

CONFIDENTIAL.

院學理文子女陵金

GINLING COLLEGE

NANKING, CHINA

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TELEPHONE No. 31731

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Dear Searle:

One example of the strange letters Minnie has forth to various people from time to time

For days I have been trying to persuade Dr. Wu to go up to Chengtu and study the situation there with the thought in mind of strengthening our Ginling unit there. I think you know that we have four students there now and also Dr. Reeves. This morning in a long conference I think she for the first time really considered it. Personally I hope that she gets off inside of a week, at least before the panic comes. She can now say quite frankly that she is going up there to investigate. She will also be within air plane reach of Wuchang in case the J. army moves, or rather navy, quickly up the river which is wise for our unit there ~~needs her~~ in case of trouble.

Now this thought has come to me - as a member of my Mission - and I am passing it on to you for you to think about. If you think there is something in it, you can do something about it, or even Marx can. In any case I would not want my name mentioned.

It is with regard to Chengtu if both institutions start work there. Would it not be wise at that time for the University to give up its women students - since it has been more or less an unwise duplication by the same missions? Ginling could then start the women's unit there and the University could have the men's work. I am sure that your administration has realized for some time that having women students causes you many difficulties. If you go to Chengtu it would mean an extra dormitory and a dean of women at least.

I realize that this would have to be handled tactfully, and you might have to say to your women students when you make the announcement about moving, that after this present semester you will not accept women students. Think about it and see if any thing can be done.

It looks as if the Federated Christian University is to start in Chengtu in stead of Quinshan as was the dream of the people like Wallace and Cressy about 1930. How little we dreamed then that this would be the case. Had any prophet in those Council of Higher Education meetings mentioned the possibility in those days he would have been taken out as a crazy man. The idea of starting it in Chengtu is rather thrilling I think and has all sorts of possibilities. What a tremendous influence such a great university could be in that great undeveloped region of China.

Is it time for us to reclaim our buildings in Batang?
That would be a fine rural training school area.

Sincerely yours,

Minnie
Minnie Vautrin