

# PAPERS

RELATING TO

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

ACCOMPANYING THE

### ANNUAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

TO THE

FIRST SESSION THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

---

#### PART II.

---

WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1866.

[Enclosure L.]

Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Williams.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

Peking, February 25, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch of December 25, 1864, has been received. It informs me of the successful settlement of one of the most difficult cases ever presented for diplomatic action. Your conduct throughout the negotiation is deserving of special commendation. The despatches will soon, as I do, of your negotiating with ingenué, and will appreciate your particular efforts in the past, as well as your profile of similar services in the future.

I shall have the honor to suggest your name to the government in connection with a place better suited than the one which you have had for the execution of your two qualities as a Christian, patriot, and scholar.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

D. B. McCARTHY, Esq., Chgo.

*Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Seward.*

No. 102.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*Peking, March 11, 1865.*

SIR: I have the honor to send herewith correspondence in relation to the prohibitions that exist in China against entering forbidden places.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State, Washington.*

[Enclosure.]

PRINCE KUNG, chief secretary of state for foreign affairs, herewith makes a communication:

Some time ago, owing to the non-acquaintance with our regulations respecting going into the gate of the forbidden city, or the enclosure of the Yuen-ming gardens, or the imperial mausolea at Tsun-hwa, and at Mukten in Manchuria, which foreigners exhibited, inasmuch as they had heedlessly broken the rules and intruded into these important places, notifications were made [to the foreign ministers] in order that they might enjoin the same on whomsoever it concerned.

A minute has recently been received from the sacrificial board upon this subject, as follows:

"The imperial statutes respecting entrance into altars, temples, and other forbidden places, should be most carefully observed, and it is for their protection that officers and soldiers are distributed at them to guard against intrusion. Except the policemen and official employés who are detailed for this duty, all idlers and persons having no duties there are not allowed to go in and out. If the present condition of things is allowed to remain longer it is really to be feared that by and by some untoward event may happen from foreigners, ignorant of these prohibitions, trying to go into these enclosures and buildings against the wishes of the police guarding them, and the best way, therefore, will be to inform the foreign ministers beforehand, in order that they may strictly require their countrymen not to intrude into these forbidden places. Such a course will tend to show the importance of the statutes and our usages, as well as manifest the dignity of the nation."

I have, therefore, the duty to inform your excellency of these things, in the expectation that you will enjoin upon those persons under your direction that hereafter they are not to go into the precincts of the imperial tombs, or into palaces and other forbidden places where guards are stationed to prevent intruders, in order to ramble about and see them. This intimation is given in the spirit of the well-known maxim, "When you enter a kingdom learn its regulations," and I shall await a ready reply to it so that I can inform the officers of the sacrificial board of the same.

January 18, 1865, (Tunchi, 3d year, 12th moon, 21st day.)

His Excellency ANSON BURLINGAME,

*United States Minister.*

[Enclosure.]

*Mr. Burlingame to Prince Kung.*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*Peking, February 15, 1865.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from your Imperial Highness of the 17th ultimo, in which you have quoted from a document which had been received

from the sacrificial board respecting the prohibitions that exist against foreigners entering forbidden places, and asking that they may be warned not to forcibly intrude into them.

I have carefully read this despatch, and need only remark in relation the subject, that as the path of propriety is plain, every man of judgment will see what the circumstances at any time require; and if any person under my control is at all guilty of making disturbance he will be dealt with according to the provisions of the treaty, and in the spirit of friendship which exists between our respective countries. It is, however, proper that the officers of the sacrificial board designate the time and place where an offence has been committed before I can act in this matter.

I beg here to refer your Imperial Highness to the third volume of Wheaton's International Law, chap. I, (in the Chinese version,) for some details upon the usages of western nations in their intercourse with the representatives of friendly powers who reside at their courts, as they are there clearly described.

I have the honor to be, sir, your Highness's obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

His Imperial Highness PRINCE KUNG, &c., &c., &c.

*Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Howard.*

No. 101.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Peking, March 11, 1903.

SIR: I have the honor to send herewith an Imperial decree made in response to a complaint by the British representative, Mr. Wade, for the English and Frenchmen, on account of the death of one Englishman and three Frenchmen caused by the failure of the Chinese local officials to fulfil their treaty obligations.

The decree makes a step in advance, and is proof that the Chinese do not intend "to regard" the treaties "with indifference, as if they were but matters of form."

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant.

ANSON BURLINGAME.

Hon. WILLIAM H. HOWARD,  
Secretary of State.

[Enclosure.—Translation.]

The office charged with the general administration of foreign affairs has presented a memorial requesting that the local authorities under the different provincial governments be instructed in all cases in which Chinese and foreigners may be parties to fulfil the duties prescribed by treaty. The office represents that one Englishman and three Frenchmen, who had been committing a robbery in the village of Ma-chowang, in the province of Kiangnan, having got into collision with inhabitants, some of whom they mortally wounded, were seized and bound by the villagers and carried to the local authorities; and that the local authorities, each in turn endeavoring to transfer his responsibility to some one else, would have nothing whatever to say to the charge of them; that the foreigners were accordingly left three days in their hands, and that two of them died of their sufferings. The office has written to the provincial government concerned to inquire into the matter and take the necessary steps.

In any process law which a foreigner may have taken on himself to prosecute unsupported with a passport, or in which he may have got into collision with the inhabitants or committed any unlawful act, it becomes the duty of the authorities under treaty to forward that foreigner to his consul to be provided.

In the case of this affair at Ma-chowang, the conduct of the authorities, if as the memorial represents, instead of proceeding with the execution required by treaty, they let the foreigners remain bound so many days that their confinement proved fatal to life, was undoubtedly bad; but would it not be even a worse matter if under the provincial governments generally there were the same evasion of responsibility, the same unwillingness to act for fear of consequences?

We command, then, the provincial generals and governors to give strict orders to the local authorities in their jurisdictions to observe for the future that any foreigner who may take on himself to go into the interior unsupported with a passport, or who through carrying a passport may be guilty of any unlawful act, or whose passport may not be in order, is to be seized and forwarded as he should be proceeded; that any foreigner seized by people who may have suffered at his hands and carried to the local authorities before the latter can have cognizance of his act, is, as soon as he is brought up to them by his captors, to be forwarded to

weaken our relations with the Chinese government, as he has been long known to us as an enlightened friend.

Since the publication of the edict I have, unofficially, that Prince Kung has been restored to his former position. This proves either that the edict was a clever arrangement on the part of his friends to meet the charges which have been made against him, or, as is most likely, that it was the result of a palace feud easily accommodated.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ANNON BURLINGAME.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State.*

[Translated from the Peking Gazette of April 3, 1865.]

We command the following to be made known to all the princes and officers of our court for their information:

We have been honored by the gracious commands of their Majesty, the two emperors forefathers, informing us that on the 11th ultimo Tseu Shun-chi (a Hanlin graduate) had sent up a memorial stating that "in the administration of affairs Prince Kung exhibits such benevolence and goodness for present, such arrogance and grasping after power, that people are everywhere discussing his conduct, and asking, if he manifests such objectionable traits, how can he be trusted to carry on the government?"

Now, although it may be difficult to substantiate particular charges, sufficient evidence will exist of the general truth of these allegations; yet, in examining what is so unbecoming and obvious, it is not easy necessarily to ascertain the facts. When Prince Kung first undertook the administration of government he was generally diligent and conscientious; but he gradually has become overbearing, and gone headlong forward as administrator in a defiant way, relying on his high rank and power; he has even forgotten his duty to his sovereign, and has gone so far as to deliberately ignore us because of our youth, and often grossly and wantonly increased our pain. He has tried to produce dissension in our family in many ways that need here be specially mentioned. At the daily audience his manner has been extremely overbearing, and his language to us has been often extremely insolent and wildly disrespectful.

If we do not quickly make these things known, how can we, when the day comes for us to assume the government, saying the right word to the office, and carry it out properly? It is an interest of our great interest that we now give out this document as a utility without through examination. Let Prince Kung, therefore, be no longer employed in the general council to administer the government, but be removed from all his functions, and no longer permitted to have a voice in public matters. This [sentence] also exhibits our earnest desire to protect him, as far as possible, [from the just denials of his conduct.]

We seriously reprimand the members of the general council, who have the care of many matters and presiding matters involving us here, to be strict in their labors, and prove their diligence and loyalty in furthering the public welfare. Let Wang-ming and his colleagues in the office which has the oversight of ceremonial affairs diligently attend to all their duties, and harmoniously carry on their proceedings. For the future the duties connected with the audience and presentation will devolve in rotation on Prince Tseu, Prince Kuan, Prince Cheng, and Prince Tseu, who will have charge of these functions.

A special command.

*Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Seward.*

No. 107.]

SHANGHAI, April 25, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to forward to you by the last mail a copy of a translation by Dr. Martin of Wheaton's *International Law*. I did not in my despatch (105) give any history of its publication. I now do so in a few words. In the month of September last I was informed by a note from the officials in the foreign office that Dr. Martin, aided by Chinese scholars designated by Prince Kung, had completed the translation and that the money had been appropriated for its publication. I was informed also that they would, when the work should be printed, again address me. I responded, thanking them for what they had done, commending the book as the repository of the rules which govern nations

in their intercourse with each other, and stated that although its prescripts had not the force of statute law, or the obligation of treaties, still a thorough examination of the book could not fail to be of vital importance to them. The work was printed according to promise, and published by being sent in large numbers to their officials on the coast and in the interior of the empire.

The Chinese did not address me in writing, but called in person to mark their sense of the importance of the completion of the work, and when the Prince and suite kindly sat for their photographs, Tung Sun, who had superintended the translation, desired to be taken with a copy of Wheaton in his hand.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
*Secretary of State.*

*Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Seward.*

No. 100.]

BEAUMONT, May 4, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to send you a despatch of Dr. Williams marked A, with enclosures marked B and C, prepared to send through Russia, but which was finally transmitted to me. This gives so clear a history of the difficulty at Peking, that it is not necessary for me to do more than to commend it to your careful perusal.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

A.

*Mr. Williams to Mr. Seward.*

Peking, April 13, 1863.

SIR: It is now four weeks since Mr. Burlingame left here on his return, and somewhat uncertain whether a letter would reach him in the north of China, so that through himself you could without delay learn the unexpected changes that have just occurred in this government. I have informed him of the first act in the drama, but, as the whole affair seems now to be concluded, and there is an opportunity saved by way of Tientsin, I send a short account of what has taken place directly to you by way of Russia, so that you may have the story as soon as possible.

It may be observed that after the retirement of the English and French forces in 1860, the late emperor defined his views to the capital, either on account of sickness or fear, and remained at Jehu, in the southeast of this province, until his death in August, 1861, leaving the administration to his brothers. After the rightful succession had been secured to his son by the coup of that Prince Kung accompanied him and the two regent emperors back to Peking, and was acknowledged as the active head of the government. These two ladies, one of whom is the late emperor's daughter, and the other the present emperor's mother, appear to possess much personal decision of character and take an active share of public affairs. With the prince's position as J-ching Wang, or prince administrator of government, has gradually drawn towards himself most of the influence which the Chinese regard as especially pertaining to the throne, and must allege that this power has been often misused. The citizens of Peking have given him a bad name for two years past, but his sudden and high elevation may have attracted to him much of the obliquity they usually reserve on their rulers. Foreigners are too little acquainted with the personal character of the men who manage this government, to be able to judge intelligently respecting many of the changes and plans of their policy; and very often many things are not known until they are allowed as the sufficient reason for what has already taken place, but which could not easily be mentioned before.

On the 20th and 21st citizens a grand review was held, at which the emperor (just two years old) and empress, attended by a large court, were present. It is reported that on this occasion the bearing of the prince toward them was so offensive that they determined to

To paid Mr. Bremer's claim by order of his secretary Mr. Burlingame.....	2,000 00
Charges for collection—brought on by me received from agent party....	2,774 00
Dr. Williams's order for printing.....	250 00
Dr. Williams's order on treasurer received.....	500 74
	500 74
Commission, two and a half per cent. on amount collected as indemnity ac- count, \$145,719 35.....	3,643 00
May 4, 1865. To balance in hands of receiver, carried down.....	5,100 00
	745,719 35

## Ch.

By total amount of indemnity money collected as follows:	
In Canton note.....	200,000 equal to dollars.. \$100,719 35
In Peking note.....	200,000 " 100,000 00
In Shanghai note.....	200,000 " 100,000 00
	300,000
	719,719 35
As per accounts rendered January 4, 1865, June 26, and August 18, 1865, and October 27, 1864:	
By interest allowed by mercantile bank on deposits, as per our account rendered January 4, 1865.....	2,447 00
By amount of interest collected from Oriental Bank Corporation, Hong Kong.....	2,000 00
Total amount of collections.....	745,719 35
May 4, 1865. By balance brought down.....	\$1,100 00
Errors corrected.....	
Errors rectified, May 4, 1865.....	

GUTHRIE &amp; CO.

*Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Seward.*

No. 112.]

SHANGHAI, May 7, 1865.

SIR: I have the honor to submit an account of my last interview with Prince Kung, prepared by Dr. Martin, who acted as interpreter with Dr. Williams, and who forwarded it to me at this place. It is so full that I content myself with sending it without further explanation than to inform you that the anxiety of the Chinese officials to relieve themselves from the charge of disrespect to the foreign legations grew out of a pressure we brought to bear upon them for closing one or two places against the legations. From the tenor of the despatches of one or two of my colleagues, they were left to infer that their action might lead to a withdrawal of good will; hence their desire, as expressed in their appended note, to have their intentions explained.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*


---

**MR. BURLINGAME'S LAST INTERVIEW WITH PRINCE KUNG AND THE OFFICERS OF THE FOREIGN BOARD.**
**I.—Preliminary interview with Hangkee at the United States legation, February 24, 1865.**

HANGKEE. It is with much regret I learn your excellency is about to take leave of our capital. The prince regent entertains the same sentiment. He feels that he is losing a tried friend, and desires to give you an expression of regard by inviting you to a farewell entertainment. I am commissioned to inquire what day it would be convenient for you to meet his highness.

**Mr. BURLINGAME.** The kind feeling expressed by the prince and all the members of the foreign board I cordially reciprocate, and will be happy to call on his highness on either Wednesday or Thursday of next week.

**HANGKEE.** In the case of other ministers we have always waited for a formal notice of their intended departure. In deviation from our customs, and coming beforehand to solicit the favor of your company, the prince is bestowing a special mark of confidence and respect. He has not forgotten the numerous instances in which you have employed your good offices in our favor; of which not the least was your aid in relieving us of our embarrassment with the English flotilla.

**Mr. BURLINGAME.** Perhaps I may still have the opportunity of rendering you some other service after leaving your shores; and you may rest assured that I shall always be happy to promote the welfare of your empire by all the means within my power.

**HANGKEE.** It would be gratifying to us if your excellency could delay your journey long enough to be present at a review of the troops we have had trained in the foreign drill.

**Mr. BURLINGAME.** If I cannot, I assure you it will not be from any want of interest in that enterprise, for I look upon the introduction of foreign arms and discipline as a measure of the first importance for the security of the empire.

**HANGKEE.** In organizing this force, our first object is the restoration of order in our interior provinces. Our next is the protection of our seaports and of our foreign trade.

**Mr. BURLINGAME.** Allow me to give you a parting suggestion in regard to the officering of these troops. Let foreign officers be employed to drill them thoroughly in camps of instruction, but let none but natives lead them in the field. You will thus avoid international jealousies, and save yourselves from endless embarrassment.

**HANGKEE.** The British chargé, Mr. Wade, gives us the same counsel. As to the necessity for introducing foreign discipline, I was deeply convinced the first time I saw a review of foreign troops, which was at Canton, some years ago. I was stationed there as port collector, and sent up many memorials in respect to foreign officers. My counsels were defeated for the time by those ambitious princes, Suschur and Twantiwa, (put to death in 1861; but they have been acted upon since the reins of power came into the hands of Prince Kung.

But, to change the subject, have you heard that a couple of Englishmen committed acts of violence, a few days ago, at the Temple of Everlasting Peace, beating the gate-keepers, and breaking a lock in order to effect an entrance?

**Mr. BURLINGAME.** Yes; I am acquainted with the facts. It was a gross outrage, and I have reason to believe that Mr. Wade himself views it in that light. I have no doubt he will bring the offenders to justice.

**HANGKEE.** I know he has despatched officers to apprehend them, but he throws the blame of the occurrence on us, because, forsooth, we put locks on the gates of our sacred places, instead of allowing them to stand open for the gratification of promiscuous visitors. He even seizes on this occasion, inopportune as it is, to press a demand for the removal of such restrictions. This is just as if an Englishman should cut a Chinaman across the neck, and Mr. Wade, while profuse in his regrets for the unfortunate occurrence, should recommend us to wear iron collars as a safeguard. Or I may give you another illustration, more amusing, but not less truthful. This appendage (holding up his cue) you are not accustomed to wear, and deem it of little value, while we regard it as the very seal of honor. A man who loses it is disgraced forever, and one who cuts off the cue of another is liable to be punished with banishment. Now, suppose an Englishman had cut off the cue of one of our people, Mr. Wade would admit he had no right to do so. But what if he should proceed to counsel us to cut off all our cues, and dispense with a useless member, as the best means for securing ourselves against future insults?

The conversation threatening to become personal, Mr. Burlingame declined to pursue it in that direction, but availed himself of the introduction of the subject to bring forward some suggestions of a general character. They related to three points—the sovereign right of the Chinese government to legislate on its own domestic affairs, the importance of comity and generosity in international intercourse, and wisdom of dealing with individual peculiarities. Under the first he remarked that the Chinese had an undoubted right to withdraw from us every privilege not expressed or implied in the stipulation of the treaties. But would it be either wise or honorable to press their authority to its extreme limit? Under the second he dwelt especially on the privileges usually conceded to diplomatic persons, and intimated that, though the public generally might be excluded from their several places, it might not be improper to make some exceptions in favor of envoys and their suites. And, in the third place, he assured them that Mr. Wade is, at heart, one of their best friends, and advised them to comply with his wishes as far as possible.

**HANGKEE,** (after noting down these leading ideas.) We are liberal in the concession of privileges, and we have no wish to retract them; but some of those which are demanded we cannot by any possibility comply with.

In regard to some of these several places, we cannot even make an exception in favor of envoys; nor is this owing to any want of respect as an evidence of the great honor we put on the office of an ambassador. I may remark that though none of us dare stand or sit on

the same level with Prince Kung, yet his Highness holds intercourse on terms of equality with representatives of the treaty powers.

Our sentiments are identical with yours, though they are expressed by different signs; and our religious principles are the same as yours, though they are clothed in different forms—i. e., what you mean by "Lord" we call Heaven. It is not a firmament of stone or vapor that we worship, but the Spirit who dwells in Heaven. In the popular idolatry we put no faith whatever; but the Emperor makes us use it, as an auxiliary power in governing the people. The teachers of every creed agreed as to the principles of virtue; any one of these systems will suffice to deter men from the perpetration of secret crimes, which the law of the land would be powerless to prevent.

MR. BURLINGAME. You are right in extending the freest toleration to every form of religion. All truth is in one, and in the end the truth will entirely prevail.

HANGKEE. As a proof of our liberality, I may mention that we are even now inviting Christian missionaries to become the teachers of our children; and if Christian churches ever produce better citizens than Buddhist, or Christian schools better scholars than the Confucionists, we shall gladly acknowledge their work. Our Emperor's respect for the forms, and unwillingness to allow their temples to be invaded, is neither superstition nor intolerance, but merely a politic arrangement by which he holds the Tartar tribes in willing subjection.

In conclusion, Hangkee begged Mr. Burlingame to use his influence to induce Mr. Wade to withdraw his demand, or at least to defer pressing it.

## II.—Interview with Prince Kung, at the Foreign Office, March 3, 1865.

MR. BURLINGAME. In taking leave of your Highness, it is pleasant to recollect the kindness and confidence with which I have been treated by your government since my residence among you.

PRINCE KUNG. It is not without sincere regret that we part with one whom we have found to be our true friend, and I cannot refrain from asking is it necessary that you should leave us? Are you recalled by the authority of your sovereign?

MR. BURLINGAME. I am going home on temporary leave.

PRINCE KUNG. O, then we may expect to see you back again. Your President has a second term, and you ought to have another; as the books say, we like to change our clothes, but not our friends.

MR. BURLINGAME. I certainly would return if I thought I could render your government any signal service.

PRINCE KUNG. But we will take no denial. We wish you to pledge yourself to return to us. If you are willing to resume your mission, you will join me in draining a glass in token of consent. (Mr. Burlingame, after a brief pause, takes the glass.) The covenant is ratified; friends are not allowed to forget a promise sealed by a glass of wine.

MR. BURLINGAME. Perhaps, in my absence, I may serve you as effectually as I could if I were here.

PRINCE KUNG. We have been indebted to you on many occasions, and especially with regard to the English flotilla.

## III.—Conversation with Tung Ta-jen, at the legation, March 6, 1865.

The day being slightly overcast, Prince Kung supposed it would be unsuitable for taking a sun picture, and deferred his visit until the next day. At an early hour, however, Tung-Seun came in; somewhat late he was joined by Hangkee and Chunlun. Before the arrival of the two last Mr. Burlingame gave Tung Ta-jen a few hints for the benefit of his government.

In the event, he said, of difficulties arising between the Chinese government and any representative of a foreign power, there were two methods by which they might be prevented from issuing in serious consequences

1. To make sure that they were in the right, and then to send copies of the whole correspondence to each of the other resident ministers, with a request that it might be published in their respective countries. The fear of public opinion would prove a wholesome safeguard against violent or unjustifiable proceedings.

2. To send a diplomatic mission to the west. Both of these Mr. Burlingame illustrated with considerable detail, and Tung Ta-jen appeared to appreciate their value.

In regard to the last, he remarked that his government is convinced of the necessity of sending envoys to western nations, and that some of the youth in the government school now receiving instruction from Tien Sien Hang (Dr. Martin) were expected to become qualified for serving as interpreters and secretaries to such embassies. Mr. Burlingame closed the conversation on this topic by wishing Tung the good fortune to be appointed chief of the first embassy to the western world. Certain it is that few among its great officials would represent the empire with more intelligence or dignity, or be more disposed to profit by what they might see in foreign lands.

Tung has taken a leading part in promoting the publication of Dr. Martin's translation of



Wheaton's International Law, and gave its pages the benefit of his own finished scholarship. On this occasion, when three mandarins sat for their photographs, Tung held in his hand a volume of the Chinese Wheaton, apparently ambitious of having his name associated with this work.

**TUNG TA-JEN.** You will be able to speak a word in our behalf, and correct misapprehensions that may exist concerning us in the countries through which you pass.

**WEUSIANG.** An impression seems to have gone abroad that we treat the envoys of foreign powers with a want of consideration. You will be able to testify that we heap on them all the attention which it is possible for us to bestow on our most honored guests.

**TUNG TA-JEN.** This impression has arisen from some of them having asked concessions which are contrary to our customs, and which we hesitated to comply with.

**PRINCE KUNG.** On many points our customs and those of the west are at variance so widely that it is impossible to reconcile them.

**TUNG TA-JEN.** The ancient sages made it a maxim, when they visited a foreign state, to make careful inquiries, lest by chance they should transgress some of its prohibitions, or enter some places to which they were not allowed access.

**MR. BURLINGAME.** I know what you refer to, and regret that there should be any misunderstanding in regard to it. It is not for me or any other foreign minister to dictate your internal policy, but a magnanimous and generous course will do most to extend your reputation and conciliate the good will of foreign countries.

**WEUSIANG.** The Prince's policy has never been otherwise than liberal and magnanimous.

**MR. BURLINGAME.** If, however, a case should occur in which you find it impossible to agree with the envoy of any nation, I am satisfied it would always be safe for you to submit the question to the judgment of a third party, and America, you know, is bound by treaty stipulation to act as your umpire in cases of international difficulty.

**WEUSIANG.** You are right in saying that we should be safe in submitting such questions, because we certainly should not venture to refer them to arbitrators unless we were sure of the soundness of our own position.

**MR. BURLINGAME.** On the occurrence of such disputes you would do well to guard against mistaking an impatient or imperious manner for indications of hostile feeling. The kindest feelings are not inconsistent with some degree of outward irritation.

**PRINCE KUNG.** That is the reason why the ancients have cautioned us not to judge men by their outward aspect.

**MR. BURLINGAME.** In leaving your capital I have great pleasure in assuring your Highness that you will find in Dr. Williams, whom I leave to act in my stead, a true friend, on whom you may rely at all times—one who has devoted his life to the good of China.

**PRINCE KUNG.** Dr. Williams has been known to us for many years. He stands in no need of recommendation. We greatly prefer him to any stranger you might send us.

**HANGKEE.** He is patient and considerate. On one occasion we spent four hours at a stretch consulting with him on a single subject.

**MR. BURLINGAME.** May I inquire for the health of his Majesty?

**PRINCE KUNG.** Be kind enough when you see the President to inform him that we return the compliment.

**MR. Burlingame** now took leave, after fixing on a day for the Prince to make a farewell visit at the legation and arranging to have the Prince's likeness taken on that occasion.

#### IV.—*The Prince at the legation, March 7, 1865.*

The Prince came, attended by all the members of the foreign board except one, who is at present somewhat under a cloud. He remained there three or four hours, but the time being consumed in having the likeness of himself and suite taken by Dr. Pogochoff, of the Russian legation, little was said worth recording. An incident, however, not unworthy of note, which offered us a pleasant relief from the commonplace of official visits and the monotony of business, was a poetical contest between two of the Prince's most distinguished followers—one a Chinese and the other a Manchu. Prince Kung having his attention attracted by a book of engravings, was desirous of knowing their meaning; and when told that each one was the subject of an ode, which was printed on the opposite page, he requested to hear the translation of one of these odes. Its leading ideas having been rendered orally by Dr. Martin, the Prince ordered Tung Seun to turn it into Chinese verse. Tung was not long in executing his task, and his neat little ode turned into English prose reads as follows:

FORGET ME NOT.

(Describing a picture.)

Two girls on shipboard sing a parting song: "Hearts are deep or shallow, constant or feeble: say not that friends are all alike;

For the true friend is only he  
Of deep and enduring sympathy."

The Prince seemed pleased with the performance, and called for another ode, commanding Pan Yuen, a Manchu, and one of the highest officials in the government, to try his talent at verse. Pan's subject, selected by the Prince, was

**THE WATER LILY.**

(Also describing a picture.)

The theme was not so appropriate for the occasion, but in poetical merit his production was not inferior to that of his Chinese antagonist; it was as follows:

"We dwell together in a flowery clime;  
The Red Lotus and White Lily,  
Are alternate, trained about our bower.  
It surpasses the fabled haunts of the Genii,  
And the leaf of the Sacred Lily  
Attests that we are children of immortality."

On taking leave, Prince Kung again reminded Mr. Burlingame how much he expected from the favorable representations he might be able to make in the different countries through which he would pass on his voyage homeward, and requested that he would allow three of the members of the foreign board to call again the next day.

**V.—Visit of Weusiang, Tung, and Hangkee, to the legation, 8th, 1865.**

These officers came, in accordance with their arrangement of the preceding day, and Mr. Burlingame commenced the conversation by producing a circular letter which he had published for the direction of our consuls in China. A part of this was rendered into Chinese, in their hearing, that they might gather from it the leading principles of a policy agreed upon by the ministers of the treaty powers. It contains the following paragraphs:

"You will perceive that we are making an effort to substitute fair diplomatic action in China for force; that we seek to do justice that we may have justice, and thus co-operation becomes the rule in carrying out these relations.

"The policy is briefly this: To consult and co-operate in all material questions; to defend the treaty ports so far as shall be necessary to maintain our treaty rights; to support the foreign customs service in a pure administration, and upon a cosmopolitan basis; to encourage the Chinese government in its efforts to maintain order; to neither ask for, nor take concession of, territory in the treaty ports, nor in any manner to interfere with the jurisdiction of the Chinese government over its own people; nor even menace the territorial integrity of the Chinese empire."

These sentiments the Mandarins carefully copied, remarking that they quite anticipated the object of their visit, and comprehended the topic on which they had desired to confer. They accordingly soon took their leave, but not until they had placed in the hands of Mr. Burlingame a memorandum, once more protesting their innocence of any disrespect towards any foreign ministers, and again invoking his aid in correcting misapprehensions which might exist in countries he was to pass through.

Hangkee declared that, while the Chinese government treats all the ministers with respect, it had never given such a demonstration as in the present instance, in which the Prince Kung, and the highest officials had waited day after day at the American legation, and Weusiang and Tung, in parting with Mr. Burlingame, quoted the last line of Tung's sentimental ode—

"For the true friend is only he  
Of deep and enduring sympathy."

P. S.—The undersigned having acted as special interpreter on this occasion, has made the preceding notes from memory, and believes them to be substantially correct.

W. A. B. MARTIN.

PEKING, March 27, 1865.

**NOTE FROM WEUSIANG, TUNGSIEN, AND HANGKEE.**

The Chinese government would not presume to treat anybody with disrespect, and their conduct towards the ministers from foreign countries has been even more respectful, and has been in the highest degree such as holds between equals. If we, as Chinese officers, should fail to treat them as we would honored guests, our minds would not be easy, (i. e. we should reproach ourselves for want of courtesy.) However, seeing that the customs of various nations differ more or less, and fearful that some of those who have intercourse with China may have the idea that she has not fulfilled all that courtesy requires, we very particularly request your excellency, on your way to the United States, to speak in our behalf in this respect to those various nations, and clearly explain to them that the Chinese government has not the least intention to trespass the rules of courtesy in their intercourse with them.