

it seems to be that of a missionary of Christ in a heathen land who cannot obtain a pious wife without either going in person or sending to take her from among the daughters of his people.

These are the general views of the subject which I wish you to take into consideration in determining on the point of duty.

There are many other considerations belonging to the subject which it would be unnecessary for me to mention particularly they will naturally occur to your mind - It may perhaps be a question in your mind whether a union formed in this extraordinary way would offer a reasonable prospect of personal comfort.

With regard to this point I feel no anxiety on my own account. I cannot now say all that I would on this subject. I have not one doubt, nor one fear as it respects myself - I am certain that I should love you. But this is but one side the question.

On the other part I can only say I have reason to think you would not be unhappy in my society.

You will wish to know what are the prospects of usefulness for the wife of a missionary in this plan - I answer she can be useful in all the ways in which she can be useful at home, & many more, & with this additional advantage the same degree of good done in this land of darkness & region of the shadow of death, will turn to much better account than it would in a country abounding with christian knowledge & the means of grace.

With regard to the means of accomplishing the proposed plan should you feel disposed to undertake, I beg leave to refer you to my friend Dr. Good to whose obliging care I have committed should you determine to accept my offer, he will point to you the way - also furnish you with means of carrying your resolutions into effect.

You will perceive in this communication that I have taken several things for granted, as, that you are not engaged to another person that your parents consent &c which I hope will prove correct. Mrs B - has informed me that your health some time ago was poor. she has told me the nature of your complaints, from all that she has told me, I am led to conclude that you might enjoy better health in the place than in America & that is not much more than in Boston.

During our winters here from Nov. till Feb. the cold is not  
much greater than it is in Mass. during the month of Oct.

This place is considered the most healthy part of India.

If you should find it too much for your feelings to bid adieu  
to your friends & native country never to see them again, I think  
I may safely tell you this is not necessarily implied in the  
proposed undertaking - You need not consider yourself an exile  
of life. There will be opportunities every year of passing & re-  
visiting between this place & Boston or Salem - & the year you  
are in fact be disposed to return to your native country it will  
be pleasant to feel that you could do it in case of necessity.

I must commend your Dear Philomela to the divine

direction & blessing & bring my long Epistle to a close.  
If it should not be the will of God for us to live together on  
Earth, may we both be prepared to meet in Heaven & form an  
acquaintance that will never end

Affectionately yours

J. S. Your Parents will see this letter of course & be con-  
sulted on so important a subject. I hope they will  
not object - Read the 24<sup>th</sup> chap of Genesis - Pray  
much over the subject, & may the Lord direct your  
way & lead you to such a decision as will be for  
the glory & your own good J. S.