

[Book 3 Voyage to China and the U. S. A:
1845-46 Continued.] [Feb. 9-23, 1846]

Hong Kong, Monday, Feby 9, 1846.

Closed a package for the Islands to go by the Schooner Audax pr. hand of Mr Theo. Shillaber, and sent it to the Store of Jardine, Matheson & Co.

After this accompanied by Mr. Bonney, I went in the boat to town to see what might be the accommodations of a fast boat and to make inquiries about a passage to Canton. We went on board of one which had been chartered at \$16 to go to Canton and was to sail this evening. The accommodations were such that I conceived I might go comfortably in such a vessel. This vessel had been taken up by Mr. Bush for the accommodation of three passengers. A boat of this description I was informed goes every night for Canton. The price of passage for a single person is five dollars. I did not however engage a passage. though I have fully made up my mind to go this week.- We did not get back from this excursion until day light was quite gone, but as the moon is nearly at the full we had its light to show us our way.

Hong Kong, Tuesday Feb. 10 1846.

Walked to town this morning in company with Mr Bonney. We passed along Queen Street to the Post office, which we found shut. I had a small package to leave there but did not leave it as there was no box for letters.

Called at the office of the American Consul, F. T. Bush, Esq^l, who treated us politely and made himself quite familiar. He made some inquiries about the islands. Said he was acquainted with our Commissioner Brown, and in speaking of him made use of an epi-

that, which implied that he held him in no high estimation. that he regarded him opinionated and overbearing and would fall out with every body who would not agree with him.- Mr. Bush informed me that Cap. Dominis was going to the islands in the Schr. Swallow.

I fell in afterwards with Cap. Webber, of the Wissahicon, who informed me that he should go to Whampoa on Saturday and would take me passenger. I agreed to go with him. He will also be willing to take me to the U. S. ^{sh.} I conclude to go thither: but I am unwilling to make a particular engagement now: as I shall wish to ascertain first whether I can get a passage to the islands. Should I not go to the islands I shall be glad to go with Cap. Webber, as he is a religious man of the Methodist denomination, and a very agreeable person.-

I visited the market and various shops of the Chinese. Stopped at a barbers shop and witnessed the manner of shaving, dressing the eyes & the head, and was amused with process of shampooing which was performed by various operations of the hands & fingers upon the forehead, head neck & shoulders- beating and pressing the parts.

Hired a boat for 12½ cents to carry us to the foot of the hill.- The boat was directed by a woman assisted by several of her children & ^{one} ~~some~~ other persons ^{a lad} of intelligent countenance.

Hong Kong, Wednesday, Feby. 11th 1846.

I understand there are some case of small pox in this island. Mr. Brown has had his youngest child vaccinated, and the vaccine principle is now producing its effects at its highest point, and the child is experiencing a good deal of suffering.

Took dinner to day at the house of the Rev. Mr. Stanton the Colonial Chaplain who of course is of the established or Episcopal Church. He is a truly evangelical man and is much esteemed by Mr. Brown, His house is only a few rods from the house of Mr. Brown, The Rev. Mr. Bettelheim and family and Dr. Balfour were also at dinner. Who all spent the afternoon and took tea. At the close of the interview a passage from the Scriptures was read By Mr. Bettelheim & a prayer offered extemporaneously.

Hong Kong, Saturday, Feb. 14th 1846.

As this is the day set by Cap. Webber to sail for Whampoa, I have been making my arrangements to go on board the Wissahickon by making a settlement for my board which I have done by paying Mr. Brown \$21- which is about \$5 pr. week. It is just one callendar month to day since I landed from the Congaree.

I went to the store of Jardine, Matheson & Co. and carried a small package of letters to be sent to the islands by the Audax, which is expected to day from Whampoa.

I made a farewell call at the house of Mr. Stanton. I saw him but Mrs. S. was out spending the day.

I should have noticed under the date of yesterday that Drs. Dill & Balfour called and had an examination of my chest, which they performed by the use of the stethoscope.- They reported that they discovered a thickening of the left lung at the part where the blood has seemed to proceed from when I have had turns of hemorrhage but the air still has a passage thro. the parts but not so freely as in the rest of the lungs. They advise me to keep myself from exposure to cold and to be very careful in regard to diet & clothing. With these precautions they

they did not doubt but I might be comfortable for a long time.

In the afternoon Cap. Webber called with the Misses Rawls, and he informed me that he should not sail till next week probably not before tuesday. [sic]

I have noticed that Mr. Brown's infant had been vaccinated: it proves not to be cow pox but small pox or variloid: the child is quite ill and is covered with pustules, and suffers much.

Hong Kong, Sabbath Feby 15 1846.

It is much colder to day than it has been for several days past. The ship Paul Jones which is destined to Whampoa for a cargo to the U. S. sailed this morning.

I did not go to meeting, and none of the family went except Mr. Bonney, Mr. Brown not being very well, and the illness of the child requiring the presence of Mrs. B. -

I have felt a good deal depressed owing to my detention here, and the uncertainty resting over the^{time}/of my return to the islands.- My faith too is not in as lively exercise as it ought to be.

I do not feel that it was any fault of my own that I left the islands with an uncertainty, in regard a passage back, and therefore it is wrong in me, to feel undue solicitude on this subject. The Lord will direct.

Hong Kong, Monday Feby 16 1846.

The Audax was observed to be at anchor yesterday morning. This morning I walked to the store of Jardine Matheson & Co. and called upon Mr. Shillaber, whom I found packing up for his departure, to take place tomorrow morning. I was happy to learn that he had rec^d. the letters and packages which I had sent to

the store for the island; which he promised to deliver.- This information sets my mind at rest in regard to the communications for the islands.

He reports that Cap. Dominis is expected to sail about the first of March; but he does not know whether he can take me. The Lord perhaps will open a way for me in one of the ships of the East India Squadron.

Just before evening a package was handed to Mr. Brown which proved to be from the islands containing letters and papers forwarded by the Brig. Sir Charles Forbes which sailed from the islands on the 2nd day of January. I was very much rejoiced to hear from my family and of the state of things at the islands. The death of Mr. Whitney was not entirely unexpected tho. it occurred soonerⁿ than I expected. I desire to improve the sad event as an admonition to myself to be ready: for at a moment when I think not the Son of man may come.

I had time just to make a hasty acknowledgment of the receipt of the letters in a communication to my wife; which I despatched to the store of Jardine, Matheson & Co. to go on board the Audax expected to sail tomorrow.

I would express my thanks to God for his care of my family during my absence, and also for the news which has been communicated respecting Evarts. He hopes he has experienced religion. It is my earnest prayer to God that his hope may prove true and that he may be entirely devoted to God: and become a preacher of the Gospel of the Lord & Savior. This has always been my hope; and it will never cease to be my prayer that all my children may be the true friends of the Savior and spend their lives in his

service.

Hong Kong, Feby. 17th 1846. Tuesday.

Just before breakfast the son of Cap. Webber called to say that the Wissahickon would sail between 9 & 10 o'clock and that it would be necessary for me to be on board soon. I began immediately to put my effects in a form to be removed and they were soon in the hands of the coolies of the establishment and on their way down the hill to be put in the boat.

After breakfast I bid adieu to the family, and, accompanied by Mr. Bonney, went to the boat which contained my baggage, bidding adieu to Mr. B. I left the shore and was rowed to the vessel which lay about a mile and a half distant. It proved quite a hard pull for the boatman, as the wind was strong and not exactly in the right way. We however got to the vessel safely. Pretty soon after getting on board the Captain came off with two other passengers for Whampoa, a Cap. Eldred & a Mr. Prince whom I had seen before. Cap. Eldred pretty soon enquired of me whether he had not seen me before; and stated that he had once visited the Sandwich Islands and was detained there some time in getting his vessel repaired. - the Cacique- which was laid up at Robinson's wharf. I thot. I had seen the gentleman before, and I immediately recollected him. - We got under way without much delay and proceeded on our way for Whampoa- the wind was pretty strong and not exactly in our favor, by reason of which we had to beat some of the way. Just before dark we came to anchor just above Lintin and remained at anchor until the turn of the tide when the anchor was taken up which was at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 8 ock. & we proceeded on our way till about sun rise.

During the night we passed a place called the Bogue, where the Captain had to send a boat ~~ashore~~ to obtain a permit to proceed up the river. The Columbus is at the Bogue.

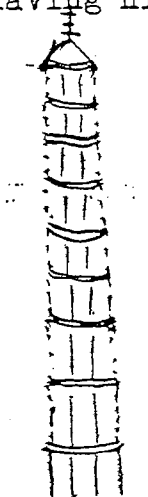
Wednesday Feby 18, 1846.

Having anchored about sunrise on account of the wind and tide not favoring, we remained several hours stationary. While lying here we took breakfast. Having raised a little blood I did not eat very freely: took also digitalis- and kept rather quiet.- After awhile the wind became favorable, tho. it was very light, and the vessel was got under way. As the sun advanced towards meridian the atmosphere became warm and I found it pleasant to remain on deck and view the objects in sight. ^H On our right hand being the eastern side of the river, saw long ranges of fishing nets suspended on poles fixed apparently in the shallow water of the shore; the land in that direction was low- in the distance were scattering trees. On the Western side of the river the land is more elevated presenting an uneven and broken surface- diversified with hills of gentle elevation- trees and vegetation, which gave the country a diversified & pleasant appearance. We had passed a fort on rising ground near which stood a pagoda of nine stories towering like a steeple- and in the distance had the appearance of a monument or a light house.- The river is more than a mile in width- the color of the water is yellowish owing to the mixture of the soil with it- We passed several boats deeply laden with mud or clay, which we were told the boatmen were carrying to the sugar refineries, for the purpose of claying.-

Whampoa, is the anchorage of vessels receiving their cargoes from Canton; here were lying quite a number of ships

among the rest the U.S. Ship of War Vincennes, also quite a fleet of native vessels. The moment a vessel arrives several of these native craft come around her; indeed they often join her on the way up and throw a rope on board and are thus towed along or they sail along with the same speed as the vessel.- We had one attached to us from the time we took up anchor in the morning till we arrived among the shipping.-

We were boarded by several gentlemen and a conveyance was offered to Cap. Webber and his passengers to Canton.- After dinner I selected some of my baggage and prepared to take passage to the city.- A gentleman by the name of Douglas provided the boat,- and Cap. Webber Mr. Prince and myself took passage, the boat was manned by six men and we were two hours in making the passage - starting at four o'clock we arrived at 6 o'clock,- or near that hour. The shores of the river are low and the banks are cultivated to the waters edge: many plantains were growing and low flowering trees of what kind I do not know.- Saw also rice ground, even or nearly so, with the water's edge, ^{indeed the soil seemed to be mud.} We passed also two pagodas standing near the river both of a like structure, having nine stories. They look something like the figure in the



margin octagon shape.- In passing up we left the main ^{of the river} branch, and went through a passage called "Lob-creek," [^] by which we shortened the distance. As we advanced towards the city, or rather that part of Canton which is outside of the wall, the boats became numerous-both those that are stationary and those in motion.- Tiers of large boats occupied the shore on both sides, leaving only a passage between for the boats that come and go,

and of these there are a vast many literally covering the water. As we approached the pier where we were to land the rowers put out all their strength and shot by the other boats and thrust the prow up to the floating pier or platform upon which we landed.

After giving orders to one of the men to follow us, Cap. Webber and I walked ashore and in a few steps entered the public walk where the foreign inhabitants go abroad to take the air and regale themselves. This is the only promenade allowed to the foreign community. Here we saw ladies & gentlemen, parsees & chinamen moving in the different walks presenting in the whole a very lively appearance. I walked on with a pretty quick step not stopping to make observations- being intent on my own business which was to find the residence of Dr. Bridgman and obtain coolies to bring up my baggage.- Cap. W. made some inquiries, but being anxious to attend to his own business he left me to the conduct of the boatman, whom I followed & with a quick step passed through the narrow passages thronged with natives all driving hither & thither, My guide enquired for Bridgemana to whose house we were directed. He and his wife were out, but a servant started after them- I followed not knowing then that I had reached the house where they reside. Meeting a gentleman and lady, and judging ^{they} that ^{they} might be able to give me the information I desired, I inquired for the residence of Dr. Bridgman. The gentleman gave me his hand and said he could in a manner so significant that I was not at a loss for the knowledge I sought. In a moment I was at his door and was introduced to the lady as Mrs. Bridgman, with whom I entered, and, we together ascended the wide dark stair case leading from the go down to the rooms occupied by the family. Mr.

Bridgman in the meantime despatching some coolies with the boatman to bring up my baggage from the boat, which in a short time was snugly deposited in a little room which she called the "Prophets Chamber." I was much fatigued and for a moment experienced an unusually severe pain in my side; but which however subsided as soon as I had time to rest.- My reception was very cordial, and I was requested to make myself quite at home.- Tea was soon prepared and we sat down in a very social way around a circular table to partake of the evening refreshment which to me was quite agreeable. The company consisted of Mr. & Mrs. Bridgman Mr. James Bridgman a cousin of the Drs and myself.- I felt at once quite at home, being now with a missionary of the A. B. C. F. M. and near others supported by the same Society.- Dr. Parker & Dr. Ball being these missionaries. Dr. & Mrs. Bridgman walked out in the evening to make a call and left me to sit by the fire till their return or retire to my room as should be most agreeable to me. Being fatigued I chose to retire at an early hour, and therefore did not wait for their return.

Family worship was conducted in Chinese by Dr. B. attended by the domestics and others of the family- Scriptures read verse by verse in turn.

Thursday, Canton, Feby 19, 1846

The clatter of the watchman walking with his alarm stick is heard here from 8 o'clock at night until morning, just as at Hong Kong. Here the watchman strikes two blows at 8 o'clock- and increases the number at intervals till day light.- I presume from the noise which I heard that there are watchmen connected with each house or hong.- The alarm stick is a short piece of a large size bamboo, which they strike with a short stick.- At Hong Kong

from 8 to 10 o'clock they give one blow from 10 to 12 they give two blows and increase one stroke every two hours until break of day, when they strike repeatedly and resign the watch.- Here at day break the clattering of the sticks is so great that it is sufficient, I should think, to wake up the whole neighborhood. At least it waked me up this morning. I think also some of the watchmen make use of a small gong - a brass instrument something like a pot-lid in form but of larger size .- It is probably necessary to employ an efficient police,- and this watch, through the night giving the different strokes, furnishes an index to the hour.

Family worship was attended before breakfast with the Chinese of the establishment with reading of the Scriptures the same as last night. I walked out with Dr. B. this forenoon and called upon Dr. Ball and Dr. Parker. they occupy different houses. Dr. Ball lost his wife some two years ago and he has lost since two (sons) of his children. He has two daughters living. I soon found that Dr. Ball had seen me before, tho. I did not recollect at first having ever seen him. He informed me that he was a scholar in Phillips Academy at Andover at the time I was there: and also that he was at New Haven at the time of my embarkation for the islands.- After awhile I recovered my recollection of him as a devoted young man whom I had seen at the Academy- though I believe I was never very intimate with him.

Dr. Parker is a gentleman of a very pleasant countenance- somewhat portly and of very good manners. His wife also to whom I was introduced is an engaging woman. He gave me some information in regard to the plans of Com^{dre} Biddle - which was presented in confidence- namely that it was the expectation of the

Com^{re} to visit the islands in the Columbus- First he will go to Manila and then return to this place- afterwards go up the coast to Amoy and other places and then proceed to the Sandwich Islands and after that run down the western course of South America. He will doubtless take the course generally pursued by the ships of the East India Squadron that visit our islands.

I closed up my calls by going to the Establishment of Messrs. Russell & Co. with a view to obtain information respecting Cap. Dominis: and as he had gone down to Whampoa, I was advised to address him a letter. On my return I did this informing him of my desire to obtain a passage to the islands and inquiring whether I could have that accommodation.-

In the afternoon accompanied by Mr. J. Bridgman I walked out among the shops of the China-~~Merchants~~ Merchants. It would require more skill than I possess to give a just description of what passed before me in the short period of my walk. I seemed to be in one extended mass of building - indeed for most of the way I walked not under the canopy of heaven but overshadowing screens. I did not measure the walks; (for the streets deserve no other name), but the widest did not exceed 10 or 12 feet, and some it seems to me, were not more than 6 or 8 - filled with Chinese^a men moving like a stream in eddying confusion: it was more than one could do to keep a straight course.- To describe the persons and things which came under my observation within the limits of these walks would occupy many pages, and, after all, no adequate idea would be communicated of the variety of persons and things - of the noises and the rushing. ¶ Chair after chair with their carriers and riders rush by you taking up most of the whole of the path - here a

string of men puffing along and calling to clear the path, with burdens of fire wood sawed and split in short & small pieces suspended by a short auamo across the shoulders - pass by you, others bearing larger and more bulky packages - Some with broad shallow tubs or troughs containing live fish flapping in water just enough to keep life in them- here a man with a huge stick of timber on his shoulder almost crushed down under his burden, hurries on and turns a corner- another has his arms full of packages intent on pushing his way attracts your attention as he winds through the crowd.-- all however are not bearers of burdens- here one walks along more leisurly with a huge pair of spectacles astride of his nose: and this is not a solitary instance many are seen with the nasal organ thus mounted for the benefit of the optic members of the front.

As to the shops, most of them, in the streets through which I passed, were open in front having the goods so exposed that you had but to turn your eyes to have a view of all the shop contained: Shopping must be exceedingly easy. In some of the streets, however, the shops are deep, and you must enter in order to gain a knowledge of the commodities that they contain.- Different streets are appropriated to different articles and artisans. I noticed a range of shops in which seemed to be nothing but glass ware. Other lines of stores- contained- looking glasses and paintings.- Others were variety stores.- I did not however, commit to memory all that I saw. I must take a great many more looks at China mart before I shall be qualified to give an account of every thing,- that it to say - if I possessed the talent to do it in an intelligible manner.

During this excursion I had the satisfaction of falling

in with Mr. Tobey who came passenger in the Sir Charles Forbes from the islands. From him I learned that the vessel had a passage to this port of 33 days. That vessel will not return to the islands and he will have to depend for a return on some opportunity that may present or charter a small vessel for the purpose. I learned from him that the Euphemia which when I left, was expected sometime in the year to sail from the islands, will not be sent, but the Schr. Mary will be despatched in its stead. This information decides the point of dependence on that vessel.- I am now brought to a definite point in regard to a passage to the islands - it must be by the East India Squadron. If I cannot depend upon that, I must go by the way of the U. S.-

This evening I attended in company with Dr. & Mrs. Bridgman a prayer meeting at the house of Dr. Ball.- The meeting was in an upper story, the room was small and well filled. There were several ladies present and a few strangers. I learned after meeting that Cap. Paulding of the U. S. Ship Vincennes was one. (I have some little doubt notwithstanding of the correctness of the report.)

Canton, Friday, Feby 20th 1846.

Dr. Parker called this forenoon and was attended by Com^{de} Biddle to whom I was introduced, but without receiving any more attention than a slight cast of the eye. He was, however, engaged in conversation with Dr. Bridgman, and probably did not regard me as deserving any particular notice, which was indeed sufficiently true; though a person always feels a gratification in receiving attention particularly from his superiors.- I felt for the moment that it might not be expedient for me to think of

a passage in the Squadron to the islands. This however was not a justifiable feeling.- Commodore is a small man- his hair is rather silvered with age - and is I should think upwards of sixty. I have no doubt he may prove to be a pleasant man. But being a man under authority he must conduct himself with dignity and preserve his rank. First impressions are often spoken of as having a great influence on the mind, and as greatly affecting judgment and opinion in regard to character. I have no doubt of the correctness of the sentiment: that is - we gain an opinion of a man at first sight. When we first see a person, if we think at all we form some sort of a judgment- or to say the least we have an idea created of some kind or another.- Often it is undefined, but as we have time to reflect we assign form and limits to what at first might have been a mere shadow. I do not subscribe to the sentiment that our first impressions are most likely to be true in respect to the character of a man.- Many try to produce a strong impression ^(at) a first sight, and therefore lay themselves out to that effect.

Dr. Parker brought his stethoscope and gave my chest a thorough examination. He said he would inform me hereafter of the result and give his opinion & advice.- I may with propriety mention here that- when Dr. Parker came in he conducted Com. Biddle into Dr. Bridgman's room and then came to my room where he made his examination - that we came out together and I was introduced simply as Mr. Chamberlain as I entered the room, the Com^{dre} being engaged in conversation with Dr. B. - I just notice these circumstances to account for my not receiving any more attention from the Commodore, - ^{tho.} I should have felt it to be

courteous had he noticed me as he left the room, which he did not.
(What a great matter a little fire kindles !)

Cap. Webber & his son called during the day. He informs me that it will not be in the power of Cap. Dominis to accommodate me in the Swallow, having recently seen Cap. D. and being requested by him to make this statement to me. Of course I was prepared for the positive information thus communicated to me.-

There is one question yet to be decided and that is shall I go to the U. S. or shall I try to get a passage to the islands by the U. S. Ship Columbus. There are at present several vessels soon to sail for the U. S.- viz: Natchez, Paul Jones - Tartar - the latter vessel is owned by Oliphant & Co.

Canton, Saturday, Feby. 21st. 1846.

A gentleman took breakfast with the family this morning, by the name of ^{Sp}Spencer a young gentleman from Boston who has been resident about three years in China. He is about to take passage in the Paul Jones which is to sail on the 27th inst. for New York- He also informed us that the Tartar belonging to Oliphant & Co. would sail on Tuesday next. I was induced by this information to request the brethren to take up my case and give me their advice in regard to the course I ought to pursue, as in case it should seem expedient that I should pursue my voyage to the U. S. my decision should be made so as to avail myself of one of the vessels soon to sail, and I thought favorably of the Tartar on account of the generous disposition of Mr. Oliphant, and Dr. Bridgman ascertained that a passage might be obtained in that vessel.- Having made known to Dr. Bridgman my wishes, Drs. Parker & Ball were invited in to consult.- They made a further examination of

my chest, and received from me an account of the health and constitution which have been exhibited in my case from the first existence of hemorrhage at about the age of 18 up to the present time. In giving the account of my illness last fall and stating to them the offensive matter which I raised during that sickness, Dr. Parker at once and unhesitatingly assigned the cause of it to an abscess, upon the outer coat of the lungs. He said it had left no opening in the lungs, as the air passed freely throughout the whole extent of the lungs. He examined me both before and behind and did not find evidence of tubercular phthisis: he says my lungs are weak and I shall be in danger of attacks of hemorrhage as long as I live. He says I continue to retain a good deal of elasticity of constitution and I shall be likely to rally from these attacks. The brethren hesitated in regard to advising my going to the U. S., on account of the exposure to which I should be subject: especially in returning around Cape Horn. They thought on the whole if my inclinations led me to return direct to the islands, it might be well for me to remain in Canton a few months as an experiment of this climate, and then return to the islands by the East India Squadron.

This investigation has, I trust, been conducted in the fear of God. Certain it is that in submitting my case to the brethren I felt I was pursuing the right way and I was enabled to refer the decision to the Lord. The lot is cast into the lap, but the whole disposal thereof is of the Lord. I was enabled to say, "Brethren, the Lord guide you in your decision and advice." And when they recommended me to remain I felt an entire satisfaction with the decision.

Dr. Parker went out to see the Commodore on the subject

of a passage in the Columbus, and he returned in a very short time with his report. He said he had a friend a very worthy person, to use his own language, who desired to return to the Sandwich Islands; and he wished to know whether a passage could be afforded him in the Columbus.- The Comodore said yes, and there shall be no charge for passage. The vessel will be detained in China and hereabouts for two or three months, in which time she will visit Manila.-

My duty at present is plain to remain here. When I shall be required to go on board I do not know: and whether I shall go in the vessel to Manila I do not know. I trust my course will be made plain.

To a person of my turn of mind a passage in such a vessel is a subject of no very pleasant anticipation. I have as yet seen none of the officers but the Commodore. There are names in the list of officers which I have seen before.

Captain Wyman was probably the same officer that commanded the John Adams which visited the islands in 1839.- Dr. Guillon was at Honolulu in 1840 connected with the Explo. Squadron, D. M. Fairfax is one of the passed Midshipmen - and he was probably at the islands in 1839 - was one of the young men which used to call with Mr. Rheil.

I have in my possession a list of the officers and I intend to make myself ere I go on board as familiar as possible with all the names.

Had a call this day from Cap. Dominis who sails on Wednesday next for the Sandwich Islands.- He said he should have been most willing to afford me a passage in the Swallow, but the

state of the accommodations rendered it absolutely impossible. He has one passenger, who takes some freight and the accommodations allotted to this passenger would be altogether unsuitable for an invalid. It is perfectly obvious that independently of her crowded condition she would be an undesirable vessel for passage to a person out of health.-

This afternoon attended by Dr. Bridgman I visited a Chinese temple. It is one of the most extensive ones in China. The buildings cover an area of more than 10 acres. It was not the time of worship and so we did not behold the priests at their devotions; but we saw many of the Priests and Dr. B. held conversation with several of them and distributed copies of a Tract-an extract from the Epistle to the Romans.- Its site is on the opposite side of the river which is reached by a ferry. Into one of the boats we stepped, and in a minute or two a sufficient number of passenger were on board- for a load- and we were sculled across - each man paying as passage money two cash, which were thrown down in the bottom of the boat. As 1200 cash make a dollar a boat must carry 600 passengers to make a dollar per day: but there is a constant plying backward & forward, and the distance is short - The boat is manned by one man^{ly} only.- The houses on the other side of the river are not so high and not so large as on the side where the factories are. The streets however are narrow and thronged and one must ponder well the path of his feet if he would get along without running against somebody. Dr. Bridgman having brought a handful of Tracts distributed here and there one to the passers. He had only to stop and offer them to find a multitude ready to receive them. He had before crossing

the river given out a dozen or more copies of one of the Evangelists this was at the door where the books were kept in an ally not far from Mr. B's house.- The people seemed eager to receive the book. There is no difficulty in giving away thousands of copies of the Gospels or of any book the mission have to distribute - The question is are such books read - Dr. B. says they are. If so, the distribution of books is of itself a very important work. One's eyes affect his heart on such an excursion. There is an overwhelming population;- you cannot step into the streets without being pressed on every hand the ways are like an ever-flowing stream.- On the river of Canton it is said there are 80,000 boats - eighty thousand boats on the river connected with the Canton population.--it is almost incredible !- Both land and water teem with inhabitants.- What a field this for missionary labor.- I inquired what kind of treatment a missionary received from the populace - "Every kind," I was informed- sometimes insolent and sometimes decent.

Foreigners are called in the way of reproach Fanqui- the meaning of which is Foreign Devil.- Mr. B. is sometimes called - the Story telling devil this is because he preaches and addresses the people. The cousin of Dr. B. was out in another direction this afternoon and he received very severe handling from the people. He was out on the Western side of the city and not very far from the wall. By mistake he happened to get within one of the gates and was immediately shoved out and pursued, some of the boys sending stones at him. It was by mistake that he got into the city, having lost his way, and it was well he got off without a broken head.- A sort of hue and cry was raised of "Kill the devil".

This Mr. B. said did not sound very pleasant to his ears- and surely it was less pleasant to feel the stones upon the back and head: and to defend his head he was obliged to pull down his hat over his eyes. It was not because of his missionary character, however, that he was thus assailed, but on account of having wandered too far from home and excited the fear that he was intending to get into the city.

The populace are now exceedingly jealous of foreigners, and those who reside in and near the city are on the look out to drive every foreigner away.- The people of Canton have always been very insolent to foreigners, and what they experienced a few years ago was not sufficient to tame them.

To return to the Temple which I visited- I wish I possessed the power of description - but as I do not I must deal in general. The area in which the principle buildings stand is surrounded by a wall- against which are the cells of the priests- or devotees of the temple.- I noticed three buildings of one peculiar structure - occupying the centre of the area- the structure very much resembling what I have often seen on Chinese crockery ware. Standing ^[sic] one in front of the other. Between each is a pretty wide space occupied by banyan trees - a paved walk passing from the entrance to the first building to which you have easy access by a few stone steps and a wide platform. From the first building to the second is a similar walk and so from the second to the third: and in each yard in a space on each hand of the pavement grows a stately banyan tree - making six trees in the three courts besides a row of the same kind of trees against the portions of the wall not occupied with buildings or lodges for the devotees:- The trees or at least some of them are truly majestic, and cast a very pleasant shade-

indeed the branches in a great measure interlock and overshadow the entire space - or to say the least- a great part of it.- It must be a very refreshing retreat in a hot day. The boughs too are the lodging place of many birds, the form and plumage of which I did not get a very full and satisfactory view of. I saw however one large whitish bird which I took to be a stork - calling to mind that the stork is a sacred bird in China.- One might almost envy the birds their habitation - probably they are defended from sacrilegious hands that would destroy their life.- I wanted much longer time to linger within the walls and to wander through the buildings: but I suppose people are not allowed to stay very long.- Now as to what I saw within. The first image which I saw was not less than twelve feet in height a ^[sic] hideous looking creature in human form with a head as big as a hog's head and eyes standing out glaring furiously. One of these ^[sic] hideous creatures occupied a recess on each hand of the entrance. I saw no less than six of the same kind of figures occupying different situations within the enclosure, all however, within buildings.

The building which occupied the central position seemed to be the principal house of gods as in this I noticed eight large images occupying a platform on the west side and as many more on the side opposite - and in the body of the room were two of a monstrous size much like those that I have mentioned as standing in a recess at the entrance.

The house was rather dark, but it was lighted with wax candles- which reminded me of Catholic worship- Indeed the habits and cells of the priests brought strongly to my mind the monastic system of the Church of Rome, or at least what I have

read of that system. Here we saw a Chinese lady who we supposed had come to worship. She was low in stature - with little feet and dressed in ornamental style. There was also another female in dark garments - which I supposed might be an inmate of the temple - perhaps a heathen Ana. O that she might gain the knowledge of the true God. The priests were dressed in long loose garments of a dark color - most of them appeared to be persons advanced in years - I think all who I saw had their heads shaved, not having the cue like the Chinese in general. ¶ My feelings while walking the area and through the buildings with the ensigns of idolatry before me were indiscribable.- O when shall light dawn upon this darkness- "The gods that have not made the earth and the heavens shall perish from off the earth and from under these heavens."- I could pray from the heart O, hasten this time, glorious Jehovah, who hast so long been insulted by the idolatry of the heathen.- The trees and the birds that sing in the branches will rise up in judgment against man, who, made in the image of God and indued with reason and understanding, yet bows down to an image of his own hands^[sic] making.

This has been a day of no ordinary interest to me. What effect its incidents may have on my future life I know not. I have decided to remain some time longer in China & when I go home to take passage in a ship of war, where many eyes will be on me. I often inquire Why is it that I have been brought to this part of the world? Why is it that I have been called thus to wander from home - from my appropriate field of labor and to pass so much time in apparently doing nothing? It is my prayer that the Lord would use my poor services to his glory. Amen.

Canton, Sabbath, Feby. 22, 1846.

At 11 o'clock an English service was conducted at the residence of Dr. Parker - at which I attended in company with Dr. & Mrs. Bridgman and Mr. James Bridgman. The congregation amounted to about 20 persons- perhaps a few more- the services being performed by Dr. Parker- the first part of them being in the Episcopal form.- His sermon was scriptural and sound and his extempore prayer was good and edifying. I understand that the Clerical brethren take turns in conducting the services.

In the afternoon I went to the Hospital, where a service is conducted in Chinese, sometimes to a congregation of 50 or 60. The number was less than 50 this afternoon. Dr. Bridgman read and expounded from the New Testament, after he had closed his address- a Chinese continued the service by reading a hymn which was sung to the tune of Ortonville and then expatiated from a passage in the Testament, the import of which I did not learn.- After the services Dr. Bridgman distributed a tract containing one of the Gospels.

In going to and from meeting we witnessed the same bustle & attention to business which is witnessed on all other days. This of course would be readily supposed to be the case, so far as the heathen population is concerned: but one would hope better things of those who have received their birth and education in Christian lands: but I was pained to learn that there is little regard paid to the Sabbath on the part of the merchants - that they conduct business on the Sabbath much as on other days.- A sad example this before the heathen, and a great reproach to the Christian name.- Alas! so would it be in lands nominally Christian - and

~~and~~ so would people of the world be glad to have it every where. They would do their own work and find their own pleasure regardless of the command of God- to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." - May my children be of another mind- may they reverence God's authority and yield cheerful obedience to his commandments.

This evening a prayer meeting was conducted at the house of Dr. Bridgman. It was attended by a few of the good people. This is the first meeting, and it is to be continued. These meetings it is to be hoped will have a good effect upon the personal piety of those that attend.

I took cold on my passage from Hong Kong and have had some cough; but have not been laid up by it. Dr. Parker has furnished me with some cough drops, and I hope to find myself improving very soon. I have had no appearance of blood in my expectoration since I arrived - none since the slight appearance on Wednesday last.

Canton, Monday Feby 23, 1846.

I am as well today as usual, and I am preparing to send this little memorandum for the islands. Cap. Dominis said he would call on Tuesday and take my letters.

Have an invitation to tea this evening at Dr. Ball's. --

I am now returned having had a very pleasant interview. I met the family consisting of Dr. Ball & daughter a very pretty young lady of the age of 16 or a little more - Mrs. Marshall & Miss Robertson Scotch ladies - sisters- the latter to be married it is said to Dr. Ball.- The other daughter of Dr. B. was not at home.- I saw also the Sandwich Island female which Mr. Williams

gave us an account of as being with her father & 6 others picked
up at sea.-