

Sew - Sey (Various)

Gilman Correspondence

~~Folder 13~~
142-13

MS. 1

C
Seward, W. H.

Auburn - January 1872 -

My dear Sir -

I hasten to answer, as well as I can
the inquiries, concerning the Chinese Indemnity
Fund, which you have made as President of
the Committee of Citizens lately appointed at a
meeting at the Cooper Institute -

The first inquiry involves the correctness of the
statement which you quote from a report given
as Secretary of State to the Senate Congress 5th
Session (ix. Sec. No 29) as follows -

"It appears that when it was ascertained that
this surplus would remain the return of it
to the Chinese was proposed but that they
declined to accept it." I have not with me
here the report from which the extract is
made - & I must trust to your accuracy in
the quotation. I have no present recollection
of the grounds upon which that statement was
made - & therefore I am obliged to be content
with the result - of such an examination of the
matter near me, as I have been able to make -
You are aware that the convention, was ne-
gotiated on the behalf of the United States