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COLLEGE FILES
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Yenching
Corres.
Thompson, William Jr Mary
1936-1947

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0470

Bank of New York and Trust Company

MERGER OF

THE BANK OF NEW YORK
ESTABLISHED 1784

New York Life Insurance and Trust Company
ESTABLISHED 1830

48 WALL STREET

CABLE OR WIRELESS ADDRESSES
BANKING DEPARTMENT "BANKONE"
TRUST DEPARTMENT "LIFETRUST"

NEW YORK

January 10, 1936

OWEN H. SMITH
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

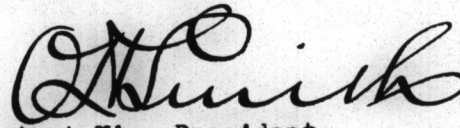
Dr. J. Leighton Stuart
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Stuart,

I have been asked by Mrs. Mary McLean Thompson (Mrs. William J. Thompson) to send you the enclosed check drawn by her to the Trustees of Yenching University for \$25,000. I believe Mrs. Thompson has already discussed with you the purposes for which this money is to be used.

Will you be good enough to acknowledge receipt of this check to Mrs. Thompson as well as to the writer.

Yours very truly,



Assistant Vice President

0471

January 11, 1936

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Thompson,

Few things in recent years have so stimulated and inspired our Yenching work as has the splendid gift from Mrs. Thompson which reached us this morning. Mr. McBrier is today leaving for an urgently needed rest, but he asks that I convey to you his warmest appreciation and his assurances that this good news will do much to brighten his journey. It will also help him greatly in some approaches he will be making to other potential Yenching donors - one of whom he hopes may give a very substantial amount. We know that it will also encourage others, and will stimulate all our Yenching trustees to greater efforts.

I am enclosing a somewhat more formal letter addressed to Mrs. Thompson, a copy of which we sent also to the Bank of New York and Trust Company. But I did want to write this personal note to tell you both of our appreciation not only for this generous gift but also for your constant interest and your efforts on behalf of Yenching.

One matter which we should have clearly down in our records is an exact statement as to your wishes with regard to the use of this fund. We have talked in a general way about using the income for the support of the School of Religion, but we would wish to be sure that this is completely in accordance with your wishes. Also we have discussed whether you would prefer to make such an allocation to the School of Religion one of the permanent conditions of the trust or whether you would favor leaving the matter in such a position that the Trustees might at some future date utilize some or all of the income for other purposes if changing conditions made this seem desirable. This is a matter where we would be glad to have you advise us as to your wishes. This might be done either by a simple communication from you which we would put into our records, or by some more formal deed of trust if that seemed preferable.

It seems to us that the most appropriate title for this fund would be the "Mary McLean Thompson Endowment Fund". Unless you have some very definite reason for preferring some other designation, I trust you will permit us the privilege and pleasure of giving it this title.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG/G

0472

January 11, 1936

Mr. Owen H. Smith
Bank of the New York Trust Company
48 Wall Street
New York City

My dear Mr. Smith:

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of January 10th with its enclosed check from Mrs. Mary McLean Thompson to the Trustees of Yenching University for \$25,000.

We enclose herewith a carbon copy of the letter we are sending Mrs. Thompson. Since the check was personally signed by Mrs. Thompson we are sending the official receipt of the University direct to her.

With sincere appreciation of your cooperation in the payment of this generous gift from these good friends of Yenching, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

BAG:MP

0473

71 10 2 1 5 5 10 07

*Yenching U
(outside room)*

*Mrs. William J. Thompson
Park Ave + 66 St.*

January 11, 1936

Mrs. William J. Thompson
610 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

We acknowledge with ^{grate} profound appreciation receipt of your check for \$25,000 payable to the Trustees of Yenching University, forwarded through the Bank of the New York Trust Company. Attached hereto is the University's formal receipt of this gift.

In accordance with our conversations with you and Dr. Thompson, we are entering this gift as for the endowment of Yenching University. Whether or not you wish this definitely allocated to the endowment of the School of Religion is a matter on which we would welcome your instructions.

This gift comes at a time when it is of double value. Not only does it bring substantial assistance at a time of great need, but it will also serve to stimulate many of our other Yenching friends to give and to give more generously than they might have been inclined to do.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG:MP
Encl.

0474

77 00 22 1 57 57 00 07

EVS

February 8, 1936

Dr. William J. Thompson,
Mayfair House,
610 Park Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Thompson,

Enclosed are a number of items we are today sending out to our Yenching trustees.

You will be glad to note from our report of promotional results to January 31st that encouraging progress is being made. A number of other gifts, one for \$5,000, have come in this week. As yet we have had no final word from Mrs. Henry Pfeiffer or Mr. and Mrs. Boyd. A number of encouraging new lines of cultivation are being opened up this month, in Rochester and in Philadelphia particularly.

I'm sorry I have not had an opportunity as yet to talk over with you in person your views on the suggestion that we ask all members of our Yenching Board of Trustees to unite on some suitable objective for their own personal gifts. This proposal was made by Dr. Stuart some weeks ago. Most of those with whom it has been discussed have been quite in favor of the general plan, although there has not been time as yet to reach final decisions on the details. One of the suggestions has been that the trustees unite in supporting Mr. and Mrs. Price, each member of the Board giving as he or she is able, the average gift being about \$100 annually. A few members of the board, chiefly board secretaries with small incomes and obligations to a large number of organizations, probably cannot give quite that much. Others may be willing to give somewhat more.

What to you, as Chairman of the Committee on Promotion, think of this suggestion? If the Prices are chosen for such united giving, you and Mrs. Thompson would also have a special personal interest in the suggestion because of your generous share during the last three or four years in making the Prices' stay at Yenching possible. In view of the splendid gift for endowment you have just made we could not ask you to continue bearing so large a share of the Prices' support as you have been giving. But perhaps you may wish to have a share from year to year, along with the other members of the Board, in some such common enterprise as this.

We should soon be seeking another meeting of our Committee on Promotion. I'll give you a ring some day soon to discuss possible dates.
Sincerely,

0475

March 4, 1936

Dear Dr. Thompson:

Attached is a suggestion for a letter to each of the Trustees to go out over your signature. It is suggested that the main point in each letter be the same in every case.

Please regard this as a suggestion and write according to your own judgment, discarding this material entirely if you so desire.

As soon as you have the material ready, we will get the letters written here and then send them to you for your signature, if that is as you wish.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. W. J. Thompson
Mayfair Hotel
New York City

BH - DM.

0476

DRAFT COPY

The Promotional Committee by direction of the Board of Trustees is actively pushing the emergency campaign in order to stabilize our Yenking finances until the time when the greater needs of the University can be adequately provided. We have made some real progress as the attached report will show. Much still remains to be done and I earnestly request your sustained cooperation until our objectives are completely realized.

If we do this, and I am sure we can and we will, our University will be able to carry on its mission in the Far East.

L. R. Rounds, Esq.

**** I am wondering if you do not have some acquaintance with a few persons of large means that will enable you to first talk to them about this great enterprise of ours and see if you can not arouse enough interest to justify having one of the representatives of the University talk to them about making a substantial gift. If you can do this, please let me know and I will ask our staff to aid you in every way they can.

With appreciation of your interest and cooperation, I am

Mrs. John H. Finley

**** I know the earnest work you are doing with the Women's Committee and can only say to you what you already know - that any cooperation either I or the staff can give you is at your command.

Mr. T. C. Brown

**** The above is largely for your information, and yet, it might be that you have some friends or know of someone who would be interested in giving significant aid at this time. If so, I know you will approach them and let us know the results of your effort.

With continued good wishes, I am

0477

Franklin Warner, Esq.

**** It is not our purpose at this time to make an intensive drive in California, but there are certainly some persons there who can help us in a significant way in this present emergency. Won't you please put on your thinking cap and give me some suggestions for, and your aid in securing, some of the help we need at this particular time from California?

Mrs. William Boyd

**** Your interest in Yenching University is so well established and your generosity and cooperation at all times so conscientious that this letter from me would seem presumptuous were it not for the fact that I am writing to every member of the Board, bringing them up-to-date on the progress of our campaign. I know you will do everything you can to help.

G. G. Barber, Esq.

**** I will probably be adjudged presumptive in writing to the President of our Board, but as a matter of fact, I am writing to every member of the Board and asking them to help us in every way they can in carrying out the mandates of the Board. Won't you please try to locate some good prospects and help us to induce them to contribute to this work?

Dr. A. L. Wapshuis

**** Won't you please locate a good prospect or two for substantial gifts and help us present our appeal to them? If so, please let me know and I will give you every possible support in carrying the project through.

Dr. E. M. North

**** Is it not possible that you could give us three or four really good prospects and open the door to them to the extent of going with me to tell the story? Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated.

Mrs. J. M. Arvan

**** Your interest and good works in behalf of Yenching are well known. Please let me have any suggestions that you think would be a help in this emergency. Of course we are counting on your help with Mrs. Krueger.

Henry E. Luce, Esq.

**** Your generosity to the University is so great that I do not want to seem to impose on you, but is it possible that you may know three or four people who might help us in this emergency in a financial way? If you would see them about it, the committee will give you every aid in any move of this kind that you care to make.

Mr. Arthur J. Steck

**** Won't you please look over your list of acquaintances and see if there are not some who could help Yenching in this emergency? If you do find any and let me know, we will give you every cooperation in bringing the matter to their attention.

Dr. Ch. H. Fenn

**** Won't you please look over your list of acquaintances and see if there are not some who could help Yenching in this emergency? If you do find any and let me know, we will give you every cooperation in bringing the matter to their attention.

Miss Margaret Burton

**** The Women's Committee is making a valiant fight in behalf of this campaign. I know you are giving them every possible cooperation.

Dr. Ellen Pendleton

**** I know how active you are with the Women's College Committee. If there is any additional cooperation that our general committee can give you, please call upon us.

Arthur V. Davis, Esq.

**** As a member of the Yenching Board, you will, I am sure, be interested in this report. If you see any way to help us please advise me. I shall appreciate any counsel you have to offer.

February 5, 1937

Dr. William J. Thompson
The Mayfair House
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Thompson:

X
I am enclosing a few facts with reference to the life and work of Dr. Gamswell. It may be that we will desire to use only a few of these statistics and other facts in the little folder that is to be prepared. It is certain that nobody will know better than you how to give these facts life and vitality so that they can be used effectively in our campaign.

Dr. Wee and I enjoyed our few minutes with you in your home Wednesday, and he joins with me in this expression of kind regards to you and your family.

Yours cordially,

SPY:FG

0481

77 08 2 1 57 57 08 07

February 9, 1937

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I have just read and re-read the beautiful story you have written about Dr. Gamswell. I think it is ideal in every respect. Noth to add to it or subtrast from it.

I have had one thought in mind since we first talked of this professorship of religion and that is that the folder might state that by cooperating with the Trustees in the effort to endow this professorship, the Christian friends of China will accomplish two very important things - they will honor one of the most lovable men who has ever represented American Christians in China, and it will help establish our School of Religion in our greatest university in China at a time of our greatest opportunity.

This of course is implied in everything you say and I am inclined to think that any addition to what you state such as I have suggested might be a work of supererogation.

We thank you so much for the prompt and delightful way that you have undertaken this task, which I know is a pleasant one to you.

Yours cordially,

S. P. Young

Dr. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House
810 Park Avenue
New York City

SPY/V

0482

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

July 13, 1937

Dr. William J. Thompson
Buckhill Falls, Pa.

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I am pleased to report that I am just in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Charles H. Hampton to the effect that she is glad to subscribe \$10,000 to the Gamewell Professorship, \$5,000 of which will be paid very soon and the remainder in 1938. We are, of course, delighted with this magnificent gift and I have wired her our appreciation.

By this same mail, a letter is going to Mr. McBrier apprising him of this gift and bringing him up to date on developments. That he will be delighted with progress, I have no doubt. I pray God that we may be able to complete this fund by August 31. Although I am supposed to leave on August 1st on my vacation, I must say that my interest is so deep in this Gamewell matter that I can hardly let it alone. I shall hope to do some work in August in upper New York.

In a letter which is just going to Mr. Pilling, I am requesting him to wire if he is to be in his office July 15, the day after tomorrow. I want to make the most of every moment.

I have told Mr. McBrier what a fine job you are doing as Chairman which will warm his heart and give him a sense of satisfaction that the task has been committed to such faithful hands.

Yours sincerely,

George C. Aydelett, Secretary

GCA/B

0483

Rec'd 7/16/37



The INN at BUCK HILL FALLS

In the Pocono Mountains

PENNSYLVANIA

July 14 1937

My dear Mr. Angellott:

Your letter just received announcing Mrs. Hampton's \$10,000 subscription, I rejoice & again rejoice! I would write to her if I could but I am so restricted in I dare not. The time will ripen when I shall express to her my most thorough appreciation and abounding gratitude.

I knew her father Rev. Dr. Dattle. He was one of the truly great and great preachers of Methodism. I know a man Mr. John Landstreet

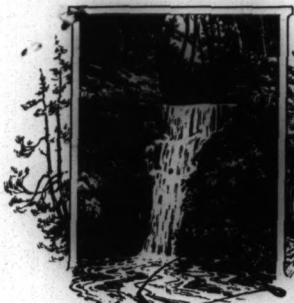
who married a lady of mine
and whom I visit. Dr. Tuttle
is Mr. Cundick's model of
a preacher and man. Mr.
Hampton is a daughter of his
blood and of his spirit.
This fact plus her love for
her uncle marks her a
woman of rare excellence.

It does me good to think of
her tho I never met her,
Dr. Tuttle spoke to me
about reading a list of his for
my veins. Happily the news
can't pass because
I cannot give gold.

I came here Monday
and may remain a
total of two weeks. I am
here to please my wife -
and it also pleases me.

Mr. Pillsbury I shall write you
I now feel sanguine
over Aug 31 celebra-
tion. I favour pushing
hard for it.

Hastily and Joyfully
Wm. J. Thompson



The INN at BUCK HILL FALLS

In the Pocono Mountains

PENNSYLVANIA

July 21, 1947

Rec'd 7/22/37

ack'd 7/22/37

My dear Mr. Adelott: Your fine letter rec'd. Mr. Pilling has not been here. He has a cottage. The man opposite will let me know when he arrives. I too am disappointed in my not getting over \$500. I hope for at least \$1000.

I have wondered if we both could see him & place him in his leadership. He will give us names of \$ friends of Dr. Fawcett in Philly. If he writes us then we might ask if he & Dr. Boyd could issue a similar challenge to raise \$10,000 in Ten Center. I would be given 5000 of them if you 1/2. Could we get any of these projects to the motel the others to their house, stating the object to raise \$10,000.

0488

of the \$50,000, if they did not
we could not come it would give
us entire to them to call
I wish Mr. Peking would write in
impatient letter under his
own signature ask for Mr
Boyd's, mother, like Post & Jones
Messany are + use it for
Phila for Aug 31 Consumption
I can be at my Cousin
Miss Julia H. Thompson 1243 West
Vine Ave next Sunday afternoon
2 P.M. or to meet you in
Tuesday to meet you. Her name
is in telephone book. You could
telephone as you did before in Reading
Phila. I hope you have Mr. Peking's
list. we could call on some
of these folks. At all events write
me there. On receiving they could
you mail a letter as ~~that~~ Thursday
to me here. Most cordially & respectfully
Wm. J. Thompson

0489

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

July 19, 1937

Dr. William J. Thompson
Buck Hill Falls
Pocono Mountains, Pa.

Dear Dr. Thompson:

True to your gracious instincts, you wrote me on July 14 in appreciation of the gift by Mrs. Hampton, and I am sure you know without my telling you that this courtesy means a great deal to me.

On Tuesday last, I wrote Mr. Pilling requesting a wire on Wednesday if he were to be in his office on Thursday. Promptly the wire came that he would be pleased to meet me on the suggested date with the result that I spent most of Thursday in Philadelphia - more than three hours of which were in conference with Mr. Pilling. He is deeply interested and his cordiality is very reassuring. No one of importance in Philadelphia is a stranger to him. Therefore, his comments were most enlightening and helpful.

I made notes on the names that were supplied us by Miss Moore, the Secretary of the Church, and such other names as I had. Several of these persons were out of the city, but I was able to contact a Mrs. Bleckwahl, President of the Women's Missionary Society of the Germantown Methodist Church and a very dear friend of the Gamewells. She committed herself to the proposition without hesitation and volunteered to bring it to the attention of some women who know the Gamewells and would naturally be expected to help. I am to see her this week.

Mrs. Thomas J. Fort, one of the persons suggested by Mr. Pilling, is in Bay Head, New Jersey for the summer. I want there on Friday to see her but she was not at home, and therefore, will have to make this contact at some future date. Bay Head is the next station to Point Pleasant, where Mrs. Hampton is spending the summer, so I took the opportunity to stop and thank her again for her magnificent gift and, incidentally, to become better acquainted with her. She is one of the most gracious women I ever met. She is completely enraptured over the idea of the Gamewell Fund and is intensely interested in seeing it completed by his eightieth anniversary. She informed me that her mother was making in a modest subscription to the fund, but it has not yet reached me. I don't know what she would mean by the term "modest"--it might mean twenty-five dollars or five hundred. I am eagerly awaiting its arrival to discover its dimensions.

Mr. Pilling was expecting to see Mr. Boyd on Friday or Saturday morning but said that he would have to confer with Mr. Boyd's daughter, Mrs. Brown, and the nurse as to the advisability of the visit. He keeps in very close touch with Mr. Boyd and is sure that he will at least have five minutes with him at the first opportunity. Mr. Boyd, of course, is desperately ill and very few people are permitted to see him at all.

0490

Dr. William J. Thompson

-2-

7/19/37

Mr. Pilling plans to bring Mr. Boyd up to date on some things that are of mutual interest—one of them being the Casswell Fund. He is sure that Mr. Boyd is deeply interested but has no idea as to what his mind may be in the matter. Mr. Pilling said that he intends to contribute five hundred dollars and would send his subscription in very shortly. In a way, this was disappointing since we had hoped that he would do at least a thousand dollars. He and Mr. Boyd, however, have been carrying the brunt of the campaign to clear the indebtedness of \$190,000 on the Germantown Methodist Church and he informed me that while they were securing this major amount, the current budget had lapsed to the extent of \$10,000 whereby it became necessary for him to again assume the leadership in liquidating this deficit. He and Mr. Boyd made the church the proposition that they would assume \$7,000 of this amount if the church would raise the remaining \$3,000 and they now have the assurance that this is being done. This discharges all indebtedness on the church, but it has put such a heavy tax on Mr. Pilling and Mr. Boyd that they feel wholly unequal to undertake any major financial responsibility in the immediate future.

It would be most helpful if I could see you before leaving for my vacation on August 1st. I am so intrigued with the idea of completing this joyful task before August 31st that I can hardly bring myself to the idea of a vacation. It is, however, important that I get away from the grind for a while. Therefore, I shall doubtless carry out my purpose to be out of the office for at least three weeks.

With affectionate greetings, I am

Yours sincerely,

George C. Aydelott, Secretary.

GCA/B

0491

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

July 22, 1937

Dr. William H. Thompson
The Inn
Buck Hill Falls
Pocono Mountains, Pa.

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I have just this minute returned from Philadelphia where I went this morning and had a rather fine conference with Mr. Pilling. I find your letter of July 21st awaiting me and I shall be pleased to meet you at 2 P. M. on next Monday afternoon at the home of your cousin, Miss Julia H. Thompson.

In our conversation this morning, Mr. Pilling said he was going to his house at Buck Hill Falls tomorrow, Friday. He asked if you were still there and I told him you were and that you are staying at the Inn. I am sure he will try to see you, and now that you know he is going to be there you will be on the lookout for him. If you two gentlemen are able to have a fine discussion, which I anticipate, it will be most helpful in our deliberations when you and I meet on Monday.

I will telephone you at your cousin's and we can arrange a place of meeting.

Cordially yours,

George C. Aydelett, Secretary

GCA/B

0492

C
O
P
Y

Chelsea 3-4873

JAMES R. JOY
29 PERRY STREET
NEW YORK CITY

St. John's Colony

July 29, 1937

Dr. W. J. Thompson
150 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Thompson:

It has taken the Japanese guns to awaken my conscience to the guilt of failing to reply to your letter of a month ago. I have been out of town, but not enough to establish a valid alibi. The fact is, I really don't think I can put the case for Dr. Gamewell any stronger than you can. What a wonderful word-picture of Stockdale's mind you have limned! There is nothing I can teach you.

The rally of the foreigners to the Legation Quarter in Peiping must thrill Dr. Gamewell's imagination as he remembers how he engineered the defence of the same precincts thirty years ago. This engineering strain, which I suppose he got from his fire-alarm father, has always been strong within him. He was an education-engineer, if I understand his contribution to China. I have done my small bit to help the project, mainly by giving names to Mr. Aydelotte.

With apologies for this meager response to your flattering request, I remain, as ever,

Yours faithfully,

James R. Joy

0493

August 3, 1937

Dear Dr. Thompson,

Your letter and postcard of yesterday, addressed to Mr. Hedrick, have reached us today. Both Mr. Hedrick and Mr. Aydelott are away just now on brief and well earned vacations. (They will probably be doing more work than vacationing while they are away!) When I started in to prepare copies of your proposed letter to our friends in Philadelphia concerning the Gamewell Endowment, I encountered difficulty in finding the list of prospects in the Philadelphia area whom you and Mr. Aydelott have been contacting. So it appears that we will have to get that list before we can do much.

I am getting off a letter to Mr. Aydelott this afternoon, sending him a copy of your letter to Mr. Hedrick and also of your proposed letter to these friends. I am asking that he send us at once - or tell us where we can find, a complete list of these prospects. As soon as that is in hand we will rush off these letters as you direct. I infer from your letter that you yourself do not have such a list of those to whom the letter should go, but if perchance you do have such a list, either in whole or in part, we would be grateful to you for it, so that we may get on with the job as speedily as possible. Since Mr. Aydelott is in up-state New York and may possibly not get our letter promptly, we may be delayed a couple of days in receiving a reply from him.

I assume that the conversations you and Mr. Aydelott have had with Dr. and Mrs. Gamewell have clarified their willingness to have this type of informational letter go to these friends. During the winter Mr. McBrier and I had to give such solemn pledges to Dr. and Mrs. Gamewell that we would not approach their friends in the Philadelphia area to contribute to this fund that I am naturally desirous of keeping both the letter and the spirit of our promise to them.

Up to today the total we have received in cash and pledges for the Gamewell Fund is \$41,325, including the \$3,000 pledge of the Gamewells themselves, or \$38,325 with this omitted. This is certainly splendid progress, and we are all eager to see the fund go "over the top" as promptly as possible - by August 31st if that be at all attainable. We are deeply grateful for all the time and interest and leadership you are giving to this enterprise.

The news from China these days is very sobering - but China has come triumphantly through many crises in the last four thousand years, and will come through this one as well.

BAG/s

Very sincerely yours,

0494

August 5th, 1937

Dear Dr. Thompson,

Thank you for the additional information you sent me yesterday. Some information has also come from Mr. Aydelott and more should be reaching us within a day or so.

The first point we must check is that of which friends in the Philadelphia area have already received letters and copies of the Gamewell Fund folder direct from Mr. Aydelott. He wrote a number of them a week or so ago, and our second letter to such of them as should be followed up ought to keep this initial letter in mind.

Thank you also for your summary of the conversation you had with Dr. and Mrs. Gamewell as to informing their friends of our plans. We are of course in absolute agreement with the view you have so well expressed - only the friends of those we are seeking to honor will be sufficiently interested to give. We have no thought of supporting the view which Mrs. Gamewell, and through her Dr. Gamewell himself, have held on this particular point, except that we could not have gone forward with this project at all except on the basis of accepting the position of these warmly loved and admired friends. It seems to me that you have quite effectively cleared the matter, and that we can go ahead as you indicate without any further qualms.

One other thought that has occurred to me is this- There must be a large number of other men and women throughout America who are or might become interested in Dr. and Mrs. Gamewell and who would be happy to respond to such a project as this. All such present and potential friends throughout America can be approached in just as definite and vigorous way as we wish to use, with none of the reservations we were asked to observe in going to the little group in the Philadelphia area. We have a fair beginning of such a list of potential donors to the Gamewell Fund outside the Philadelphia area, and should be able to build up such a list materially. A few of these friends can and should be seen in person, but many others would have to be reached by letter if at all. Why would it not be an excellent idea to get off at this time to this wider list some such letter as that you have suggested for the Philadelphia friends? You could make the letter to the wider list just as strong and straightforward an appeal for contributions as you may think desirable.

The news from North China seems a bit more encouraging today. Apparently the situation in and around Peiping is returning gradually to normal. The great question now is - Will China at this time engage in a nation-wide struggle against Japan, or will she bide her time a little longer?

Cordially,

0495

C O P Y

The Lebanon
Chautauqua, N. Y.
August 24, 1937

Rev. W. J. Thompson, LL.D.
Yenching University
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

Dear Dr. Thompson:-

In conversation with Mr. Aydelott, who called on us here a few days ago, I mentioned Mrs. Gamewell's contribution for the Professorship of Religion in Yenching University. Please understand without a moment's hesitation that the contribution is not open to question or discussion, but that when you have reached without that, \$47,000.00, you have the full amount desired \$50,000.

I wish I could have a face to face conversation with you, for it is difficult to put in writing what I wish to say. I wrote Mr. McBrier frankly, because we could not draw from current account the amount pledged. We live simply and I put some of Mrs. Gamewell's fund in the Savings Bank for "a rainy day". This fund enabled her to make the Memorial Gift to the Sanitarium at Clifton Springs, and the fund is again in shape to make this other gift. We think carefully and pray over matters of this sort, and this is Mrs. Gamewell's gift from her funds, and she would be much distressed if any question is raised about accepting it.

It is quite impossible for me to make you know how deeply I appreciate Mr. McBrier's efforts and your efforts and those of your associates to carry through this Professorship of Religion in Yenching University, an effort justified by the necessity of putting first things first.

Most cordially and gratefully yours,

(Signed) Frank D. Gamewell

0496

August 26, 1937

Dr. H. J. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Thompson:

We took the liberty of opening the enclosed letter of Dr. Gamewell addressed to you because we inferred that it dealt with the matter of the Gamewell Professorship of Religion, in which we are all so deeply interested.

I am sorry that something seems to have come up which has caused Dr. Gamewell to feel that he should insist upon our including the \$3,000 pledge of Mrs. Gamewell and himself within the \$50,000 fund. My hope had been that no special mention of this pledge would be made until our efforts had been completed, and that at that time we might be able to say to Dr. and Mrs. Gamewell that the response of their friends had been so generous that the fund of \$50,000 was in hand without including their \$3,000. Of course, the point is a very delicate one at best, for we would have to be extremely careful not to offend them by overlooking or failing to accept their pledge of \$3,000. I suppose the best thing to do is to give Dr. and Mrs. Gamewell our general reassurances without any prolonged discussion of the matter at this time.

Mr. Aydelott has probably written you that he secured a pledge of \$2,000 from Mr. Edgar Welch. This will bring our total up to around \$43,500, including the Gamewell pledge. Mr. Aydelott is now giving his full time and attention to this matter again, and no doubt will be consulting with you direct with regard to both personal solicitations and approaches by letter.

With all good wishes, I am

Very cordially yours,

BAG:MP * *Other smaller pledges have
also come in today*

0497

September 29, 1957

Mrs. Juliet N. Thompson
Mayfair House
610 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Thompson:

Dr. Thompson has just handed us your check for \$1,000 to the Gamswell Fund and I wish to be the first to offer my sincere thanks for this most generous gift.

You and Dr. Thompson are constantly surprising us with your generosity and fine spirit of helpfulness. I am sure neither of you can understand how much you mean not only to us in the office but to Yenching University and your host of friends in China. All I can say is may God bless you both abundantly.

Yours sincerely,

George C. Aydelett, Secretary.

GCA/B

0498



1

Yenching University, Peiping, China

THIS year the oldest American college will celebrate her three hundredth anniversary. She has seen our population grow from a few to 120,000,000. The good she has done ten generations of men cannot be easily over-estimated.

China's population is four times that of America. Yenching University's potentiality for good is four times that of Harvard.

Men of good will salute Yenching with: Live and flourish as does your elder American sister, for three centuries and more.

W. J. T.

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue, New York



2

Yenching University, Peiping, China

YENCHING is a Christian university. It is imbued with the spirit of Him who is the Truth. Truth in Jesus is of infinite value. Truth pervades the arts and the sciences.

These three-fold truths Yenching imparts to her students, charging them to share this wealth with all of China. Its sharing would be followed by material wealth as certainly as day follows night.

Yenching, creator and distributor of spiritual and material wealth, asks you to be her patron.

W. J. T.

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue, New York



3

Yenching University, Peiping, China

THE Chinese invented gunpowder and used it in fireworks to celebrate ancestral birthdays. Westerners use vast amounts of it to slaughter fellow men.

Higher education with Christian morality never spells aggressive war. Higher education without Christian morality is spelled h-e-l-l.

Says Caliban—

*You taught me language; and my profit on't
Is, I know how to curse.*

Without Christian morality, higher education would make China the most destructive force on earth.

Higher education with Christian morality can make China the most constructive force on earth. Toward this, Yenching leads!

W. J. T.

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

0499



4

Yenching University, Peiping, China

CHEMISTRY has changed our manner of living. Symbols of three of the ninety-two material elements are H O C—hydrogen, oxygen, carbon. Combining they form products differing from each of them. The products are absolutely vital to the body's sustenance and health.

C M P are symbols for Congregationalists, Methodists, and Presbyterians, who lose their denominationalism in their combination: the Board of Trustees of Yenching University, established to discipline and enrich minds.

**There is nothing great in the world but man;
There is nothing great in man but mind.**

The more Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Methodists cooperate, the more full-orbed minds there will be in China.

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

W. J. T.



5

Yenching University, Peiping, China

THE founding of Oxford is assigned to the second half of the twelfth century, Cambridge to the beginning of the thirteenth. The University of Paris received its charter in 1180. These three European universities today are stronger than ever.

Harvard (1636), William and Mary (1692), Yale (1700), Pennsylvania (1740), Princeton (1746), Columbia (1754), pre-revolutionary American colleges, today are stronger than ever.

Yenching University during her sixty-five years has withstood tremendous shocks and today is stronger than ever.

We give to Yenching the attribution Milton gives to Abdiel—

**Unmoved, unshaken, unseduced, unfettered,
Her loyalty she keeps, her love, her zeal;
Nor number, nor example, swerve her from truth.**

Your support will make her security more secure.

American Office
150 Fifth Avenue, New York

W. J. T.

0500



Mayfair House
Park Avenue at Sixty fifth Street
New York

File.

September 25, 1941

My dear Brother McBrier:

It was an agreeable surprise that you know my birthday. It was not a surprise that you wrote to me the beautiful letter I received, for your warm heart abounding in good will composes that kind.

Your greetings hearten me mightily. I have not attained that which your generous nature imputes to me, but I am stimulated to attain. I do like to meet the expectations of dear friends like yourself.

Most likely I shall precede you to the Better World, In that event I shall ask to be on the committee to welcome you.

If however the reverse. At the laying of the corner stone at Bunker Hill, Daniel Webster noticing the arrival of Lafayette paused in his oration and addressed him: "Long may it be before any tongue pronounces your eulogy or any stone bears your inscription." I apply those words to you.

0501

However, if you precede me it will be my utmost desire to prepare a brochure on you as an American business man exemplary in acquiring a fortune and exemplary in giving it and yourself for one of the greatest people on earth. This product of my mind and heart I would send to all Yenching students and as far as possible to the alumni.

With gratitude and affection,

John J. Thompson

0502

YENCHING UNIVERSITY
150 Fifth Avenue
New York

JW

The Reverend and Mrs. William J. Thompson
request the pleasure of the company of
Mr. Huan-yu Yuan
at Easter dinner

at the Men's Faculty Club of Columbia University
400 West 117th Street, New York City
April 5, 1942 at one-fifteen o'clock

Please respond not later
than Thursday, April 2, 1942

0503

YENCHING STUDENTS IN OR NEAR NEW

YORK

Invited to Easter Dinner by
Dr. W. J. Thompson

- ✓ Chang, Miss Shu-I
- ✓ Choh, Mr. Ching
- ✓ Chen, Mr. Chin-miao
- ✓ Chen, Mr. Francis J. Peng
- ✓ Chou, Mr. Shun-hsin
- ✓ Hou, Mr. Te-peng
- ✓ Hsia, Mr. Yun
- ✓ Hsieh, Mr. Ching-sheng
- ✓ Huang, Mr. Min-wei
- ✓ Kao, Mr. George (Ko-Yi)
- ✓ Kung, Miss Fu-sheng
- ✓ Lew, Dr. and Mrs. Timothy
- ✓ Li, Miss Ya-fu (Billie)
- ✓ Liu, Mr. Chih-liang (Harry)
- ✓ Ma, Miss Te-ying
- ✓ P'an, Mr. Chen Mou
- ✓ Wang, Miss An-lin
- ✓ Wang, Mr. Shih-chun
- ✓ Wang, Mr. Yueh
- ✓ Wei, Mr. Yung-ch'ing
- ✓ Yu, Mr. and Mrs. K'ang-yuan
- ✓ Yuan, Mr. Huan-yu

-
- Evans, Mr. and Mrs. C. A.
 - × McBrier, Mr. E. M.
 - × Rathbone, Miss Josephine L.
 - ✓ Van Sciver, Miss Elvena
 - × [unclear]

0504

Wm. J. Thompson
610 Park Avenue
New York City

March 5, 1943

My dear Brother Evans:

I was sorry to miss you
yesterday when I called. I am enclosing
check for one hundred dollars for ^{Yenching}enching.

China is a wonderful country
and Yenching the greatest university in
it.

Most fraternally yours,

Wm. J. Thompson

ENCLOSURE

*ack
3/9/43*

0505

March 9, 1943

Dr. William J. Thompson
610 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Thompson:

I am very grateful for your letter of March 5th which was all too brief. Your effusions are ordinarily much more than five lines. However, your enclosure of \$100.00 impresses me greatly and calls for most enthusiastic and heartfelt expressions of gratitude. This is further emphasized on the enclosed receipt.

You and Mrs. Thompson are marvelous friends of Yenching University. You have smoothed over days of anxiety and at times of need have responded nobly.

May the good Lord abundantly bless you.

Most gratefully yours,

C. A. EVANS

CAE/B
ENC.

0506

March 26, 1945

Mrs. William J. Thompson
610 Park Avenue
New York 21, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

I think this is the first time I have taken occasion to write to you since immediately after the entrance of our dear friend, Dr. William J. Thompson, into eternal life.

Dr. Thompson was always such a source of inspiration to us all here in the office that his interest and helpfulness, as well as his gracious presence has, I assure you, been very greatly missed since he left us.

You both were among our most loyal and continuing contributors to Yenching University. I have before me a copy of Mr. Evans' letter addressed to Dr. Thompson dated March 9, 1943. It seems that at that time you made a contribution to our current University budget and Mr. Evans, in acknowledging your gift, concluded his letter with these words:

"You and Mrs. Thompson are marvelous friends of Yenching University. You have smoothed over days of anxiety and at times of need have responded nobly."

I can say "Amen" to these words and cannot express my sentiments in a more significant manner than did Mr. Evans two years ago this month.

It is now my responsibility to take up the burden of securing renewals of contributions from our good friends as our school year draws to a close. Our fiscal year ends June 30th, and during this period before that date we offer our old friends an opportunity to continue their generous gifts, if possible, in order that we may complete the year's work without deficit.

I do not need to stress this matter with you. Your faithfulness has been evidenced by your contributions for the past twenty-four years, and we can never forget how unstintingly Dr. Thompson gave of himself and his ability to the work of the Christian Colleges in China.

As you will doubtless be interested, I am enclosing the latest word regarding our President, Dr. J. Leighton Stuart. We have not had any

0507

Mrs. William J. Thompson

-2-

March 26, 1945

direct communication from him since Pearl Harbor Day when the Japanese took over the Yenching campus at Peking. We have, however, received frequent messages similar to the enclosed, which indicate that although he has not been permitted to write us and has not had any direct word from us, still he is carrying on with indomitable courage.

"Yenching in exile" is also carrying on its work despite the hardships and difficulties caused by the war and inflation.

Hoping this letter finds you well and that the ties which bind you and your beloved late husband to us may continue through the years, and with sincere personal regards, I remain

Most truly yours,

EMMcB:GC
encl.

Treasurer

*miss. letter from
Mr. Ballou 3/20/45*

0508



RECEIVED ATTENTION

MAR 29 1905
MAY 29 1905
R. E. MILLER
P.O. Avenue at Sixty-fifth Street
New York, 21

My dear Mr. McBrien -

I have received your letter
received a day or so ago.

Also the one about
Dr. Seignou Stuart. It is
a comfort to know that
Dr. Stuart is endeavoring as
a good soldier.

We all thought Dr.
Stuart a superlative man.

0509

Your ~~treasure~~ ship opens
the subject as to whether
we can continue a year's
donation. Juliet & I
will together send twenty-
five dollars for this year.

It is a matter of satis-
-faction to recall that
I was able to stand behind
my husband in his deepest
interests. Not since
my father's death in 1911

(after an invalidism of seven years) has anyone
of the family been in business. My ambition has
been to distribute the interest to those causes
which met with his approval. I am saving only
enough to pay taxes & live decently. Having lived
all of my life in New York I have a long list of
yearly subscriptions & can do only a little for any
one. I am sure you understand.

With kind regards

March 28/45 Mary M^{rs}. Thompson
(Mrs M^r S)

April 7, 1947

Mrs. William J. Thompson
Mayfair House - 610 Park Avenue
New York, New York

My dear Mrs. Thompson:

Again we are in receipt of a check from you for Yenching University. We are glad to know that you are remembering Yenching and are continuing your ministry to China through a regular gift.

I wish you to know that it is sincerely appreciated.

We have just heard from China today and are gratified to know that the work appears to be going on very well indeed.

We are herewith enclosing our receipt.

Very sincerely yours,

E. M. McBrien

E. M. McBrien

enc.

0513