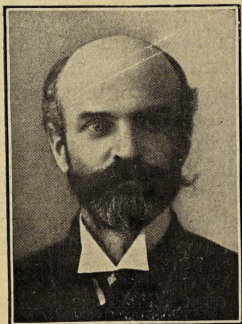


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REV. E. H. THWING

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Sample
only

TO ALL FRIENDS OF CHINA IN AMERICA

Letters Just Received from Dr. Arthur H. Smith, Dr. W. A. P. Martin and Bishop J. W. Bashford on Work of Rev. E. W. Thwing, Oriental Secretary of the International Reform Bureau.

The changes which are taking place in China are so sweeping and so sudden that it is difficult for those in China to comprehend or even to keep track of them—much more so for those in America. New ideas are coming into prominence, new practices new methods of dealing with old evils.

China is caught in the vortices of many strong currents, and few Chinese understand whither they are swiftly drifting. Moral reform is much talked

about but little practiced. As in other countries, but in a higher degree, "graft" and greed have the middle of the road, and there is not, as in Christian lands, any public sentiment in China against them. Indeed the very expression for such a sentiment is as new as the thing itself, though that sentiment is growing and is capable of cultivation. The Chinese are in need of *moral support* in their efforts and struggles for reform.

One of our American ministers said of Mr. Thwing that as he understood it this is just what Mr. Thwing is trying to do, and is doing. That is what the rest of us understand also. Missionaries are doing and have done a large work in China, and it is growing, but they are unable to act as free lances, and it is undesirable that they should do so. Politics and actual contact with administrative functions in China must be kept distinct from ordinary mission work.

But in Mr. Thwing's altogether exceptional case, owing to appreciation of Chinese in high office of the value of his gratuitous services, he is able to do things that others have not done and can not do. He is *persona grata* to the Chinese, for the reason that he is giving himself to the help of China without asking or expecting anything from them. Foreigners in China who are in this position (and not connected with missions of any sort) are very rare. Mr. Thwing has had the priv-

ilege of sending telegrams, free of cost, to governors of provinces, and others, securing reports on the actual conditions in opium suppression. He has had interviews with the leading officials of China, from the President, the Vice-President, the Premier, and many others down, and understands their point of view, and, what is of more importance is understood and appreciated by them. The name of no other foreigner is so familiar to all ranks of Chinese (in the northern provinces at least) as that of Mr. Thwing. This is because he has succeeded in finding entrance, not only to the Chinese mind, but also to the Chinese sympathy as well.

The total amount required to carry on the work of the Reform Bureau (thoroughly *hated* by some of the foreign officials and by many of the foreign "interests" in China) is relatively trifling. We do not want an additional society in China, but merely adequate support for work already existing. There are many friends of China, who for various reasons, *prefer* to give their support to something outside of the beaten track and where the results, because isolated, can be discriminated from the rest. The support of Mr. Thwing's work is precisely of this type. The writer of these lines has had knowledge of it from its inception, and has no hesitation in commending it as a most useful form of international service, not to China only,

but to the world as related to China, because it intends to improve China itself, an aim in which we must all agree, whatever differences there may be in the methods of achieving it.

Will not some friends into whose hands these words fall, look into this matter and "lend a hand" at a time and in a place where the results are not likely to be disappointing either in the present, or in the future?

(Signed) ARTHUR H. SMITH.

*American Board Mission,
Tungchow, Peking, China.*

December 18, 1913.

The fact that the Chinese Republic has taken a firm stand against opium is due to the influence of your bureau. But for your efforts the old interdicts must have lapsed and the growth of the poppy would have been freed from all restraint. Not only have you (addressed to Mr. Thwing) attained assurance that the Government will wage war on this inveterate vice, but you have assisted in the destruction of large quantities of the noxious drug.

Friends of China can not do a better service than to support your bureau in its anti-opium crusade.

(Signed) W. A. P. MARTIN.

*American Presbyterian Mission,
Peking, China, Dec. 18, 1913.*

EXTRACTS FROM RECENT LETTERS OF REV.
E. W. THWING.

The International Reform Bureau, under the charge of its Oriental Secretary, Rev. E. W. Thwing, is rendering a notable service to China. Mr. Thwing enjoys the confidence of the leaders of new China to a very remarkable extent; and his great service in the opium reform is rendering the double service of increasing China's high regard for America and at the same time helping a fourth of the human race to destroy one of the greatest vices that afflict mankind.

(Signed) BISHOP J. W. BASHFORD.

*Methodist Episcopal Church,
Peking, China, Jan. 13, 1914.*

“We are constantly receiving requests for literature against many of the existing evils in China, but have had to put them off with the promise that we hope to be able to secure the means with which to supply this literature within a short time. If we can not fulfill our promises, our influence is going to be greatly damaged, as the public will soon learn that our words mean nothing. If ever China needed help, *it is now*. We are unable to give the help we might and should because of the lack of funds for literature, and trust that you can secure some from some source.”

“I am supporting the work entirely out of my own pocket at present as there is not a cent in treasury for printing and current expenses. This can not go on indefinitely so I feel rather discouraged at not receiving anything from Washington. Although the Chinese have given something for the definite purchase of this fine lot in Peking, which is the property of the International Reform Bureau, its difficult to get them to contribute towards running expenses. The small amount we require ought certainly to come from the friends at home.”

American Christians have so far failed to respond adequately to the Reform Bureau's many appeals for the support of Mr. Thwing, though he is unqualifiedly endorsed by the highest Chinese officials and by the leading missionaries of many churches. His salary and that of his assistant is provided for by Mr. A. A. Hyde and Dr. J. L. Thistle, but he needs a large fund for the free distribution of literature, not only on opium but also on liquors, cigarettes, gambling and impurity.

Will YOU help NOW by a contribution or pledge?

ADDRESS:

INTERNATIONAL REFORM BUREAU,
206 Pa. Ave., S. E., Washington, D. C.