Beijing, 4 February, 1979.

Beijing
Paris, France
Tokyo & Kyoto
Kuching, Sarawak
Cameron Highlands

My Dear Friend!

Just so many thanks to you for your telegram, Christmas card, and letter all so full of good-will and friendship. I have been wanting to write to you for some time, but have waited till I had your commission fully carried out, and that is just to day. Your cheque for $2000 exchanged for Hex$4.300, and as soon as I had received your instructions I set to work to get your wish you wanted. It has taken time; it has been more difficult than formerly, but for all that, when you see the lamps, I think you will agree with me that we have been very successful. I have not wished to influence you in any way these last couple of years, so I have not advised you to buy. Now that you have sent some money on your own initiative, I can tell you that you have done a very wise thing. Lamps - good lamps - are not like buds on the open market, and prices, especially as regards paintings have gone up very much, simply because the supply has been drying up all along. All the lamps, I am sending you are from the trade; and cannot not be bought on the market. I have exceeded the amount you sent me, by Hex$70, but when you read my report and above all, when you see the lamps, I think you will agree with me that you would have wished me to do so.

The first lamp I got was the Rue Amali Lalu at $200. Next I got the Lung Bells, 1400 + 1000 = $2400, and then came the big Cupola

C-512
NWC43:41

Cupid Vase and the pair of Rose Quartz Vases together. If I had kept within the amount sent, I should have had to split up these 3, and in so doing would have had to give so much for what I wanted to keep that the left out would be a bargain. As it was I got the 3 so cheap, viz $2200, that I considered I would not act in your best interests if I did not secure all 3. The price for the 3 is 2200, but I have had to specify them separately. So the a/c stands as follows:

1 Long Roll, Rose & Gold Flowers, by Li Ai	$1400	MWCH 32:L9 C-613
" Long Roll, Landscape, by Liu Long-mien	" 1000	MWCH 32:L1
1 Chien Lung, Cupid Vase	" 1300	MWCH 3:42 C-521
1 Pair, Chien Lung, Rose Quartz Vases	900	MWCH 3:38 C-510, MWCH 3:39 C-511
1 Chien Lung, Rose Quartz Lotus	250	MWCH 3:40 C-512
	4850	
Expenses	220	
	5070	
Received $4.300	4300	
Balance in $	770	

Expenses: Boxes, packing, etc $25
Insr. Albert $50
Customs dues 52.50
Parcel Post 15.06
Commission Brokers 6.50
Photographs 15.25
Insurance
Total 220.81

I have put Albert down for $50, if you feel inclined to give him a little more. He has enabled me to get the things out, and at a much reduced rate, so as to avoid calling attention to what the things

Hemden	$ 25.-
4 Paar Socken	3.50
Unterhosen	52.50
Hosen Paar	15.00
Unterhemden	6.50
Taschentücher	10.-
Hemdenkragen	52.50
Summe	214.50

Ausgabe

Hemden	$ 25.-
4 Paar Socken	3.50
Unterhosen	52.50
Hosen Paar	15.00
Unterhemden	6.50
Taschentücher	10.-
Hemdenkragen	52.50
Summe	214.50

Einnahme

Ausgabe	$ 214.50
Einnahme	7.50
Rest	$ 207.00

see vase when it comes from storage

things really were, say from the Palace.

Now for a few detailed remarks. All seals etc. you will find translated on the special, herewith enclosed papers.

The Rose Quartz Vase, MWCH3:40 has Emperor Chien Lung's seal on the bottom, indicating that it was a piece he was particularly fond of.

C-523 or 523 The Cinnabar Vase MWCH3:42 has on the lip of the rim of the cover also Chien Lung's seal, indicating it was a personal thing, and in addition quotations by the same emperor. These have not been easy to translate, but we have done the best we can. If you think you can find better expressions in English than what we have found, by all means do so.

The Long Roll, Birds & Flowers, MWCH32:L9 by Li Chi was said to be one of the finest of its kind in the Palace Collection, and is one, if not the best I have seen of this kind.

The Landscape Roll by Lin Tung, C-606 MWCH32:L8 which is very good, and has much atmosphere, especially I think around the rocks. It depicts the famous poet Su Tung-po entertaining some friends. The long piece of poetry is by the famous Yuan painter Chao Meng-fu.

You will notice that these 2 Rolls came to you in their original brocade covers, as they were kept in the Palace. I have been particularly fortunate in obtaining them with their covers, as this is never done. The covers are always retained, and destroyed, in order that people may not be able to trace them back to the Palace. I only got them by solemnly promising that they should not be shown to anyone else, and should be sent out of the country at once. I think you will find this interesting, as it shows you how carefully the

The rest paintings were looked after in the Palace. All these things cannot not be had on the market, and if they cannot be had, owners can reverse times more than what you have given. There seems to have been a strong foreign demand for Kalo. paintings since last few years, for they are very scarce, and very dear, I hear. Personally I have none of the quality of the Ch'in Kalo, nor have I bought any quality rolls since you were here last.

Before the revolution, peach-blow and Apple-green porcelain were very rare, and very expensive. When the palaces were looted (cut up) in 1922-24, a good many of these 2 kinds came out, and I took the opportunity of buying as many as I then could. In making up the parcels for you - they were packed late on Feb. 23 - but I have only got the invoice prepared to-day - it struck me last, as far as I know, you have no Apple-green in your collection, and so I took you one, with my love and good wishes as a gift to you my fond friend.

MUCH 22:14

It is a Young Chien Apple-green, and comes from the Palace. The Chi. never prefer the Apple-green to be as light in colour as peachy, and this one I think you will find to be very good.

As I could not give the Court as vendor, nor get any receipt from them, I have had Mr. Lowell make out the necessary receipt, but nothing in form him. When he made out the decorations on tiles here in my house, he remarked that you had got them very cheap indeed, and he knows the prices. Mr. Allett helped me to pass the things through the Customs, and make out the Consular invoices.

Es ist komisch wie leicht oft in's Leben
die alten Dinge einen nicht so lieb an sich machen, und ich kann
einen es fast nicht verstehen daß Menschen keine Dinge nicht für
ihre Zwecke. Das scheint es hier sehr stark zu sein. Man muß
stets, komische Sachen tun für, für Menschen und Tiere
und das 1 Jahr. Wenn nicht, I habe Angst of the Quality of life
So Ein Fall, wo das I Tempel und Quantity sich nicht
was ihr hat.

Vorher die Kostüme, Frauen-Tum und Männer-Tum Kostüme
waren sehr nett, und sehr schmeichelnd. Nun die Kleider sehr hässlich
(ich rede von 1943-44) a. Good number of them I know came out
and I think the adaptability of Tempel as mourning as I think, tempel
is mourning and the people in Tum - they were people so
Ich. 45 - but I feel only yet the Jewish people to suffer - it seems
me that, as far as I know, for long so Tempel-Tum in Tum
Gallicia, and so I not Tum one, think my love and good wishes
as I offer to him and Tum Tum.

MUNCH 2.2.46

It is a Tum Tempel Tempel-Tum and Tum Tum the Tribes. The Cut
was Tempel the Tempel-Tum to be so light in Tum as Tum the, and
but we I not Tum is don't to be sent Tum.

In I think with Tum the Lent to Under, we get one Tum Tum
Tum, I hope the Tum Tum works and the Tum Tum Tum
Tum to Tum Tum. When to work and the Tum Tum of this
Tum, and Tum Tum, to Tum Tum Tum Tum. Tum Tum Tum Tum Tum
work, and to Tum the Tum. Tum Tum Tum to Tum the Tum
Tum the Tum, and work out to Tum Tum Tum.

I have considered it necessary to photographs the objects so as to prevent any substitution either in packing here, or en route.

You ask me in your letter to price certain things that you have previously bought, so as to arrive at the American Value of them. I see what you mean, but, of course, I do not know what prices similar things fetch in America, even if they ever be had. However, we can arrive at a very fair estimate. In the first place, you get your things very cheaply and far under market value. You must then have to value them anew from time to time. I should be inclined to add at least 300% as an average, and I will tell you why. 2 years ago I was asked to price some paintings in Yamanaka's place here. I found that he charged 4 times what I could get the same things or similar things for here. Another thing, I know that foreign dealers buying antiquities here, reckon with a profit of 300%. To sum up, I cannot remember the individual things in your list, and in order to expertise and value such things, I must see them, study them, and then give a justified and just estimate. If you, for the time being, do as the dealers do, add 300% to the price for which you have bought them, you are within a very safe margin estimate, for you get them cheaper than what they get their things, as they buy on the market, and I buy privately. When I come to America, which will probably be next year, I shall come and see you and your museum, and I can then expertise and value what you have seen them.

over

My Dear Friend,

I have got that far, and now feel easier in mind, but also tired. You know the winter is rather an enemy there last 6 years that I have found it very difficult to overcome, and only God and His Omnipotent has been made it possible, and I feel very grateful. But for Him, I should not be here. My work is still before me, and before that is done, I cannot go.

I expect to have a decision by the end of the year. The Council, or rather the President of the Council wrote and asked for an extension till the end of the year, when they hoped the funds could be answered. All the public bodies in Los Angeles have written in to the Council requesting that the Collection be received for Los Angeles.

The Metropolitan and all the leading museums in America are all willing to take parts of the collection, but none of them has room for the whole lot.

However, that is all in God's Hands. I am doing His work in this matter. All the things are His, not mine.

When I do come, I am coming to see you, you may be sure, and we can then give a fair estimate of your gift.

All loving and true sympathy and wishes to you, my dear Friend,

Yours faithfully,

Norman Shumway