} ~~quality~~. I feel somewhat timid about urging this after the negative given all my previous suggestions. Yet it is hard to believe that such a man will be turned down. Is it not possible that until the University has its own endowment, the Boards will be willing to assign more men than the constitution calls for as a temporary expedient? This would meet the case of the Presbyterian Board having already more than its allotment.

May I also indicate my dissent from what seems to have been the attitude of the Trustees toward the building up of graduate courses. As I understand this, it was that no other courses will be established until the present College of Arts and Sciences and School of Theology will have been improved, and until there has been an agreement among all the universities in China regarding the courses to be established. It would seem to me that the best way to carry through a successful financial campaign, is to have a large program of graduate schools, actually beginning work in each one, of course, when the force and the funds are available. Meanwhile, I pledge myself to work on the job of intensive toning up in the existing departments. And as to the other universities, there is now no machinery by which they can get together. Would it not be a more constructive policy to determine on certain schools and plan to start these in consultation with other universities, and subject to their approval? Take the School of Journalism, for instance, no other place has thought of such a school. Even if it should develop that some other place felt that prior claim, this will come out when we will have made the start. The practical effect of the present policy would seem, on the other hand, to thwart any progressive effort on our part.

This is a long letter, probably tiresome, and not without a note of apparent dissatisfaction. Perhaps I should frankly say that I wrote you a much stronger letter after hearing from the meeting of the Trustees and spending one or two rather sleepless nights over the outlook--that letter was destroyed--based upon the apparent inability of the Trustees to plan adequately for the University. I should have declined to undertake the responsibility, were it not for the way in which the men in Peking had fought through their difficulties and won a great spiritual

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victory over themselves. Such men deserve to be supported to the utmost, and I am going to Peking in the faith that the Trustees too, will rally to the support of the University, now that local differences have been adjusted, and that we can have at home also a great advance in vision and ~~through~~ *enthusiasm* resulting in the financial support and approval of plans for enlarging the University, which are the essentials now.

I am writing thus freely to you because I have received the impression from you of your sharing in the dreams and desires which are my excuse for writing in this vein.

Very sincerely yours,

J. H. Stewart

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File
J. L. Stewart

Revised

Nanking China,
June 16, 1919.

My dear Friends:-

You will doubtless have been reading in the papers of the Chinese "Student Strikes", and have been wondering what it all meant. I shall attempt to interpret the significance of this new phenomenon. And partly because this letter is one that I should like to have made a really personal one to each friend who will receive a copy, partly because it may serve to make the situation more vivid and concrete, I shall let this be a somewhat personal narrative.

But in order to furnish perspective two facts must be appreciated. The first is that Japanese aggression in China is all that the strongest statements you may have seen have represented. Imagine the worst about this little island empire in its desperate efforts to secure political and commercial control of China's government, natural resources, markets, and soil, through bribery, propaganda, militaristic intimidation, fomenting of sectional and other internal disorders. You will not have exceeded the reality. This is not a tirade against Japan. I am also quite aware that there is a growing liberal element in Japan who do not sympathize with the military party now in power. The most tragic disappointment to me from the European War has been that Japan, whose present rulers have followed German ideas and methods, have failed to grasp the moral reasons for Germany's defeat. Meanwhile the next point of disturbance in world affairs will be China. Unless the present developments are checked in time, America may have to send her soldiers across the Pacific as she has recently across the Atlantic. At present the Japanese organs in China are bitterly denouncing four elements obstructing their schemes: Democracy, President Wilson, America, missionaries. There is danger of anti-foreign (especially anti-American) outbreaks, provoked by Japanese and the corrupt Chinese officials now frightened by the indignation of their own people. These statements may seem nasty. They are, however, not only deliberate and restrained, but would probably be endorsed by every American living now in China. The second fact to be remembered is that Japanese aggression would only be possible because of the present shamelessly grafting Chinese officials. The President is perhaps doing the best he can in an almost impossible situation. For the rest, there is scarcely any semblance of representative government, and all are in the game for the quickest returns. To keep in power, large bodies of troops - worthless against a foreign enemy, largely recruited from bandits - are maintained as a menace against rival officials. These troops must be paid. This requires more money. The easiest way to obtain this is to borrow from Japan, signing away China's priceless mineral and other resources, her territory, her claims at the Peace Conference, etc.

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These are the provoking causes for the recent student outbreaks. They are burning with indignation not merely against Japan, but even more against the traitors selling out their country. With such sentiments every true American cannot but be in the fullest sympathy. Not only so, but our Christian teachings would fail of their finest fruition if they did not arouse hatred of wrong and oppression, and a spirit of service and heroic patriotic sacrifice. On the other hand, we Americans maintaining schools have had to guard against open support of the students or abusing our privileges as foreigners by letting our buildings be headquarters for activities the authorities would not permit in government institutions. In general, we have taken the position that we would allow neither more nor less than what took place in the government schools. The so-called "strikes" could perhaps have taken place nowhere but in China. The students simply quit classes, while the faculties took no formal action though unofficially sympathizing. Except for a few minor issues due chiefly to the tense excitement under which all have been living there have been no unpleasant relations between teachers and students. In the mission schools there has been rather a deepened understanding. Our Seminary men have been among the leaders in the Nanking student activities, and have helped to guide along sane and proper lines.

In the midst of all these stirring developments I was due to go to the Commencement Exercises of Peking University at which time I was to assume my new duties. Owing to various circumstances I had not been able to have any meetings with the students on previous visits, so they had never seen me nor I them. Although there was a general understanding over the country that there would be no graduation exercises or formal commencements, yet it was planned that I should preach a Commencement Sermon last Sunday. But on my arrival in Peking our students - with 11 exceptions in the College of Arts and Sciences, and a few more in the School of Theology - had all been locked up! The military clique had been so annoyed by the parades and the bands of ten which went over the streets addressing the people, that although these had all been orderly and no abusive language had been used, they incarcerated nearly 2000 students in the Government Law College. So many others took up the task of arousing public opinion, that the officials opened the gates and told the students they were free. But the boys, like Paul at Philippi, said that since they had been illegally imprisoned and had violated no law, they would not leave until the officials made amends and escorted them out. Meanwhile the government had to go on feeding them and refusing to arrest others who were doing everything (except breaking laws) to get arrested. This went on for two days until Sunday noon when the President and other high officials sent representatives practically apologizing and granting in effect all their demands, and the students came out by schools with banners flying, marching like a victorious army. The following comment from one of the newspaper correspondents in Peking will be of interest.

"It was nearly twelve o'clock before finally the blare of trumpets playing the first bars of the Chinese national air within the gates announced the coming forth of the prisoners.

"The crowd pressed back, and on they came. It wasn't much as parades go. The enthusiasm of the crowd, even of the

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welcoming committees, had somewhat waned, and the onlookers, coolies and police, hardly knew why the parade was. The double line as it wavered past in its uneasy gait, with half-hearted waving of hats, and its pathetic motley of costumes, was not impressive to a foreigner used to the grand displays of war-time parades. It missed much of the dignity and spectacular order of the array within the court. But as the intelligent and earnest young faces appeared from under the shadow of their walls which they had transmuted from walls of oppression to a stronghold of freedom, the very air around them seemed to tingle with the vibrant eagerness of youth, the fierce idealism that makes for unity, the strength that makes for power, the vision that shapes a brighter hope for a generation to come."

Meanwhile I had to preach a Commencement Sermon with not a single student present, for as you will have surmised, the few who were not imprisoned had gone to watch and welcome their more fortunate comrades. However, I met with my boys the next morning when, with only a few of the teachers who had dropped in, I could be much more free than with a church full of people, including perhaps a Japanese spy or two. I think they realize that their new President is at least in sympathy with their ideals. It was a unique and dramatic situation for entering such an office.

On my way to Peking I had occasion to stop over a few hours in Tientsin and called on the Principal of a famous semi-government school, Mr. Chang Po-ling, formerly a prominent official, an earnest Christian and a member of the Peking University Board of Managers. It happened to be the very day thousands of Tientsin students had assembled on the drill ground in front of this school to start a parade through the streets. They were surrounded by a cordon of police with orders from the Governor to prevent the parade. After ineffective pleading, these thousands of students knelt on the ground and wept. Finally the officer in charge who kept protesting that he had his orders telephoned the Governor who remained obdurate, saying that it was to protect the students from violence. The students then resumed their kneeling and pleading, asking the officer and his men if they too were not patriotic Chinese, if they did not want to help prevent their ancestral land from perishing, etc. Many of the crowd wept with the students, and the police were visibly moved. The officer again telephoned the Governor but without avail. Then the students rose to the occasion, announced if they were shot or bayoneted, they would have to do their duty, formed in line, started forward, and the police instead of firing on them formed a line on either side and thus they carried through their parade, including a visit to the Governor who received the student committee in an interview! It was a great spectacle.

Coming back to Nanking, I found that there had been some acute issues between the students and the police, resulting in injuries to several of the former. As all work was suspended, most of the schools had closed. Most of our Seminary students had left. Here again things were very different from the special program planned with a view to my departure. I

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wish very much there had been a chance to bid farewell to the students here whom I love. But I think we all understand one another. Incidentally, I am being quite affected by the singular turn of events, as I had about nine engagements in Peking and this general section for Baccalaureate Sermons or Commencement Addresses. Where these have not been cancelled, they are to be very quiet and not public. Leaving these personal bearings, I hope you can feel with us the thrilling import of this student movement. It reveals the latent virility of the Chinese people. It is an evidence of the dynamic effect of an idea, for this is a phase of the great democratic movement throughout the world. Chinese officialdom has been startled and harassed by this wide-spread protest against its high-handed iniquities. The students have organized with fine skill, and conducted their work with restraint, excellent order and enthusiasm. The merchants in many big cities have been stirred to similar action, and unless the government had yielded, there would probably have followed a general closing of stores, strikes of workmen, cutting off of travel, etc. The popular conscience has thus become articulate. As it is, the nation-wide boycott of Japanese goods if it can only be maintained several months will bring the Japanese to terms or will lead them to military attacks on China, with international complications. It is worth noting that the movement began with students. Herein lies the one hope for this distracted country. And it is a great hope. They are now effecting a nation-wide, permanent organization, which will be a powerful weapon against foreign aggression and official treason. It is also interesting to watch the friendly relations that are developing between Christian and Government School students. The former have come into a recognition all out of proportion to their numbers. It also immensely accentuates the importance of Christian leadership. These students in their turn must have the highest ideals of service and sacrifice, a patriotism that can be patient and can suffer heavy losses, the living power to live and inspire others to live according to the demands of duty under these new conditions. Only the Christian gospel can produce this spirit and steady men into selfless devotion to the country's needs. The Christian movement will save not only individual Chinese but China. The weak nations will be the chief source of trouble for the League of Nations. Saving China from herself and any grasping nations desiring to exploit her becomes therefore a great international service. And as go the students, China will follow with all its vast population. In this present movement the students in other places have largely looked to those in Peking for leadership. This gives to our new Christian University the greater opportunity for service in this supremely important crisis of Chinese history.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. L. Stuart.

Our new address will be: Peking University, Peking, China.

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Peitaiho, China,
August 2, 1919.

Rev. Edward Lincoln Smith, D.D.,
Acting Secretary, Board of Trustees,
Peking University,
New York City, N. Y.

TRUSTEES OF
PEKING UNIVERSITY

Dear Dr. Smith:

I am just in receipt of a copy of your letter of June 14th to Mr. Gleysteen.

It would be difficult to describe the utter discouragement it has brought me. It remains inconceivable to me that the Trustees would stultify themselves by continued refusal to invite Mr. Luce in the present plight of the University, nor has any explanation been given of this rejection of the repeated recommendation of the Managers. And as I feel deeply pained by your action regarding my friend, Mr. Luce, I cannot but resent also your cavalier treatment of a man of Mr. Wheeler's type, as described in your letter. Nor have I any idea that Mr. Wheeler will accept such an offer. The practical effect of these actions is that I am unable to feel that the Trustees have agreed in spirit to that condition of mine which had to do with financial responsibility. This carried with it in my thought a readiness on the part of the Trustees to secure some other agent for the University through whom these pressing needs can be provided. It would be impossible to develop the University on its present wholly inadequate financial basis. Having persistently refused to accept a solution which seemed to us in China a rarely fortunate opportunity--and one in which I should have gladly cooperated to the utmost of my ability--I confidently looked for some strong constructive plan of your own. If I seem impatient, you must remember that I have been waiting six months for this reply to my conditions and have made the move to Peking in the faith that the Trustees would either accept our plan or find a better one.

The issue seems, however, to be more fundamental than the mere question of a financial campaign, imperative as that is. Every proposal I have made for advancing the interests of the University, although in each case approved by the entire Board of Managers, has been turned down by the Trustees. This indicates such a radical difference between my ideals and the intentions of the Trustees and such lack of confidence in my judgment that I am apparently not the one to serve the University as it requires. It should have a President whose policies can carry the support of the Trustees and who is in more sympathy with their conception of the institution than I find myself to be. And on my part, I have lost confidence in the vital interest of the Trustees in a progressive program, or at least in their willingness to devote any sufficient time or effort to its necessities. You remind us that they are busy men. Yet if they are too busy to do anything but negative the efforts of those on the

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Rev. Edward Lincoln Smith, D.D., No. 3.

field, while undertaking no constructive measures of their own, is not the outlook for the University rather hopeless? Without active support from those who control the situation, my task seems impossible.

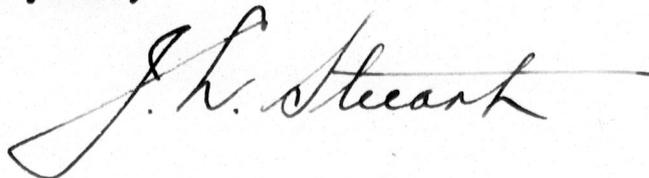
As I wrote you before, if it were not for the superb spirit with which the men in Peking have solved their internal difficulties and the imperative call to the Christian Movement to have an institution in the Capital of China in some real sense worthy of its opportunity, I should have promptly declined after the first communication from you. As it is, I have waited in the hope that my first impressions were incorrect.

Will you, therefore, kindly convey to the Trustees my reluctant conviction that they are unprepared to agree to the real intent of my conditions?

Whether this is to decline the position or to offer my resignation is not quite clear to me, owing to mistaken assumptions as to the attitude of the Trustees. This is, however, only a technical point, and I shall be ready to return to Nanking, on hearing from you. I stand willing, on the other hand, if you so desire, to continue to act tentatively--having already made the break--through the whole or part of the coming session, or until there is evidence that the Trustees intend to give those on the field the financial and other support without which the future holds no promise.

It is with painful surprise, and contrary to all my expectations, that I have come to this conclusion. I had been thinking of my new duties with enthusiasm and a thrilling sense of the potentialities of the University. Nor shall I cease to hope and pray that the Trustees in whose hands lies the destiny of the institution, are more concerned about it than has hitherto appeared.

Very sincerely yours,



JLS:R

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Oct. 20th, 1919.

Rev. E. L. Smith D.D.
American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
287 Fourth Avenue
New York City, U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Smith:-

Thanks for your good letter of Sept. 12th regarding Mr. Luce. I am sending you a copy of a letter just written him which is my attempt to analyse his hesitancy. The first of the two points is one that grew perhaps out of his visit to Peking last spring. He has been attempting to interpret our views as well as to state his own. (I feel very strongly as do others here that each one of these Union Universities must look to its Board of Trustees for financial support the supplying of teachers and etc. in the same sense that other missionaries look to their respective Mission Boards. In other words the Trustees must take the place of the respective Mission Boards in the fullest sense. The Executive Officers of the University on the field are not to have any more financial responsibility than is usually demanded of missionaries who have been trained and equipped for special conditions in the country to which they have been appointed. This is the thought that underlay the condition I made in accepting the call here. I made the suggestion regarding Mr. Luce by way of helping the Trustees in the practical problem which they would have to face if the University is to be in any true sense established. Any of us stands ready-----as for instance Messrs. Luce Wheeler, King, Gibb do at present----- to help the Trustees in any special campaign or otherwise. I ought to make this point perfectly clear because it effects not only Mr. Luce but myself. I shall continue to act tentatively until I am convinced that the Trustees recognize this principle and accept responsibility themselves. Whether they do this by temporarily utilizing one of us or by dealing directly with the Mission Boards or through special movements like the present I.W.M. or by a paid agent selected in America is for them to decide.) This is I feel quite sure that for which Mr. Luce is contending. (As far as the present campaign is concerned, Mr. Luce having once undertaken it would expect to assume full charge with such moral support as the Trustees would gladly furnish.) In short, if you can assure him that the principle is recognized I think this difficulty would be cleared up. Regarding the second one we must somewhat be patient with him in view of his unfortunate Shantung experience. If as some one has suggested he wants a

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guarantee that in the event of the presidency becoming permanently vacant he would succeed to that place, it would of course be impossible to accede, but I do not believe any true man would care to make this condition. He wishes to feel sure that he is wanted for the sake of his contribution in Peking as well as in doing the hard financial work at home.

If he finally declines I earnestly hope that the Trustees will at once determine to find some man who has proven himself successful in this kind of work in the States and pay him any salary necessary, and get him to work as soon as possible. The name of Dr. Holden, a Presbyterian, formerly connected with Worcester but now living in New York City has been suggested. Of course, the Trustees are far more familiar with possibilities of this kind. Any make-shift such as electing Mr. Wheeler would not solve the problem. Canton Christian College, I am told, elected a business man to do this very thing.

It is absolutely essential that the trustees find some process by which it can be reasonably hoped that large sums of money can be secured. It is not merely that I shall resign otherwise. The morale of the other members of the Faculty is not easy to maintain and the same is true of the Student-Body. After the history of the recent years and with embarrassing limitations at every turn and humiliating contrasts not only with Government institutions but also with all other Mission colleges it will be an impossible task to hold things together unless relief is found soon in the assurance of a strong constructive programme ahead. This turns at present upon two material considerations: first the securing of a new site, and second the raising of the money we need for buildings and annual budget. The former of these I am doing my best to secure but it is not easy, neither is the second easy and I do not want to be unreasonable. You ought, however, to know the facts as I see them. I hope too that you will not misunderstand my personal attitude as in any sense a threat. It is simply that my Mission and old institution have the first claim and I would very much prefer being in the work I have been doing and have learnt to love in Nanking, and that unless the Trustees see how to find it possible to equip the University here it is not worth while for me to make the sacrifice I am making and I can count more for the Christian Movement by returning to my former work.

Thanks for your efforts to secure Miss St. Clair. It is a disappointment that she cannot come and I am hard put to it to get this sort of help. I hope you will be on the look out to find some-one else.

With the heartiest appreciation of your personal interest and the believe that somehow things are going to come out alright

Very sincerely yours,

J.R.S.

Copy to Dr. North

Attached to
J.S. Stewart 10/20/19

Peking, Oct. 20th, 1919.

Rev. H. W. Luce
Board of Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City, U.S. A.

File
J.S. Stewart

My dear Harry:-

You already know of the great relief it was to me that our Board of Trustees took the action regarding you, that we had been hoping they would. As you had been present at the Executive Committee meeting in July, and knew that the formal decision at the September meeting was practically assured and permitted the action to go through, I had hoped that you would at once accept. I have not written earlier largely because of the assumption that you had pretty well made up your mind as it seemed strange that you would have let things take the course that they have otherwise. It was all the more natural because of your letters regarding the site and other matters written as though you were merely waiting for proper action by the Trustees to begin your active plans. It is true that Dr. Smith cabled immediately after their meeting. "Luce elected hesitates." But I have been rather hoping that this would soon pass. A letter from Dr. Smith has come which shows that he also is puzzled at your indecision. We sent a cable yesterday in code the meaning being, "Luce, manimously and strongly urge you to accept, we are awaiting your decision, land purchase encouraging." I have been trying to analyse your hesitancy and ascribe it to two causes. One is your contention with the Trustees that they are responsible for financing the university and that anything we do is by the way of helping them. In this, of course, we absolutely agree with you. But I wonder if there has been a certain confusion of ideas between you and the Board. You are insisting on a permanent principle whereas they think that you want them to assume actual responsibility in the particular campaign which you would head. They do not see how this could be directed by anyone but yourself nor would you want it otherwise. What you and we are arguing for is the recognition by the Trustees that they must see to it that the University is adequately financed. I am trying to make this clear in a letter to Dr. Smith. The second anxiety that you may feel is in regard to your permanent position in the University. I have never questioned the attitude of the people here but to be perfectly sure I have been taking it up again the last few days and can assure you that everyone wants you here as Vice-President with all that the term carries and as a permanent member of our staff. They look upon your

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present financial work as a merely temporary service, your permanent call being to Peking and to direct educational and administrative work. After this special campaign is over, you and I and doubtless others also will make trips to America as may seem wise at any given stage. I think that my own views which are thoroughly familiar to you and my intense desire to have you here as colleague fairly represent the sentiment of all concerned. This also I am trying to make clear to Dr. Smith.

Now a word as to the land situation. The Realty Co. that Dr. Reinsch organized is going ahead trying to buy up all that it can in the general locality. Dr. Reinsch's departure has revealed the fact that he did not have a very clear idea of the difficulties of this sort of thing in China, and in a sense it has been an advantage to know exactly what the situation is. Dr. Tenney the acting minister is trying to carry on as Dr. Reinsch would have done and is much more conversant with things Chinese. The section involved consists largely of small independent holdings quite profitable for truck gardens and more recently for raising cotton and ^{pe}anuts. The farmers do not want to sell. The agent has secured an option on a number of pieces all but one of which are too far away from the city wall for our purpose. There is one tract of 120 mow which seems to be within our limits though we are not absolutely sure yet about this. It is offered at \$125.00 per mow. The agent thinks, however, that since he and we now have an understanding direct and their buyers have clearly in mind just what we want things will go ahead more rapidly in the future. Meanwhile I am making up an effort to see the President of China and get a government grant either of land or of the money necessary to cover our proposed purchase. This would have been easier with Dr. Reinsch present, but both Dr. Tenney and Sir John Jordan will be ready to endorse our petition which is being prepared in consultation with Admiral T'sai and others. The failure of the Consortium owing to Japan's demands has left the Government very impecunious. The President himself has had no salary for over seven months. There could not be a worse time for a money gift, but there may be government land suitable for our purpose which they would give. I shall of course keep yourself and Dr. Eric North fully informed of further developments, cabling if anything really happens. We are pushing it as fast as can be done, but you know how slowly these things proceed.

The Shantung situation has of course taken a new phase in view of recent happenings there. Personally, however, I still question whether it would be wise for you to return there in view of all that has happened. This may be due in part to my very earnest hope that you will throw in your lot with us. I do not believe any place needs you more nor gives bigger opportunity.

Yours as ever,