

# **Anson Burlingame – The Man and His Legacy**



**BY**

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# Who Is Anson Burlingame

Nov 14, 1820 – Feb 25, 1870

2

## Renaissance Man of Conviction & Principle

- Advocated for the Equality of People
- Extended to the Equality of Nations
- Codified in the Burlingame Treaty of 1868



# Advocated for the Equality of People

3

## While in Congress – 1855-61

- An outspoken opponent of slavery
- Spoke elegantly against fellow Cong. Brooks, SC
- Supported Lajos Kossuth for Hungarian independence from the Austrian Empire
- A founder of the Republican Party

# Extended to the Equality of Nations

4

## Dual Ambassadorships – 1861-67

- Lincoln's Ambassador to Austria → China
- Took time to learn China's conditions
  - Advanced “cooperation” over existing “concession” policies
  - Promoted trade – tech xfer mining, RR, telegraph
  - Introduced legal structure – domestic and int'l law
  - Demonstrated court system – defense with witnesses
    - ✦ Convicted David Williams to hang for killing 3 men – with local witnesses
- Known for his deeds rather than words
- Emperor Tongzhi's Ambassador to the US

# Codified in Burlingame Treaty

5

## Equality between US and China - July 28, 1868

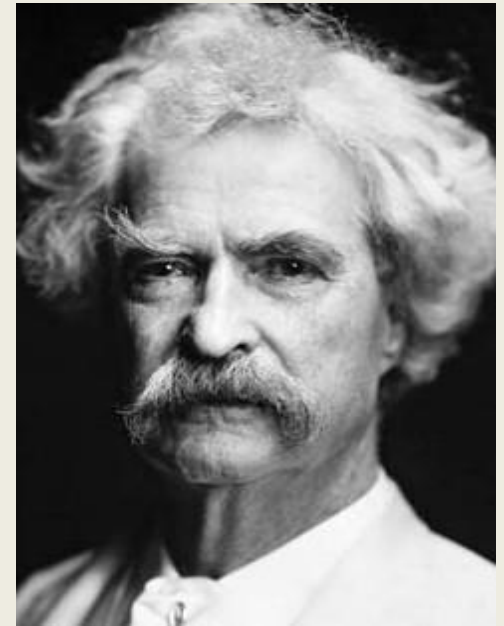
- Accept China as an equal nation, equiv. to UK, France, Russia, etc
- Not interfere with internal affairs of either nation
- Open two-way unlimited immigration
- Free to reside, travel, study in either nation
- Right to appoint local Consuls by the sending nation
  - Only the U.S., among all western powers recognized China as an equal sovereign nation

# Anson Burlingame's Legacy

6

## An Eulogy from Mark Twain

For he had outgrown the narrow citizenship of a state and become a citizen of the world; and his charity was large enough and his great heart warm enough to feel for all its races and to labor for them. He was a good man, and a very, very great man. America lost a son, and all the world a servant, when he died.



# Thank You

7



Additional info:  
[www.Burlingame.wikispaces.com](http://www.Burlingame.wikispaces.com)