“Some of them will never become Americans. I get so disgusted with them at times for clinging to their Japanese ideas. One boy asked me yesterday, ‘who do you think will win the war?’ I answered, ‘America, of course, and you had better think it too or get out of the country.’”

Building Knowledge and Breaking Barriers
The privileges enjoyed by Euro-Americans in Asia, explicit or not, were as undeniable as their contributions. The invisible connections between the past and the present continue to shape how we perceive and interpret today’s world whether we’re aware of them or not. The material culture of archives like PHS helps present tangible objects that tell stories of the past and helps us connect the dots. The significance of historiography lies within our attempt to recover, recognize, and reassess these stories.

For more information about Celia Shao’s Building Knowledge Breaking Barriers project, visit: www.bkkbbphilly.org/celia or use your smartphone to scan this QR code