

[Book 4 Voyage to China and the U. S. A.  
1845-46 Continued ]  
[Feb. 24-Mar. 20, 1846]

Canton, Tuesday Feby 24th, 1846.

Have raised a little blood to day and felt more than usual uneasiness in my side. For the last week the pain in my side has been more frequent and more of an accute nature than formerly.

Have closed a package to send to the islands by the hand of Cap. Dominis, who having called I have this moment delivered it. He has also kindly offered to take any little package which I may have to send. I understand there is to be a wedding shortly- Dr. Ball is to be united to Miss Robertson.

Canton, Wednesday, Feby 25, 1846.

I retired at an early hour last night, having the night before sat up late to get my communications for home in a state of readiness not being certain they would not be called for in the morning. Doubtless I exerted myself too much for I felt very much fatigued when I retired and did not rest well after going to bed. My rest last night was comfortable, but notwithstanding I find that my expectoration this morning is tinged with blood. If I were able I would attend to the request of Mr. Diamonds and try to find some rice paintings and rice paper he has asked for & send them by Cap. Dominis. - Did not succeed, and sent nothing.-

Canton, Thursday Feby 26/46.

Dr. Parker having called to day made kind inquiries respecting my health, and being informed of my having the two days past expectorated some bloody matter from my lungs, he said he would prepare me some pills to take on such occasions; which he

aid, and sent them to the house.

The wedding of Dr. Ball in being united in marriage to Miss Robertson took place this evening. Miss R. is a Scotch lady-nineteen years younger I understand than Dr. B. She is the sister of a Mrs. Marshall resident in Canton both of whom have for some time been living in Dr. Ball's family.

At 6 o'clock Dr. and Mrs. Bridgman, Mr. J. Bridgman & myself proceeded to the house of Dr. Ball, where various guests had assembled together with an Episcopal Clergyman the Rev. Mr. Steadman, the military Chaplain of the troops at Hong Kong who had been sent for for the occasion. As the bride and bridegroom were of two nations it was arranged that the marriage ceremony should be performed first by the American Consul at his residence and afterwards by the Chaplain at the English Consulate. At a quarter before 7 o'clock the company proceeded to the house of Mr. Forbes the American Consul, the ladies being conveyed in chairs. We assembled in a large room on the second floor. A number of persons were present besides those belonging to the missionary fraternity. these being besides Dr. Bridgman's family and the family of Dr. Ball, Dr. & Mrs. Parker, Dr. & Mrs. Devan (the wife of Dr. D. is a daughter of my old friend David Hale) and Mr. Roberts, the two latter are Baptists.- Commodore Biddle was one of the other number. to whom together with the Consul I had the honor of being introduced. The Consul is a noble looking man, his lady & two children were present these having recently arrived from the U. S. in the ship Paul Jones, Captain Watkins who with his lady were also of the company- Mr. Spooner also who is soon to take passage in that vessel for the U. S.

All things being ready the persons to be married took their positions - Dr. Bridgman standing for bride's man and the eldest daughter of Dr. Ball for bride's maid, while the Consul in an appropriate manner performed the marriage ceremony. Dr. Parker offering the prayer of the occasion.

From the American Consulate we proceeded to that of the English Consulate which is situated on the other side of the river, ~~X~~ -- I am mistaken, it is on the same side of the river but it was more convenient to go by water.-- having two boats in attendance belonging to the Am. Consul, we took our seats and were shortly on the side of the river near the Consulate to which we repaired. Here the marriage was performed by Mr. Steadman according to Episcopal form in the presence of the Consul of Great Britain. The ceremony being completed we returned as we had come, and the invited guests, consisting of the Clergyman and the missionaries, repaired to the house of Dr. Ball, where an entertainment was provided. At the closed <sup>[sic]</sup> of the interview the Scriptures were read, a hymn sung and a prayer by Dr. Devan offered up.

The atmosphere was quite cold and I found it necessary to wrap myself in my surtout & cloke. I was also considerably fatigued having to walk a longer distance than I had expected when I accepted the invitation. But I shall not regret being present, if I experience no ill effects from the exertion and exposure.

Canton, Friday Feby. 27, 1845.

The atmosphere continues cold, and some rain has fallen. A festival of the god of the hearth or house hold god has been observed by the Chinese today. An unusual din of crackers has assailed our ears, the noise commenced early in the morning

which was quite an interruption to my quiet and at intervals it has continued through the day. The drums of the watchman too were quite annoying in the night my mind having been rather excited by the scenes of last evening and my rest was disturbed.

This has been a cold raw day.

Canton, Saturday, Feby. 28th 1846.

The cold continues- or rather it seems<sup>s</sup> cold to me, though the thermometer in the house has not stood lower than 58° - The wind is from the northward and is attended with rain. The sun has scarcely appeared for the last three days; which makes things to me wear a gloomy aspect. I have a feeling like being out of my proper place; but on reflection I do not find any reason to reproach myself for being where I am. Had my own inclinations been consulted I should not have been here; indeed could I have had my own will I should not have been sick, and of course the necessity for leaving home would not have existed.

Canton, Sabbath, March 1st 1846.  
(2d Sab. at C.)

The clouds have passed away and the sun<sup>[sun]</sup> shines brightly, giving a cheerful and pleasant appearance to the face of nature- the thermometer standing at about 59° in the morn<sup>g</sup>. & 62° at noon.

The sound of the mechanic's hammer & the din of business assure us that we are in the midst of a people that do not know and fear not God neither regard his commands. The great mass do not know that God requires the observance of one seventh of our time for religious purpose and those who have heard of the command regard it not. When will it be otherwise ?.

At the usual hour we attended an English service at the house of Dr. Parker, the same as last Sabbath. Dr. Bridgman

conducted the worship, but without reading any part of the Episcopal service. He read a very interesting sermon from the National Preacher by the Rev. Seth Mason. The subject- Joseph in Egypt- his integrity & prosperity. An example for youth who go to foreign lands to maintain their integrity to be faithful in the discharge of all their duties and to put their trust in the Lord.

God granted Jacob more than he expected. When he heard that his son was alive he said, - "I will go and see him before I die." - And when he had seen him he said, "Now let me die, since I have seen thy face, because thou art yet alive": Notwithstanding this readiness of the patriarch to depart, God graciously prolonged his life seventeen years to witness his son's prosperity & glory and to arrange the affairs of his family. When the time drew near that he should die and Joseph came to see him attended by his two sons, he said, "I had not thot. to see thy face, and lo, God hath showed me also thy seed." -

The Lord spare me also: Amen.

I walked to the house of Dr. Ball, with a view to impart religious instruction to the Sandwich Island female resident in his family: but as I found none of the family at home I returned.

In the evening the members of the different families and a few others met at this house for a prayer meeting. The services were conducted by Dr. Parker and were adapted to the monthly concert, it being the practice here probably to hold the concert of prayer on the evening preceeding the 1st Monday of the month.

Canton, Monday, March 2nd 1846.

As the Paul Jones is about to sail for the U. S. I have

written a letter to day to Mr. Hill, with a view to send by her. #  
 Note March 9<sup>th</sup>. My letter referred to on the next page [there] was this day sent to a vessel to  
 (See insert under date March 9<sup>th</sup> L.C. used a blank at bottom of  
 his page under date March 1<sup>st</sup>.)  
 tomorrow morning. All communications leave at 1 o'clock P.M.

It cost me an effort to write and probably to spend much time at my desk is injurious. But I do not feel reconciled to lay aside entirely the use of the pen. I am sorry however to find that my letter failed of going by the Paul Jones, the boat conveying the last communications having left for Whampoa, before my letter was sent to the store of the Agents.

It is rainy again to day and the weather is cold & uncomfortable.

Canton, Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1846.

The weather continues rainy, cold and uncomfortable, and I feel very little animation. I have set by the stove in Dr. Bridgman's study most of the day. Read a proof sheet of the Chinese Repository containing an article on the "Oregon Territory by the Rev. Mr. Hines. Have raised some blood and ate no dinner.

In the evening Mr. Morse of the house of Oliphant & Co. called in, and talked about New York &c. News has also been recently rec<sup>d</sup>. from the U. S. and intelligence comm<sup>ate</sup> of Mr. S. W. Williams' arrival.

Canton, Wednesday, March 4 1846.

The cold continues but the rain has held up.

A party goes from Canton to visit the U. S. Ship Columbus- All the Missionary ladies are of the party. I should say were invited, but only Dr. & Mrs. Parker & Dr. & Mrs. Bridgman accepted and went. As the vessel lies at the Bogue some 30 miles & more down the river (40 miles is the distance) they will not probably get back to night.

I addressed a note to Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Wetmore & Co. requesting

them to allow one of their boats to bring up the remainder of my baggage from the Wissahickon: I also dropped a note to Cap. Webber requesting him to deliver the same. In the afternoon I called at the house of Dr. Ball and had an opportunity of conversing with Mahiai the Sandwich Island female now under his care. She gave me an account of the manner of being blown off from the Sandwich Isl<sup>ds</sup>. She and six others, all the rest men, left Oahu in a whale boat for Molokai. On their way they fell in with a whaling ship, which they boarded, - the ship was on her way from Maui to Oahu. After stopping awhile they left again to proceed on their way - the woman became sick & vomited - Kahui a chh. member of Hanalei, Kauai, had the charge of the boat. They expected to see Molokai next morning: but when morning came no land was in sight, which produced great perplexity, Kahui proposed to pray. She says they had been seven days at sea when taken up by the Hopewell and were in a suffering condition.

I fancy their falling in with the whaling ship was of serious disadvantage to them; as they must have been detained ~~and~~ and carried out of their way.

Mrs. Marshall goes tomorrow in the Steamer to Hong Kong to take care of the School heretofore under the care of Mr. Gillespie - She will be accompanied from here by the Rev. Mr. Steedman. Her baggage was about being removed at the time of my going to Dr. Ball's.

I have not felt very well this afternoon. I have had a chilliness and a swimming in the head and a little tendency to fever. I therefore retired early to rest, and had a bottle of hot water provided for my feet.

Canton, Thursday March 5/46.

Though I retired early to bed last night and was very comfortable in respect to warmth, yet I did not get very refreshing sleep, I seemed to hear every blow of the watchmen as they began with one and went up to five in the morning watch. I feared I should be sick to day, but I arose about the usual time and am this day no worse than I was yesterday for which I desire to feel thankfulness.

Dr. & Mrs. B. returned from their excursion to the Bogue, which proved to be an agreeable one.- They arrived at the Columbus at about 5 P. M. and they left at about 10 o'clock: thus they were out all night in the fast boat, and had rather a poor night's rest: but they felt themselves well repaid for this little inconvenience from having had a <sup>(an)</sup> opportunity of seeing the noble vessel, through all parts of which they were conducted. It seems that Mrs. Bridgman and Mrs. Parker were the only ladies of the party.

The Columbus sails for Hong Kong: afterwards for Manila and then returns here again. Com. Biddle only goes to Hong Kong & returns here & will hoist his broad pendent on board the Vincennes

Monday, March 9th 1846.

~~(The following note on March 9th refers to item on pages 5 and 6 viz: # My letter referred to on the next page was this day sent to a vessel to sail tomorrow morning. - All communications leave at 10 o'clock P. M.)~~

On Friday & Saturday I was confined to my bed in consequence of the cold which had been giving me trouble the two days previous. It was attended with some fever and a severe pain in the head, also pain in the limbs - swimming of the head- trembling



and occasional chills. Dr. Parker gave me a dose of aperient medicine and dover's powders at night, (this was on Friday); which gave me relief. I had an unusual feeling of heaviness as though a great weight was upon my body. My mind too was under pressure though I endeavored to cast my care upon God, who I well knew was perfectly acquainted with all my state.

I have been within the last three or four days severely affected with incubus, and it was found unusually difficult to arouse me, Indeed I do not recollect ever to have been in a state from which it was so difficult to gain relief. On the afternoon of Saturday Mrs. Bridgman came into my room and perceiving that I was in distress she endeavored to awake me, she made quite an effort but without effect and then called her husband, who by using more strength succeeded in arousing me. During this time I had an indistinct idea of what was going on and began to apprehend there was something serious in my situation and thought that perhaps death might be approaching, and it became me to prepare to leave this world. In the night I was in the same state again, with the exception that I heard terrifying noises and imagined frightful sights, and at last seemed about to be overwhelmed beneath a mass of substance with which the walls of the place, in which I seemed to be, had been thickly embedded and which was just caving in & left me no hope of escape. Just at the moment when all seemed to be lost I awoke and I obtained grateful relief and felt disposed to praise the Lord that it was nothing more than a dream. I was however in real distress and no doubt gave indications of it; for the next night being very much in the same state of distress Mr Bridgman (cousin to Dr. B.) came into my room and not with-

out a good deal of difficulty succeeded in awaking me. The Lord be praised that my sleep was not the sleep of death.

Dr. Parker visited me several times and has shown himself very kind and attentive. Mrs. Bridgman has exhibited all the kindness and solicitude of a sister, leaving nothing undone or said calculated to comfort the mind and relieve the body. The Lord reward her. I have been much troubled with cold feet: From the time of my arrival in the China sea I have suffered from this one thing more perhaps than from <sup>e</sup>every thing else of a simple bodily kind. I have had to wrap my feet in my flannel drawers, and there have been nights when I have been kept awake hours from my utter inability to impart warmth to the lower extremities. I have had to draw up my feet and press them to other parts of the body, also to hold first one foot and then the other in my hand to communicate warmth to them: and thus hardly have I succeeded. As soon as Mrs. Bridgman learned what I endure from cold feet she recommended bottles of warm water to be placed at the feet at night and ordered the servant to provide them: and during this time of cold I have experienced much relief from this remedy; which has proved effectual at night.

I have had very little cough since this cold came on, and have raised no blood. The Lord seems to temper afflictions to my condition: He does not lay more upon me than I am able to bear. When hemorrhage prevails then something else is withdrawn, and when no appearances of hemorrhage disturb me, then something else is sent to keep up fear. This is all as it should be- and perhaps it may be in answer to prayer; for I have prayed the Lord that he would drive foolishness <sup>far from</sup> out of, ~~far from~~ me: that he would

not withhold his hand while iniquity holds sway within. It is not matter of astonishment that I who am so unholy should be afflicted; but it is matter of astonishment that I should hold out in rebellion so long, that blow upon blow should be inflicted to take away sin, and yet like a stubborn son I refuse to yield to the chastisement of a father. Sometimes I am disposed to say with Job: (Job. <sup>VII.</sup> VIII. 20, 21) "I have sinned; What shall I do unto thee, O thou preserver of men? why hast thou set me as a mark against thee, so that I am a burden to myself? And why dost thou not pardon my transgression and take away mine iniquity?"

Unbelief is probably the ruling sin in my heart. Unbelief and pride must be soul destroying sins. These are OLD sins; they are mighty sins: like the strong man armed they keep the palace. It ever has and ever shall be my prayer that the armour of this strong man may be taken from him, that his arms may be broken and that he may be bereft of all his power, all his strength—all his ability and spoiled and sent headlong to his own place. Thus the captive shall be delivered and songs of praises fill his lips.

On Sabbath I arose after breakfast and sat up all day. I reclined in the early part of the evening and arose to be present at the evening prayer meeting; which commenced at 8 o'clock and was conducted by Mr. James Bridgman. There were only a few strangers present. Dr. Happer, of the Presbyterian Board, from Macao, preached in the morning at the house of Dr. Parker, He took dinner with us this day (Monday)

Some months ago a robbery was made at this house of a considerable amount of silver most of it the property of Mr. S. W.

Williams. The thief was a domestic in the house he was soon however detected and the theft proved; but the property was not recovered. It had been pawned, and redeemed by an accomplice from the Pawn Broker. The affair has been for nearly six months in the hands of the magistrates: it having at length become necessary that the matter should be adjusted as the magistrate goes out of office, the thing has undergone a thorough investigation and the Mandarin in order to have the business settled so far as the owner of the property is concerned, has become responsible to pay the value of the silver, amounting to 52 taels (a tael being \$1 1/3) - though this sum does not make good the loss, as there was a table cloth of value stolen; yet the brethren thought it would be better to take up with the worth of the silver - as such - than to exact what was its real worth to the owners, the pay coming as it does in the first instance from the Mandarin. .

It is however believed that the thief will undergo further examination, and that torture will be inflicted to make him disclose his accomplice; and that the accomplice which is thought to be some rich compradore will be pretty thoroughly squeezed- i.e. in plain English - he will be made to pay the Mandarines a pretty heavy sum- which will probably be his only alternative to get off without being thoroughly exposed and punished - These Mandarines know how to do the business- They would not become responsible for the value of stolen property if they had not some good reason to expect to be repaid. In this case however the magistrates have been dilatory; and by delaying they lost the prospect <sup>[of]</sup> recovering the identical articles stolen. Whereas had they prosecuted the subject with vigor at the time the complaint was lodged with

them and while the thing was fresh there is little doubt that the articles would have been recovered.

I have referred to Mr. Williams. Dr. Bridgman has recently obtained the information of his arrival in the U. S. but knows nothing of the time when he will return. He hopes however he will be here by the time this year closes. He went home by the overland rout & visited Egypt- Palestine & Europe, not however at the expense of the Board. --

Canton, Tuesday, March loth 1846.

The weather is quite mild today- the thermometer is 66° and seems to be rising. I ascended to the top of the house. It was only to step up a flight of stairs ascending from the entry next to our <sup>[sic]</sup> sitting room; for we live in the upper story of the building, and I was upon the roof- a flight of tile steps reaching from the skylight near the eaves to the ridge where is a narrow platform of tiling and three courses of steps on the other side of the roof, affording a place to stand or sit, a frame work being erected for security on the side of the scuttle. Standing on the roof of the house which is about as elevated as any to be seen around, I was able to overlook the whole place. There is scarcely nothing to be seen, except in the distance, that is at all engaging to the eye. The roofs to the houses present the same dark and monotonous aspect of tile blackened by the weather- little chimnies <sup>[sic]</sup> and frame work in all directions for hanging out clothes and articles to dry. I saw articles hanging from high racks probably pieces of silk or cottons which had been recently died. A number of these high racks or frames were in sight and the articles hung to dry were of different colors - I saw some of

light blue: probably they are connected with manufactories- or dying establishments. The extent of buildings is very great- and within the compass of the city nothing is seen but roofs or at least very little else. Where the city walls commence I could not tell, and where the streets are it is equally difficult to point out.

I found it pleasant and a refreshment to my spirits after being for two or three weeks shut up to get a sight beyond the range of the windows of my room. It is my own fault that I have not enjoyed the prospect before. I had but to ascend to the top of the house.

To the east we have the prospect of hills, and the trees beyond the range of the buildings are pleasant objects for the eyes to rest upon. And trees here and there are to be seen giving some variety to the prospect, which without it would be almost without interest.

In the evening the family visited at the house of Dr. Parker an entertainment having been prepared as a kind of marriage celebration to honor the nuptials of Dr. Ball. Though evening it was dinner, as the genteel hour of dining is six or half after six o'clock. The entertainment was well served, and the number of course was ample. The guests were Dr & Mrs. Bridgman, Mr. J. G. Bridgman, L. Chamberlain, Dr. & Mrs. Ball and two daughters, Dr. Devan and lady, Mr. Roberts, Dr. Happer- There was quite as much gayety as I should regard consistent with missionary gravity; but as it was a marriage feast a little pleasantry might be justifiable.

After dinner the party adjourned to the roof of the house-

an elevated position overlooking the promenade - a pleasant walk in front of the foreign factories - and from which also an extensive prospect of the river and the suburbs of Canton is enjoyed. We lacked the beautiful light of the moon experienced at the islands through the transparent atmosphere of those more favored regions. We had but a feeble light- the sky being overcast & the atmosphere thick and hazy.

Our interview was closed with reading a Chapter in the Bible singing and prayer. Dr. Happer lead<sup>[sic]</sup>, and I was invited to make the closing prayer, which I offered up.

I have been invited to take my turn in leading the social meetings: but I have not felt it my duty to consent, as my lungs continue to be weak and I have cast myself upon the Providence of God for recovery, I therefore think it incumbent upon me to use the utmost caution in regard to every thing that would stand in the way of my recovery.

Canton, Thursday, Mar. 12 1846.

Called upon Mr. Kinsman, who is of the house Wetmore & Co., and presented a letter from Commissioner Brown given me on leaving the islands. Afterwards I walked in the Public Square or promenade in front of the factories. On the side next the factories a high wall separates it from the thoroughfare- towards the sea there is simply a pallisade<sup>[sic]</sup> - the other two sides have high walls. The ground is laid out in walks - circular square and in the form of parallelograms- the walks are wide and compact as granite, the work does not seem to be entirely finished - the part towards the sea needs to be completed in the walks and the planting of trees.

In my walk out I fell in with Mr. Toby and he informs me

that he is thinking of chartering the Brig Wissahickon to go to the islands; but it is not certain that he will succeed as others have made application for the vessel. The Captain also is desirous to go to the U. States.

Friday, (Canton,) March 13, 1846.

Dined at Dr. Ball's- Before dinner walked out <sup>[with]</sup> Dr. & Mrs. Ball and his two daughters into New China Street with a view to make some purchases. Whenever we entered a shop, the door was immediately closed upon us to shut us from the observation of the crowd, as the ladies attracted attention and a throng of gazers immediately collected about the door. We entered a half dozen or more stores in pursuit of the articles we desired to purchase & every shop-man closed his doors as we entered. Our purchases however were but few. The practice of asking a high price with a view to abate is very general: so that the asking price is no criterion of the worth of the article. There was however one honorable exception to this dishonest and very unpleasant practice. One of the shop-keepers I was assured could be depended on as to the price of his goods; and I made a purchase of two shawls at a satisfactory price without asking for an abatement. The shops seemed well supplied with goods and the <sup>[sic]</sup> keeps were polite & obliging. We did not feel it necessary that we should make purchases because we looked at the goods and gave some trouble to the shop keepers. I saw many fine things, particularly in the lackered-ware Stores, which I should have been pleased to possess; but it was necessary to restrain desire, not only for conscience sake and want of means; but for want of opportunity to forward purchases to the islands.

I spent most of the day at Dr. B.s and towards evening I



went out with the family for an excursion of a few miles upon the river. A pleasant covered boat was hired at the expense of 25 cents, managed by two men one in the bows and the other in the stern. After having been rowed or rather skulled & rowed the distance perhaps of two miles among a multitude of craft moving in various directions, we landed at a place not thronged with inhabitants & made the circuit of a large pond or excavation something [like?] a kalo patch at the islands and not more sightly or agreeable. It is probably used for the growing of rice, tho. there was no evidence of its having been recently worked. On one side of the bank that bordering on the river- was a row of stunted peach trees, having the young fruit hanging on the branches.

Canton Tuesday, March 17th 1846.

On Saturday morning I had a turn of bleeding from the lungs- the quantity raised being greater than I have raised at any time since I have been in China. I sent for Dr. Parker who provided medicine, told me to keep my chest in a elevated position by raising my head with pillows, and to keep as still as possible. He also prescribed a blister to be put upon my left breast; which was applied Sabbath evening, with desirable effect.

These frequent occurrences of bleeding are very discouraging, and I am lead to inquire what the Lord would have me do. I understand Mr. Tobey has not succeeded in obtaining the vessel for the islands which he had in mind, and it is doubtful whether he obtains a vessel which will afford accommodations for me. From what I can learn too respecting the destination of the Columbus it is doubtful whether it is my duty to depend on her as a conveyance to the islands, it being stated also that she may not reach the islands before January. How many months I might be required to be

on board and in what circumstances I do not know. Accommodations in a ship of war at best would not be pleasant to me: my temper of mind would not make a berth in such a vessel congenial. It is now a query whether I ought not to reconsider the point of going to the United States, and to settle the point as soon as possible in order to avail myself of some vessel soon to go; as the season will shortly be over, and even now I should be brought to midsummer before I could reach the U. S. Dr. Parker thinks favorably of a reconsideration of the subject says there have come to his knowledge facts respecting the Columbus which he did not know of when I asked his advice before; and he does not think so favorably of the opportunity as he did, though he has no doubt the Commodore would be disposed to make me comfortable and I should have excellent medical advice. He advises me to keep my mind quiet and kindly assures me he will prayerful look at the subject, and give me his mature advice in regard to my course. He says there are two vessels to sail for the U. S. in the course of a fortnight and he will make inquiries in regard to passage.

I feel that in reconsidering my case I am approaching a point of great importance to myself and to my family, but still I feel that nothing will be lost by enquiring for the path of duty. If I am in it, I shall be sustained by the conviction of being in the right way; and if I have to take another path how much soever I may feel disappointment at the change, I shall have the assurance that the path of duty is the path of safety. I would therefore commit my way to the Lord that he may direct my steps.

Canton, Thursday, March 19, 1846.

Dr. Parker has given me his answer in regard to the subject which I referred to his advice, viz. Whether in my present

state of health and prospects of a return to the islands he would advise my waiting here for the Columbus or some other opportunity or advise a passage to the U. S. by some of the vessels bound thither. He says he has considered my case carefully and prayerfully and conferred with Dr. Bridgman, and he is prepared to advise me to seek a passage to the U. S. - In regard to my prospects for life he says this. It is impossible to say what will be the termination of the disorder; it may take a turn to carry me off soon and I may live ten years. He thinks I shall continue to bleed occasionally from the lunga as long as I live; and shall need to exercise great caution. He recommends as medical advice that I ~~xxxix~~ <sup>should</sup> be prosecuting a voyage now with as little delay as possible.- He seems to be quite in favor on the whole that I take the direction of the U. States: and this as medical advice.

And now I would say, "Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I left up my soul unto thee."

Canton, Friday, March 20th 1846.

Before coming to an absolute decision in regard to a voyage to the U. S. I had felt it desirable to know the prospects of Mr. Tobey: His agents having informed Dr. Parker that there is no prospect for Mr. T. s. <sup>[obtaining a vessel?]</sup> <sub>(sic)</sub> to the islands at present, and his advice (i.e. Dr. P.s) being that I dismiss all thought in regard to his plans, I have come to the conclusion to take passage to New York in the Ship Lucas, Cap. Miller to sail early in April. The accommodations of the Lucas are precisely like those of the Congaree: and the Captain is accompanied by his wife - price <sup>for</sup> of passage \$300.-