

BROWN UNIVERSITY  
PROVIDENCE

February 3, 1897

My Dear Deane,

I am tentatively up about the house, after my long and painful illness. The doctor will keep me in the house,

Your note disturbs me somewhat, though I hardly think my attitude requires so serious attention. The matter in a nutshell is this,

The Librarian of our Public Library desired a note on the book for the monthly Circular. I thought in speaking clear of the discussion of the women's clothing matter, I was on safe ground. I took it for granted that the plates, made by men

like Brigham, who had worked  
for Fairbank, were all right, I never  
questioned either, nor did I suppose  
anyone did, the accuracy of  
Brigham's description. The circular  
was local - and I thought of no  
importance anyway, but to please  
Brigham, who has always been  
very kind to me, I sent it him.  
He made use of it, as he had  
a right to do, as a puff, and  
my smoke becomes all at once  
flame. Herndon's remarks - and  
even by you and Robinson here  
my first suspicions of mischief.  
Now it seems I made a mess  
of it, and to review a book one  
must read every line - and be  
an authority on Carey - and a  
skilled draftsman. As soon  
as I heard the discussion at the  
N. E. Club, I knew I was in for it.  
I have not examined any  
"authentic portrait," I wrote in  
consequence - but trusting to the  
scientific reputation of Brigham, which I

had never heard of, and  
Meyra Hone and Gotet thus  
and their classic work on  
China & Tibet, which I have  
read,

"The zeal of a writer will not  
always suffice to describe coun-  
tries in which he has never  
set foot + + + Although it  
has been the good fortune of  
the learned orientalist, J. Klap-  
roth, to discover the Potocki  
Archipelago without quitting  
his closet, it is, generally speak-  
ing, rather difficult to make  
discoveries in a country which  
one has not visited".

I plead guilty; I had not  
visited the country of Buttan  
-and hence my account does  
not hold water. Pecuni!

I am very sorry to learn of  
Mrs Deane's illness, I do hope  
soon to hear that she is  
doing well. I myself - have  
lost three weeks of valuable  
time, and I'm the wiser  
now (but they don't know) - is  
money. Do not undertake to  
defer me to any body,  
my fulminations are not  
worthy of serious consideration -

Kindly remain ever  
W. W. Bailey



Bailey, William Whitman. 1897. "Bailey, William Whitman Feb. 3, 1897." *Walter Deane correspondence*

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/164802>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/300634>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University Botany Libraries

**Sponsored by**

IMLS

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.