

Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the Opium Traffic in China, respectfully report for adoption the following:

The International Missionary Union views with profound sorrow the ravages of the Opium Traffic in China. It is desolating thousands of homes, leaving helpless widows and orphans in its track. The history of this awful curse, and the aggregation of evils resulting from it are too well known to need any extended comment at this moment. A favorable opportunity is now presented for efficient action. The time for the revision of treaties with China is near at hand. The most strenuous efforts of all Christian people ought to be put forth to secure China's deliverance from this iniquitous traffic. We therefore adopt the following memorials to the Governments of the United States and Great Britain, and order that they be signed by the President and Secretary of the Union, and forwarded through the proper channels to the Governments concerned.

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To His Excellency, Benjamin Harrison,
President of the United States:

The International Missionary Union, composed of missionaries from all the foreign mission fields, and representing all evangelical Christian churches, in session at Clifton Springs, New York, June 13th 1890, considering the great evils growing out of the opium traffic in China, the ^{and} the immense obstacle presented by it to the progress of Christianity; are very desirous that prompt and efficient action be taken to bring it to a speedy end.

The opportunity is presented by the revision of treaties soon to take place. We rejoice that our Government has placed itself ^{in a position to} right on this question by the Treaty signed in 1880, which prohibits all American citizens from engaging in any way in the opium traffic, and prohibits all American vessels from carrying the drug to Chinese ports.

Our Government has now the opportunity to exert its powerful influence to secure, in the revision of treaties about to take place, the acknowledgment of China's right to entirely prohibit the traffic.

We earnestly beseech that the full influence of the Government be used to this end — not only by its free consent to whatever measures ^{the} Chinese ^{authorities} may propose for the purpose; but also by the exertion of friendly influence with the British Government to secure its recognition of the right of China to entirely abolish the traffic in the noxious drug.

By taking such action promptly our Government will win the gratitude of the Christian world.

For this result your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by order, and in behalf of the International Missionary Union,

To Her Most Gracious Majesty, Victoria,
Queen of Great Britain and Ireland; Empress
of India:

The International Missionary Union, composed of representatives of all evangelical Christian Churches in the United States and Canada, and of missionaries from all the foreign fields of those Churches, knowing the sad devastations wrought in China by the trade in opium, — thousands of households being desolated, ancestral patrimonies squandered, widows and orphans left helpless and forlorn, Christianity dishonored, and the progress of the Gospel greatly impeded; — are very desirous that the present favorable opportunity be seized upon by Christian nations to bring to an end this destructive traffic.

This question will be prominent in the approaching revision of treaties. We most earnestly pray that your Majesty's Government will not only refrain from interposing any objections

to China's dealing henceforth with this traffic as she pleases, but will cheerfully and cordially assent to the entire prohibition of the traffic.

We are aware that a very large proportion of the revenue of Your Majesty's Indian Government is derived from this traffic; but we feel sure that ~~the~~ ^{the} great nations, which could abolish the slave trade at a time when its financial resources were far less than at present, and nobly submit to great loss of revenue, rather than continue to be connected with a great moral wrong, will be ready to repeat its noble deed by the sacrifice of such portion of its India revenue as comes from the opium trade; and Your Majesty's great statesmen will be able to devise other measures for the support of the Indian Government.

Your Majesty will be supported in this righteous and Christian cause by the entire Christian people of the realm, and will receive the gratitude of the whole Christian world.

We therefore most earnestly ^{may} that in the

revision of Treaties soon to take place, Your Majesty's representatives may be instructed to cordially assent to the entire prohibition of the trade in Opium, and to promise the co-operation of Your Majesty's Government in the most efficient measures to secure that result.

Praying for the continued Blessing of Almighty God upon Your Majesty, and his divine guidance in all the responsible duties of Your Majesty's exalted position, your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by order and on behalf of the International Missionary Union,

Respectfully submitted —

S. L. Baldwin
 Marcus L. Graft

W. I. Sprague