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Nanking  
Corfas  
Pierce, Thirza 1919-1920

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Thirza H. Pierce

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Russell Carter

*Re - Transfer of property to Miss Thirza Pierce*  
November 24th, 1919.

RECEIVED

NOV 26

Mr. Speer My dear Mr. Speer:

At the next meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Nanking, will you kindly have action taken giving power of attorney to someone in Nanking, probably Dr. Williams, to transfer to Miss Thirza Pierce land purchased by her for a school, which land she (Miss Pierce) had deeded to the University of Nanking, as she understood that she could not take title to it herself. I have corresponded with Miss Adelaide M. Wixon in order to secure the facts regarding this land, and she writes as follows:

"The land purchased by Miss Pierce is outside the University campus. It is east of the part occupied by the Language School group, and separated from it by the road running north and south from the Secondary Schools (old College buildings) to the new College group at Kuleo (Drum Tower). Though we are needing a new building for the Model School, I regret to say there is no hope for it in Miss Pierce's direction. While employed as a teacher by the University, 1911 to 1913 inclusive, Miss Pierce conceived the idea of having a primary school of her own in Nanking. After a few years in America she returned to China to carry out her project, but deferred it a year to take my work in the Model School. During the year she purchased the land in the name of the University, and in September opened a primary day school in a native house on the land. She expects to have a residence built later. When Miss Pierce found out that she could have the title in her own name, she asked to have it transferred but no one had the power to do it, hence her request."

I see no possible cause for complications should the transfer be made and the Board will no doubt grant Miss Pierce's request." I attach the original paper which I suppose Miss Pierce drew up, and which Miss Wixon sent to Dr. Williams a day or two before our last Board of Trustees meeting, but which in the rush of things Dr. Williams overlooked at that Board meeting.

Very sincerely yours,

*Russell Carter*

RC:M

0254



Theresa M. Price  
56 Range Rd., Shanghai, China  
Jan. 27, 1920.

Mr. Russel Carter,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

I am writing you regarding the power of attorney of which Miss Wixon spoke for me while she was still in America. She thought it would be made to Mr. Bowen, but as Mr. Bowen soon returns to America could it not be made to Mr. Owen, Treasurer of the University of Nanking. I trust it is not too late to make the suggestion. I fully appreciate the trouble this piece of work will be. There will be expenses too. Please don't fail to send me the bill for them all.

And it may be well for me to give you some facts of the transaction which Miss Wixon may not have been able to give.

The reason why the deed was made out in the name of the University was that the Chinese object to a foreign individual holding land outside of the actual treaty port. The foreign consuls (largely) maintain that the walled city

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FEB 26 1920  
TREASURER'S OFFICE



is a part of the treaty port. The Chinese officials hold the contrary opinion. And the question is still "in the air".

I had an unusual chance to get this land. The owner was in need of ready money. All business regarding the purchase was done by me and in my name. The name of the University was used in the deed for the reason I have given. The American consul recorded the deed, giving me the statement that it rested so until the University should make the transfer to me. All deeds, all agreements—everything is in my hands.

My first idea was that the transfer should be in the form of a life lease. But as I have learned more about this sort of thing from the consul, I see that there is a way of holding the property myself. In this way I can afford to put everything I have into the school, thus making it a more helpful work, and at the same time I should not risk having my hands tied as to funds in my old age.



So I am planning to incorporate my school, and the deeds can be in the name of the school. The Chinese have no objection to that. My sisters, Miss Fannie Price of Oak Park, Illinois, and Mrs. R. H. H. Blome of Phoenix, Arizona, have agreed to join me in the incorporation. My friend Dr. L. Pearl Boggs, of Urbana, Illinois, is looking after the incorporation for me. I myself, am now teaching in <sup>one of</sup> the Shanghai Council schools for Chinese, earning the money for the project. My school begins next month with one of the University boys (an old pupil of mine) as teacher. One of the old houses on the land has been remodeled into a really good looking school house.

I was interested during the remodeling of the building to see how the contractor and workmen were interested in my scheme for a school. It is going to be somewhat different from the ordinary primary school in China. More doing and thinking and not so much sitting with a book in the hand. It is to be called The Pestalozzi School.



and I hope that the old "Father of the Primary School", will be pleased if he can look down and see us doing what he tried to do for the poor children of Switzerland.

One of the University freshmen, who was my pupil when I worked with Mr. Meigs in the University, said to me last summer, "Miss Pierce, we Chinese appreciate very much the sacrifice you are making for us." And my answer was, "In a way it is a sacrifice, but in another way it is not, for it is the thing I want <sup>most</sup> to do ~~most~~."

I have written thus somewhat at length because I want you men from whom I am asking this extra-accommodation, to feel that this bit of business is not an impersonal thing, but that it is another line that you are helping to throw out to the children of China.

Yours sincerely

Linda M. Pierce



(NANKING)

*Thurza M. Pierce*

(Minutes)

POWER OF ATTORNEY L. J. OWEN.

M  
Miss THURZA <sup>M</sup>PIERCE formerly a teacher in the University, purchased a piece of land adjacent to the University for a private school, and had the title taken in the name of the University of Nankin because at the time she understood that she could not take title herself. She now finds that she can, and asked that a power of attorney be given to someone in Nankin to make conveyance to her of this land in Nankin which she has bought and paid for. The Board adopted the following resolution

RESOLVED that L. J. Owen of Nankin be and he hereby is appointed and constituted the Attorney of the Board of Trustees of the University of Nankin for and in its name to execute, acknowledge and deliver a deed to Thurza M. Pierce or to a school which she shall incorporate, conveying property in the city of Nankin, China adjacent to the University, ~~which she bought~~ *by her* in the name of the University and the deed for which she has ~~had~~ recorded in the American Consulate at Nankin in the name of the University of Nankin, ~~and which deed she holds in her possession.~~

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Mr. Schell, working covering such

in connection with Women's Board

gift to Nankin

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