

Letters from other correspondents

Publication/Creation

1843-1868

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Victoria, Hong Kong

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September 7th 1843

My dear Aunt Morrison,

It is a long time since I addressed you by letter, & I pretend to make no excuse for my neglect. During my overland trip through the provinces of Che Kiang, Kiang Se, & Canton, performed in the months of July & August this year, I drew up a draft of an epistle for you, but have been unable to fill it up, nor is it my object now to do so.

In writing the present sheet, my dear Aunt, there is a sad, a painful, a dire necessity upon me. Dear Crofton is himself not strong enough to do the subject justice, - and the subject is itself too mournful & tender for him at present to touch upon. He has, therefore, requested me to open it up to you, and in doing so to pour into your wounded heart the oil of comfort & the balm of sympathy.

Already you must surmise, from my dilatoriness in getting to the point, - that it is one which will touch you & touch you sorely. But while you feel it - while you smart under it, may the Physician of your soul look with an eye of tenderness & concern & prescribe for you those consolations that fail not - "the oil of joy for mourning & the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."

Our beloved John has entered into his rest, & as for myself, I have had to adopt the lamentation of David over his sworn brother "Thou Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high places. I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonder-

-ful, passing the love of women". The sad event took place at Macao on the morning of the 29th of August - at a little after seven o'clock.

On the 20th of August which was the Lord's day - a goodly company of us went to the Baptist Chapel to hear Mr. McDermott preach. The distance was great & the heat of the sun was very great. However we contrived to go & return with some degree of comfort. John was with us. We reached the Morrison Hill about one o'clock & shortly after sat down to dinner. Our family party with Mr & Mrs Brown at its head, was not small, & what a group of joyful countenances! The angels must have looked down with complacency & carried back the news to the sainters in Heaven, "Behold how these brethren dwell together in unity!" (Here were John, & Crofton, - the Browns, - the entire family of McDermotts, - and myself, - all seated round.)

But while we were in the act of taking our meal, John was seized with a sudden & severe chill - which was followed by a burning fever that lasted for some time. At length he was relieved by a profuse perspiration. - He, however, seemed very much weakened, and although he occasionally walked about & attended to those calls of duty which were made upon him during the rest of this day & during the following three days, he appeared to get weaker & weaker. - As he wished to be in quiet & to be removed from the bustle & annoyances of a public office until he should shake off the fever that hung about him, & regain his strength - he determined to stay for a few days at Mr Brown's, especially as there he had with him some of his best friends & kindred. Crofton & myself being under the

same roof too, of course had much opportunity of seeing & conversing with him. But no alarm was excited either in his own mind or in the mind of any of his friends regarding his case, until the night of the 34th, which was to me one of no small anxiety. He had retired to rest earlier than usual, but was soon roused by violent sickness, which increased during the night & did not leave him until it brought him next morning entirely under the influence of a high fever. - It was then that alarm was taken & the most prompt & decisive measures were adopted, by Drs Young & Moosman, to check the progress of the disease. His temples were freely bled & his head shaded. Other means were also used, and - in the afternoon of the same day - he seemed to have benefitted much from the treatment under which he had been laid. But as his medical advisers deemed it essential that he should as early as possible have the benefit of a change, Sir Henry Pottinger at once communicated his wishes to the Admiral, & immediate orders were given that the Steamer "Proserpine" should be in readiness to take John on board at sunset & start for Macao.

Dr Moosman, Sir Henry's Physician & Private Secretary, was appointed to accompany John.

But as Crofton was, on account of delicate health, interdicted going with his beloved brother, & we believed it but a brotherly duty that one whom he knew & loved, should attend upon him - I proposed going. This proposal, however, met with some obstacle, - since our Missionary Meeting or Committee, continued its sittings & would probably prolong

them for some days, & I was most reluctantly compelled to relinquish my idea. But in our mutual friend - Brother I will call him, for we formed a united trio - I found an excellent substitute: and, leaving his family & his usual duties, Mr Brown accompanied our beloved John & attended upon him until death closed his eyes.

The passage across was performed with a degree of comfort to the patient sufferer; and, next morning (Sept 25th) he landed at Macao & was borne in his cot to Dr Anderson's - where, apart from the soothing tendency of old & familiar associations, he met with the advice of a skilful physician & the tenderness & sympathy of a bosom friend.

- Notwithstanding the favorable symptoms that appeared - symptoms of an exceedingly unfavorable character began to manifest themselves, & the most strenuous exertions were made to save - if possible - his valuable life. But the disease was unconquerable - & the most powerful medicines applied in the most powerful doses, were totally unavailing. - The disease was rampant.

During the 27th & 28th he was almost entirely delirious. On the evening of the 28th, while Mr Brown tended upon him - he revived a little & his senses returned. It was evident to himself that his end was near, and he committed his spirit into the hands of his Redeemer, "in whom he had believed." On the morning of the 29th about seven o'clock, he, with his own hands, adjusted his pillows and, raising himself upon them, his

himself down to sleep. He slept - & breathed gently - until
he breathed out his spirit into the hands of G^d that gave
it. — 112

Thus, my dear Aunt, - you will perceive that, however I shrink from the task imposed upon me, I have performed it, & have entered minutely into the painful case. If you should further inquire into the nature of the disease that so rapidly bereft you of one who loved you so tenderly - I cannot say that I am prepared to inform you. It had much the appearance of the Yellow fever - but I suppose Dr. Anderson will speak of it in his letter to you. — During his severe illness - many were the attentions paid him, & many more would have been paid, had the physicians thought it desirable. Mr Brown & Dr. Anderson, with the aid of Dr. Hepburn of the American Board of Presbyterian Missions, and Mr Williams & Mr Charles King (both of whom you know), were constantly by day & by night in attendance on him.

— There were doubtless other causes hidden from human perception, - but I am much inclined to attribute the extreme severity of the disease, to the arduous duties which have fallen upon his shoulders during the past year, - to the incessant stretch on which his active mind was kept by a perpetual routine of business of some kind or other, & in some degree to undue exposure

to the alternations of damp & of excessive heat.

To you, my dear Aunt, & to his dear sisters & brothers the event will be a very painful one. The stroke will fall upon you heavily. But, while you bow to the hand of God, there is no reason that you should sink under it. Great is the encouragement for you, under such trying circumstances, to lift the rod & give thanks to God the Father of his children. It is He has done the deed, & shall not He do all things right? Does not He do all things for the best? Say not "yes" as the unthinking worldling does, who cannot help the matter, & throws himself in his troubles & afflictions on the hope of chance; but say "Even so - Amen" with the confidence of those whose children of God & can commit their entire interests into His hands.

Our dear John "has fallen" "in the high places." His place was one of the highest that men could covet out in this part of our habitable globe. As you will see from the local periodicals, - his loss has been deeply - most deeply felt. His death is a calamity, - a national calamity, - an irreparable national calamity, & no one that sympathizes with the present times of our intercourse with China, can withhold the tear of deep - felt - deep - seated regret. —

And we have a good hope & confidence that he has entered into the glorious rest prepared for the children of God. John was a true - an honest Christian - and, as his letters to his most intimate friends shew, he had much converse with his own heart & with his Saviour. - During the closing days of his life, he ^{held} ~~had~~ conversations with one or another on spiritual things - and the recollections of such conversations afford us great comfort. -

But, my dear Aunt, I must bring my long letter to a conclusion. Before I do so, however - it is only proper I should say something about the interment of his remains. A new grave was opened close to the tombs of his Father & Mother, & under the shelter of the shadowy trees that rise up around them; and, on the evening of the day of his decease, the coffin was borne to the dead-house, to await the arrival of his mourning friends.

As soon as Sir Henry Pottinger (who was at the time in Macao) was apprized of the melancholy event - he immediately despatched the Steamer Proserpine to convey the tidings to the community at Hong Kong, and to give any, who might wish & be able to attend the funeral, the opportunity to do so. - The Steamer came in with her ensign flying half mast high, and, on communicating with the Admiral, His Excellency at once dropped his colours - the signal for the other vessels in the port of Hong Kong to do so. - This mark of honor was paid the deceased.

throughout the whole of the following day, both by land & on water. The effect of the sad intelligence was electric, & every head drooped - for each man felt he himself had lost a friend - a brother, while the nation had lost its most useful & active servant & the world had lost a great benefactor. Next morning the steamer started at an early hour with a party on board. - Crofton & myself were of that party. We reached Macao at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At 6 we moved on to the burial ground, where a large party of foreigners had met. The procession was as follows:

Chaplain

Rev^d. E. C. Bridgman. D.D.

Chief mourners

Crofton and Sir Henry Pottinger
The Honble. J. A. Johnston and Capt. Balfour

Rev. S. R. Browne 2

1. Rev. W. C. Milne

Rev^d. J. C. Parker 4

J. R. Morrison
Aged 29

3. Jⁿ. Anderson

P. Stewart Esq^r

5. A. Matheson Esq^r

English Americans French

Dutch Portuguese Chinese

How solemn the scene was! Every heart melted - & after the service was read, no man thought of moving. All were

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reverted to the spot and absorbed in profound silence, which was broken only by the sound of the grave-digger's shovel and of the falling clods of earth and by the sobs of weeping friends. — But we must part; & we left the sacred spot with great reluctance, knowing that we had there deposited the mouldering remains of one respected, esteemed, beloved. But "the righteous shall live in everlasting remembrance."

My dear Aunt — & my dear Cousins, — accept the sincere expression of my deep-felt sympathy^W you, and believe that I also am one that sorrow over the death of a brother beloved — very much beloved. — "Oh Jonathan, thou wast slain in thy high places. I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women"! —

Crofton is, I hope, getting over the attack of which he has already apprized you; and I trust that the trip to the North, which he is about to take, will build him up. He enjoins upon me to tender to you the love of an affectionate son and to his sisters & brothers the affection of a devoted brother. —

With love to all my Cousins —

Believe me, my dear Aunt —

Yours very affectionately William C. Milne

I have referred Mrs Morton to the contents of this
letter —

Macas, Nov. 8th 1856 ²¹

My dear Mr. Hobson,

I am sure you will
be glad to have a line
from me informing you
of our welfare since we
quitted Canton.

We, that is Mr. Gaillard, Messrs
Hutton, Preston, Graves, and
the four children, came down
here on the 24th ult. after spend-
ing the night of the 23rd on
board the little "Spark"; - no
very commodious lodging place
for so many. On reaching
Macas, after a very rough
passage, we had no place
to go to, but Dr. Hutton went
in search of Mr. Beach.
and in a little while
returned with Messrs Beach
& Macy. Mr. B. thought it

best for us to go to Duddells
Hotel for a night. We did
so, and next day, or rather
night, we moved into a
large house, near Mr. By's,
once occupied by the Span-
ish Consul. Since then
the gentlemen have sought
for a suitable house for
us but in vain, so we
are compelled to remain here.
The agent will not rent
the house to us, but gives
us leave to remain in it.
And really now I have no
wish to move, it is so large
healthy for the children.

We occupy the topmost story,
and there is plenty of room
on the next floor, for several
more of our friends.

Dr. Piracy told me in his letter

that you had gone to Hong
Kong, so I hope you are
safe and comfortable with
your friends at the Mission
House. What we have
lived to see dear Mr. Hob-
son; and in so short a time.
I am sure your heart bleeds
over the miseries of those
poor people among whom
we so recently lived.
How calamitous this war seems!
What a cloud of discouragement
and uncertainty it
casts over our prospects
as missionaries! Tell me how
you feel about it, and
Dr. Hobson. I pray and trust
that our God who ruleth
over all, will make it all
farther his own cause, and

promote his own glory.

Mr. Piercy and Mr. Galliard are still at Lanton; from our last accounts, Dr. P. had secured all his books, and Mr. G's house seemed safe, but the fire which had destroyed French Preston's house was burning towards our house, and perhaps it too is now in ruins.

If so, and nothing else has been saved, it will be a great loss to us, but Dr. P's books are what we prize most, and I am thankful they are saved.

How dear Dr. Wilson, and I am so thankful to be able to tell you, poor little Johnny has improved so much since he came here; he is getting fatter, and his appetite is extra-
agant; his bowels however still give me uneasiness.

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Georgie is very well and
thruves fast. I was thinking
the other day, if he had not
been born till the time I
expected, how much worse
it would have been now
that these troubles are come.

Truly a kind Providence
orders all my circumstances
in wisdom & in tender mercy.
& to profit by these dispensations,
both painful and pleasing.

Dear Dr. Gaillard is better
than could have been ex-
pected after so much excito-
ment and exertion in her
only convalescent state. She
is suffering from diarrhoea
at present. Henry & Sissy do
well.

Saw Jane at Church yesterday
but not to speak to her. Today

I called on her, and on Mrs
Hunter, but Mrs H. was ill
in bed with neuralgia in
her head, and Jane and
Pauline were spending the
day with Mrs Arnson, so I
did not see her.

Dr Graves & Dr Hutton live
with us, and Dr J. Preston
is at Dr Beach's. Dr Thos
L. J. Preston are in Dr Parker's
house.

So let me hear from you
dear Mrs Hobson. Mrs Guillard
too will be glad to hear
she joins me in kindest
love to you.

My love to Robert, also to
Dr Chalmers.

I am dear Dr Hobson

Yours very affectionately
J. W. Wier

Mr Percy

Dated Nov-3rd

1856

Southern Bk Mrs Prato³
March 3rd 1856 May 24th 56
Answered July 7

My dear Mr Hobson,

I had fully intended writing to you after dear Benjamin's visit to Ld last ^{summer} but I have permitted my disinclination for the exercise always to postpone it, but as Jane has staying with me & I wished her to commence a correspondence with her mother's cousin, that her interest in her might be maintained by the only means of intercourse existing between them, I have accompanied her with one from myself tho' I feel my dear Mr Hobson that

I have little to communicate of
much interest, tho' I always
read with great interest &
pleasure every thing relating
to ourselves or the Missions,
Wool in China, your last
letter contained much informa-
tion. I would also be ~~at liberty~~
some kind remembrance of
myself in my new position.
Expressed by Mr. Gibson in a
letter received by my father in
the autumn. I was exceedingly
pleased with, dear Ray, ⁱⁿ ~~at~~
every respect, he is ^{the} hands-
ome, pleasant & cheerful in dispo-
sition, and possessing a very
engaging address, he ^{reminiscent}
the friends ^{of} ~~of~~ both ^{of} ~~of~~ ^{parents}
in features and manner
altogether, I think there ^{is} ~~is~~ ground

to calculate upon much satisfaction, & comfort in him, & reflects great credit on the instruction received from his excellent father in Reading. Jane Abby I am hopeful to think be the comfort to her ~~own~~ state sorrowing father. John tho' has felt most acutely his double bereavement, & naturally has more anxiety about the prisoners whom he thinks also inherit their mother's delicate constitution. Jane resembles the eldest brother mentally, she has good understanding, retentive memory, & very affectionate disposition. Like its very sensitive & when I speak with on serious subjects, she is always deeply affected, tho' I venture to hope there is some good implanted in her young

I have been thinking of you
 very much lately, and wondering
 how you are getting on. I hope
 you are well and happy. I
 have been very busy lately,
 but I have managed to find
 some time to write to you.
 I have been thinking of you
 very much lately, and wondering
 how you are getting on. I hope
 you are well and happy. I
 have been very busy lately,
 but I have managed to find
 some time to write to you.

Mrs Chalmers Hong Kong 15th July. 41
July 15th 1850

My dear friend

Could you without
a great deal of trouble get
me another Straw hat?
It is for Lennie I want it. The
one Mr Williams got for him
was rather rough, and dark
~~red~~ coloured, and now it
has become spotted so that
it hardly looks decent. The
enclosed measure is taken
round the outside. I wish
I had a good bruster to
send; but I have nothing
that would be at all worth

copying. I would like the
crown made rather low
and not round as Jennie's
first one was. and the brim
rather broad, than narrow
because if it should happen
to be too broad, I can easily
take of a few rows. I fear
you may have difficulty in
getting this done for me,
which makes me write with
reluctance. The truth is
I have sent home for their
next summer hats, and
as Jennie has a good winter
one, I cannot bring myself
to buy him an expensive

one for the few remaining
months of summer.

I have been making the
Room ready for Mr. Cox
today: but it is such a day
of wind and rain. I hope
he is not on his journey.
We have had nothing but
rain for the six days past.
and I need hardly say we
are tired of it. Poor Maggie
suffers much from boils.
and has no spirit about
her. Still I am thankful
to say she is not really sick.
Lemire is there, and weak,

but quite lively. He is a great
talker. Baby had a little
attack of sickness about a
week ago. The Dr. said
I had been over feeding
him. He is quite well again
and begins to get ^{very} ~~quite~~
playful. He was three months
old on Sabbath last.

Have you seen W^m Wilson?
I gave her a few hurried
lines to you which you
will doubtless have received,
if she has found you
out. How are you all?
I am longing for W. C.'s
arrival to hear all about

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you. Robert; and I think
I hope one standing the
summer well so that
you may not be anxious
on their account. You
never say one word about
how you are yourself.
But I often think you cannot
be very strong. What a blessing
it is for those about you, and
so dependant on you, that
you bear up as you do.
I am sure Mr. Johnson will
soon be home again. I
do hope the change will be
of use to her. W. I. of course
is very ill off. In her absence
I got the list of the things

ordered from Huntly by
last Mail. The prices seem
very reasonable. But we cannot
say till the box arrives.
And do not expect it be-
fore the end of November.
I think the few things
you ordered are all right.
I hope they will turn out
well. You will know
that the Cartons went by
last Mail. I could not feel
the least sorry at parting
with Mr B. but I did feel
a little at parting with B. B.
He has always been very attentive
to us, and he has brought me through
several troubles. Remember us with
very kindly to Dr Hobson, and

I have been very clear
 of heart & of mind
 for days to write you a
 few lines, and to send near
 Louis's ribbon, & the hair oil.
 I hope I am not
 my neglect in neither sending,
 nor saying a word about
 the ribbon before. I wrote
 in a great hurry and started
 many things that I intended
 to say. I have been at
 Mrs. Maister's today, hoping
 to get both the socks
 and the blood: but
 the socks have not yet

arrived, and on sending
to Macao she found that
the blood had just been
sold out. However a new
supply is expected every
day. And I hope you
will not be disappointed
again. I have only sent
two $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs of rubber for you.
The only width Mr. Marsh
had except in white,
which of course would not
answer the purpose. I will
not forget to send some ^{more} when
I see anything suit-
able. I hope you will
like the hair oil. I think it

does very well: and it can
be made a good deal
cheaper — that we can
buy it here. If you approve
of it, I will send you the
recipe, or I will have much
pleasure in sending you
some more when that
is done because I can
get the ingredients here
without any trouble.

This is the first bright day
we have had for six weeks,
and I have been turning the
house inside out. I do hope
we shall have fine weather
now. I have returned the
little dress. Emily's one is all

Not finished, ^{Mrs Chalmers} And it ^{is} looks
^{Aug - 12 -}
uncommonly handsome, the
poor little fellow is as vain
of it as possible. When his hat
comes he shall wear both
together. — That is, if the boils
will allow him to put a hat
on. We are all very well but
withstanding the disagreeable
weather we have had. I
am longing to hear from you
and sincerely hope you are all
well. W. Cox keeps hard at
work; but seems very well.
Amy has brought me a small
packet of dollars, which she
wishes me to send. I fear there
will be great trouble to want in the
country owing to the lost-vein.
With love to ^{all} your beloved wife

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Hong Kong 21st August

My dear friend
Your kind note,
telling me of the letter you
had previously written ar-
rived this morning, when
I immediately sent to Ennawoo
to enquire about it. At first
they said there was no letter.
But soon after their lookie
came bringing your long
and welcome one, dated 14th.
I have also received Lemmie's
hat all safe. Very many
thanks for all. The hat is
the right size, and I am
sure it is wonderfully well
done. Lemmie will look

quite smart in it, after what
he has been wearing: for I
made up my mind not to keep
him in the house on ac-
count of his old hat. I am
sorry that you had the
trouble of returning one,
altho' I feared it might be
so. I need not say that it

will afford me great plea-
sure to attend to your various
little commissions, and if
an opportunity occurs be-
fore I will send the things
by Mr. Cox. He speaks of
leaving us after the mail
comes in, and of going
to Macao where he intends
spending some time with

W^L Beach. W^L Marsh has
some excellent - Eau de Cologne
just now. Indeed it is the
only good that I have
seen for a long time. It
is in good sized bottles
with basket work round
them, a dollar & a half each.
I do not think you would
consider it very dear if
you saw them sized of
the bottles. If you do not
say so before W^L Cox leaves
I will send you one. I never
can get any one now to go
to Beach for me, and buy
any thing both cheap & good.

I am truly sorry to hear that
you are not feeling quite well.
And I most sincerely wish that
you would come to us for
a few weeks. I know that a
little change is just what
would do you good, and
dear Edmund too, who has
been so poorly. The children
go out every night, and so
do we, and now that the
weather has cleared up we
find our walks exceedingly
pleasant. Oh I should be so
glad if you could all
make up your minds to this.
You know our accommodation
is not great: but truly my
dear friend it would make

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We are very happy to do the
best we could for your
reception. How glad
you must be that the rain
has at last subsided. I
fear indeed that there is
a great deal of misery abroad,
and surely it is well for
us to compare it with our
slight inconveniences: but
you have much more to
complain of than we
have here, altho you
don't do it. We went

yesterday to Mr. Angier's
wedding. I don't know
much about him. but

he came and asked us
to go and call upon his
bride, & his Sister who
arrived about a week
ago they seem very
pleasant people, all
together. I have told
Amy about the disposal
of her money, & she is much
pleased. I was also wished
to send money in the box
but was too long in thinking
of it. We are still all
quite well. Baby thrives
amazingly. he is a good
little fellow. Emily is still

very thin & weak; but
his health is good.

I have not seen Mrs

Gibson, & I am sorry to
hear that she has been
suffering. Poor thing! and
in her circumstances, just
now, would require to
have a good deal of energy
and spirit about them.

This is a very hurried note
as usual, and anything but
a proper return for your
long letter. Kindly excuse
all defects. And with kind
love to all I remain

My dear friend
Yours very affectionately
Helen Chalmers.

Happy wishes to say thank
you Robert for your
kind letter, and I should
like another very much.
I will not forget Jane's ribbon.

Mrs Chalmers
Aug. 22
1886

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Mr Chambers Hongkong
May 24th '59 28th March - 1859

My dear Mr Hobson -

I am in receipt of two letters from you one from Penang and one from Point de Galle. The latter arrived about an hour ago, by the "Carthage" I suppose; and I am so delighted with the good news which it brings, and with your goodness in remembering me amidst the bustle & excitement which you describe, that I cannot put off thanking you even till to-morrow although it is late. How mercifully our fears are disappointed! You thought there was nothing but misery in travelling by sea, and instead of that you seem to have found it all enjoyment. I hope now you will want to come back again, if it were for nothing else but the pleasure of coming - overland of course.

I have almost nothing to tell you about myself. Except perhaps that I have begun to get up a little

earlier in the mornings of late, and go out before breakfast with a few tracts in my pocket; and that I quite enjoy it. The spirit of the Chinese is greatly improved. I wish there were more missionaries here.

The war has as it were stirred up the soil and now is the time to sow the seed.

With your letter this evening came a long and very interesting Chinese one from Australia giving an account of the conversion, and baptism (by a Wesleyan), of three Chinese. The writer is Leong A Toe, I think Dr. Hobson knew him.

Poor Paylor is not standing out well. He ought to be at his best in this season of the year, but he's complaining of sore mouth, and something like lumbago, and has gone to bed. The committee have given him three months leave of absence and he hopes to go to Bombay with his friends in the

"Carthage" and see his father. So that I shall be left quite alone, and have all the English preaching to myself; for Mr. Ashmore has discontinued his assistance. Dr. Legge also must stay to preach to the people of London in May, and I shall literally as well as figuratively have to bear the burden & heat of the day alone. But I am in perfect health and must not complain. No word of the "Princess Charlotte" yet. Truly one has need of patience.

Sarah's special love is very acceptable; tell her I love her very well too, and feel grateful to her and to all of you for helping to cheer me up in my loneliness.

You don't say anything about health, but I conclude that the happiness you all enjoy implies that it is good. In John there seemed to be room for improve =

Tell Robert that the smoking is likely to become a confirmed habit.

ment, and I trust the dear little fellow has derived great benefit from the change. And now dear Mr. Hobson I know you will excuse me if I don't write so much or so often, as my high esteem and friendship for yourself and Dr. Hobson would suggest if I had the time at my command; and when any of you have leisure and inclination just continue to drop me a line or two to say how you are. I have no doubt Mr. Laylor would join me in sending much love to you all, and that his heart will respond to Jane's special message when communicated to him. Thank you again, and Dr. Hobson also for writing.

Believe me ever
Yours affectionately
John Palmer

8/11
Hong Kong
Feb 23rd

My Dear Nai-Nai,

I received your ^{kind} letter yesterday, and could not refrain myself from tears while it was read to me, but I was glad to hear that you all arrived Shang Hai safely, and that Johnny does not give you much trouble. I am very sorry that I could ^{not} follow you the other day, and more so that I cannot come to help you. I do not know when shall I see you again & render you my little service. I have received the \$20 from you with many thanks, thro' Mrs Charlmas. You and Dr

Dr Hobson have been always very kind
to me and my family, your good-
ness we can never forget. I am
sorry also to part with Johnny,
Robert, and Koo-Heung that I can-
not attend to them again. I hope
our Heavenly Father will bless
you all. A Fun has recovered
and is quite well now. She is
much obliged to you for your great
kindness to her, and desires me to
send you & Dr Hobson & your
children her best respects.

We received a letter from Ling
soon two weeks ago, in which
he sent his best regards to Dr
Hobson and you, and all the
children. A Chii, A Fun's hus-

band has no more work to do
this month, I do not know what
shall be do. Finally, My dear
Nai-Nai, I hope we shall meet
again before we go out of this
world, and meet in heaven.

Your most-
obedient servant

A Hung

To

Afong
March 7th - 1857

Mrs. M R Hobson

Shang Haie

8/2

116
1859

Barstaple Mich 21.
1859.
You will be in the same way
a line by the morning post, saying
we do quite love - only being very the
17 you optaple Mich 21.
not, I am ready for you
or dinner as you may like -

My very dear friends
a letter to you in England, & the hope
of seeing you here, has made me
feel quite glad, I cannot help
thinking, that the mail which has
brought your welcome letter, that I
received yesterday, has brought you
also know that I just write a line
to say how very glad we shall be to
see you in our quiet dwelling, & the
sooner you can come the better, our
dear John, not being at home, we can
offer two spare beds, but kindly tell

Now whether we may hope to see dear
Dr H. with you and how many of your
precious ones, if all three, I will con-
tinue a sofa bed in your room, but let
me know as soon as you can please
I am quite delighted at the hope of
receiving you, and my very best
wishes - I rather expect my good husband
will have to go to Bath one day this
week, his brother there is ill, but I
do not go with him, therefore I shall
be truly glad of your society, and
to renew my sincere love & friendship
with you, will be very delightful,
we have the Rail all the way from
London but the journey will be too

long in one day, unless you come by
Express train I enclose you a bill
I think if you could stay in Bristol
one night, & leave by the train I have
marked would be best for you. The
fares also are low 1st class 20/. 2nd 15/.
& 3rd 9/. from Exeter the 3rd class
come in a 2nd class carriage ^{passengers}
Excuse my saying all this, but you
would of course not know unless I am
rather explicit. You would have to stay
in Exeter a little, but there are very nice
waiting, & refreshment rooms - & a cloak
room also - where luggage can be deposited,
now let me know my dear friend when
we may hope to receive you. You shall
be met at the Station here & any
day this week we shall be very pleased to

welcome you - excuse this long concern
will you give my kindest love to your
excellent sister Miss Hobson I am sure
I congratulate you on your once more
coming to England, & soon hoping to
rejoin you here, in a very quiet &
humble way we live but a hearty
welcome you will receive my good
husband writes in all I say I will
very kind regards to Dr H. & have
love to yourself ever believe me

Your sincere warm hearted friend
F. S. Godwin

I think you will like Devon, & I wish
you could take up your abode here -
lodgings are very comfortable, & moderate, &
the country certainly most beautiful -
we have the Telegraph - as well as Rail - to London

Mrs Godwin
April 5th
1859

Barnstaple May 11. 1857

My very dear friend

I was truly glad to receive your welcome letter to day, & delighted with the hope Dr. of so soon seeing you, in reply I beg to say we shall be most happy to see you if all be well not later ~~if~~ than Friday week would best suit us, for we have a large Exhibition here, of the West of England Agricultural Society, it commences Dr. May 30th & is continued for a week - our town and neighbourhood, it is expected will

be in a great bustle & we expect Mr &
Mrs H. Stothert from Bath will then
come to us. I wish it had been
convenient to you to have come this
week, but when you name Dr. will
quite suit us, and we shall fully
hope to see you, and your two dear
boys, I will promise you they shall
be well taken care of, and we shall
be so rejoiced to receive you, kindly
let me know by what train you will
arrive, and the day please, Dr. you
shall be met at the Station here.

It would I fear be impossible for you
to come to us first, & Clevedon & ally

as this last place is the first on the
Railway, but if you could so arrange
as to come any day even before Friday
we shall be ready to receive you
I am quite sorry this Exhibition so
comes, but so it is - do not fear the
behaviour of your precious ones, I am
sure they will not be at all trouble
some to us - kindly write me soon,

accept the kind regards of my dear
Husband, who ~~is~~ with myself are
anticipating the pleasure of so soon
seeing you. Present the same also to
your good Husband, & with my very
affectionate love, & to your dear Sister
also, ever believe me your truly sincere
and affectionate friend E. S. Gellion

Mrs Godwin

May 12th -

1859

11/1
Abbey Wood Kent SE

January 14

My dear Mrs Hobson

It does seem. Such
a long long time since
I heard from you. I
believe I owe you a
letter, and am very
sorry I have been so
negligent - You are
by no means forgotten
by my husband &
self. We often have
spoken about you
all, and felt anxious

To know how Dr. Robson
was succeeding in
his profession. —

A few days ago I called
on Mrs. Larkins and
heard from her that
you were well. —

I suppose you will be
at home for her birthday.
I hope you are satisfied
with her progress at
school. — John and

Robert too will be growing
big boys. — My dear

children are very
well and now I am
preparing them for
school. He is to go to
Blackheath as a
pupil boarder to a
lady who has a few
little boys. — I would

not send him so young
I think, but he wants
companionable older than
his sisters — The little

girls are very devoted
and a great pleasure
to us — we were a
month at St. Leonard's

This autumn which
we much enjoyed and
which derived great
benefit from. — Mrs. Swan
we have remained quietly
at home and not gone
to our relatives in New
Cushier, thinking a visit
to them in December
would be more agreeable.
We had Mr. Geo. Smith
with us a few weeks
in September & Oct. She
spoke often of Dr. Hobson.
She is much cheery &
much much happier
than a year ago, finding
pleasure in helping other
people and working
herself useful. —
Mr. Mrs. Gray are coming
this week also & G. J.

Elias, his wife
 and three in
 acquaint with her
 children. She now
 has five. — You
 will have been like
 us much interested
 in reading the account
 from Oliver, poor Mrs
 Jones has had a sad
 time of anxiety. What
 a happy thing he
 said Mr. Locks were
 dead — He trust
 this heavy may be
 lasting. The war
 has caused some
 sorrowful homes
 this time. —
 Hope you have good

accounts from Benjamin
in Shanghai. Do
you feel any desire to
return to America?

I hope you are not
suffering from the
severity of the weather,
the frost has been
and a severe to think
how much the poor
must feel it.

My husband quivers
silly at the cold, but
he is very strong and
well, fully occupied with
business. With kind
regards to Dr. Robson &
much love to the children.

Mrs Bower
Jan. 15th
1861

The Bank Strand
March 16th

My dear friend,

Accept my thanks
for your efforts on my
behalf, and the letter
of my dear husband,
which you so kindly
sent me. I have taken
a copy, it is so like
his dear self the expres-
sions of his loving heart
which went out towards
all. I now return it
to you at your request.

of Mr Peace or Mrs Rotheram
I might write to them about Leggie
I had a pleasant ride Saturday
with Mr Winterbotham. This is a
very pleasant region; and these
friends do every thing for my com-
fort & happiness.

Adieu for the present my dear
Mrs Hobson and give my love
to your son Benjamin when

I am to leave to-morrow
morning in the early
train for London to at-
tend the Ladies' Meeting.
I shall then be better
able to judge about the
time of my embarkation
for New York, and whether
I can come by the way
of Cheltenham. Mrs Collidge
invitation was for about
the 1st of April. I hardly
think I shall go to Shef-
field & Birmingham
but if I had the address

you write. Tell him he
looks better than the
likeness he sent me.
Love to Jane, and best
regards to yourself and
Dr Hobson & remembrance
to your boys.

Yours affectionately
Elija I. Bridgman

Beloved Mary. And so this mail will convey
 another note of sorrow! - y^r dear Aunt Jane
 gone to her rest. - I'll not say sorrow, for
 we must rejoice when the believer is taken
 home to glory. I only heard it this morning
 from Mr. Shum, and have written to know
 some particulars. Dear Mrs Roberts was
 truly desolate after her dear Mother's and
 daughter's death - And now all is well.
 The last time we met she was looking out
 for a house at Clevedon & spent the day here.
 She did not send word where her journey was
 and we heard no more. - y^r last letter deeply
 interested me and we felt truly how much
 dear D. Nelson had to contend with. Well
 cheer up - His Lord & Master will say "Well
 done, good & faithful servant" - The domestic
 part of y^r letter is full of happiness -
 I wanted at once to send y^r letter to D. Nelson
 but his hand laid - you might do it H. am
 injured - Those Directors are ticklish folk.

1167
They would not like to be petitioned to.
Only wish Dr. H. would make out a statement
of the need of more Missions at Canton
to urge them to contemplate it. - So again
in of pleasure in the company of Messrs.

Black Cop. - It must be a source of
much delight to you to have so often in-
tercourse with those good men. - We have
had this morning a most delightful meeting
at our House - a meeting for reading & prayer
alternately at the House of a Gentlemen
and the Surgeon and our House. - We
had 18 in our sitting room - and the
spirit of prayer seemed poured out
upon them - I send you by this mail, a
most delightful memoir I am reading -
just published - It must be blessed - God
send and you will also receive the Times -
& "British Messenger" - a valuable paper.
We hope we shall remember this often.
The coming year - We have been sadly

neglected by me then. - y^r last letter s.
brought you again here, and I felt so
earnest & longing to see you - Of course
when y^r husband desires visit you will come
to England - I hope it is not a separation
for life - Dr. Medhurst is coming soon -
last week. dear Miss Simpson came to
tea with us and we talked much of you
whom she remembered so well. The Ch.
widowed Mother & Sister are come here to live.
Archella is married, & lives at Lacey -
Mr Catbush Jones's second wife is a sweet
woman - & his Child a very lovable little
one - she has no children yet. -
Mr. Shum asks so kindly for you, & prays y^r
life may be preserved - This prayer meets
with earnest response for my heart,
y^r beloved husband I wish he would send
a line now & then - My dear one does so
dislike writing & tells so much for him
in the way, that it is not neglect - he day
remembers you both with love & affection.
Mr Curwen is going to Clong, you have
heard no doubt - Oae & Sister Eliza with

every mail - he talked of the last Sunday
with a Mr. Wild who was journeying at
Guernsey, preached here. He has no
charge now, but preaches for vacant
churches in - He is a stiff man - Methodist
but I think a true friend. and his
sermons were much valued here -
An Minister I think I told you was here
married - We are shortly going to Bath
to stay at Miss Frey's while dear Husband
collects for the Chapel - Miss Lay spent
the day here a granddaughter of Mrs Lay
she went to Miss Earle's with F. P. Newton's
here Mrs ^{Mr} H. Mills - Mr. Pundley for whom
they have built a Chapel is a very earnest
faithful preacher - Mr. Oyer who has
Mrs Lay's chapel is also a capital gente
woman enough for 2 independent churches
in Bath - Lachell is still Housekeeper
& friend of Miss Lytle's an Bathwick Hill
a noble residence - they much esteem her
& Miss Frey thinks much to send of her

I shall be so interested in going to Beth^{13/2} and
speaking of you to those whom you knew.
I shall look out for letters this month and
hope to return letters in this way myself
than I can do - affection cannot cease
between such friends as we are - it may
be smothered for a time by other matters - but
cannot be quenched - My sisters are all
well & busy & useful - all at home - and
John is in London - Sat. 3rd Feb 4.

Fearing I shall not have time tomorrow,
as friends come to night to finish this, I
will send off - now. Hope to write soon
again - Yrs lovingly M. And this
winter shall back - Yrs ever M.
Dear love to Mrs. Bennet & children -

Jane Wills
April 1st 1856

Dearest Mary

May the blessing
of God accompany you
in your journeyings :-

You little know the how-
the light & comfort
him - My thoughts &
heart are with you

You will have some
flowers sent for you
from home

I meet my own friend
at Lantana

Yours

J. Wells

Love to your friends -

Jane Wills
May 28th 1854

Dearest Henry -

Wishes you here
to the contrary but
hope if all be well
to reach Cheltenham
by 1.12 Train, viz
the Train that gets
in Longdon by that hour
leaving Bristol 11.15-

My Hus^d is out but
I see there is no other
train earlier unless
we slept in Bristol
before at 7 -

I expect us - I say
The Lord grant preser-
ving many, towns in
peace & joy

More when we will

Yours Jane Kelly

Thank my Husband
after his mind, as to
the day will write
tomorrow

See much I have to
tell you, & to hear

Friday June 8

Jane Wells
May 9. '62

16/1

16/11

My dear friend
I have been thinking of you very much lately - I hope you are well & happy as ever.
I am yours truly,
John Lubbock

one syllable which is the
only fault - The word "thi-
-re" is divided - and "graci-
-ous" - and "counte - name" -

By this arrangement it
is avoided -

The work is beautiful, I am
going to send it for Margaret
to look at - She will be
much pleased - With
your kind send a little
parcel by post of the remaining
my kind - I believe in being
one of yours & trusting one
not needed - If so I will forward

it's chance - we have had so
many here lately - so I will
just leave it to the power -
Mrs Baker's visit was very
much enjoyed - yes - I quite
think with you it is a good
thing here but how? does
not much fancy a binding
upset like that - he liked
her much and desires a very
long visit for her when her
letter came from her - she remained
^{one week -}
as far as I say - she has her
wits about her - liked working
with us - in school & distinct he
is a quick needle woman ^{stock of good course} - and a
Well dear friend, Affecⁿ

more intense sympathy with
you, than ever before - The training
of dear Robert's mind which I thought
in his former visit here - so easy
so much an employ - has now
become a most difficult - one.
Dear ever for a act for the change
for the pride of that dear child
is so apparently
heart - I fear think he brought
of your college - oh! how beautifully
I'd say - let that college life cease
let him be placed soon with a dear
the family of the Pitcairns for a while
let the work of it be found out.
y^r trial will be great unless this is
soon subdued - His heart of course
beats for his dear Mother touched
me as you can - I feel as
Carpenter did - it was too gentle
too sensitive a mind for the hard

Congregated in College

Mr. Turnbull's boys are so self-sufficient - I have the air of pride about them - and dear Robert has assumed I know not what of height he never had before & speak feelingly but you saw the effect on me - and while he is young & still the child I think some steps will be taken to curb his spirit which will prove by dear mind such a source of trouble - Will the influence be lost on him in London?

It cannot be doubted there is somewhere very striking & superior of children - but if pride works as it has been noticed here dear Robert's society will not be sought but avoided - Many will tell you

her superior than minds are -
but I know the truth of v. dispo-
sition. It will not feel upon
this alone but secret ache of
the heart will take place - if
you ^{will} sit ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ now -

When shall we see dear Jane
first week in Augth Lucy Goddard
comes - only for a week - Husband
loves Jane & wants her here.
Y^r ferns are really still in the
case - Miss Baker added more
wild flowers which still live.
all this I have written & not
noticed y^r anxiety abt. y^r dear
Aunt - you are too anxious I
think dear Missy - He looks so
unaccountably well - & is just now
out of order perhaps - so was my
husband last week all up he was

I forwarded the Papers to Mrs
 Simpson by post - she has left
 for Malvern - Poor old Dick
 I think it is better to leave him
 now and a peaceful life by
 you as his life is burdensome
 to? get rid of him, but not
 send him into another family
 who might be inclined to harm
 we should have him shot, if
 he was unable to enjoy life.
 he sits smiling at Dr Dobson
 carrying him - it is such a
 heavy thing. — It is rather
 amusing the devotion of our
 family to the Powers - they -
 claimed my sister's attentions in

London - I am to Mary &
Mary, returned with them to
Lambeth - without visiting the
Ex. I cannot make it out
it is very far lower on both
sides - General Bower
says he never knew such
hard frosts - "no" says my
Aunt - "no!" -

You had an interesting visitor
in Dr Mayhew - no, I do
not know "Kelly Vanner".
My Aunt Shirley thought to re-
member having seen it when
yet I have seen the Vans

Jane Wills
July 23rd
1862

Do you know her
well? - never
found - It does
not matter -
You have looked
well - I hear you

~~Thurs day~~
at 7 o'clock
Grove Villa,
Clevedon.

July, '63

Mr. H. Bennett

Mary Young

I am immediately

17 and with the

afternoon I have to go down
I am glowing June

Beloved Mary - yes, our friend
is the same as ever but I have
not written much of late except
the daily letter to my afflicted
house ones - All is the same
there, a living death - but their
minds are sweetly supported,
& they view the mitigations in the
sad case with thankfulness -
Dear Har^rie Gray is here, & the aunt
she gives me of the 2 years of suf-
fering they had with their father
when bodily strength returned
but the mental power remained
Oh: it was indeed suffering!

I long for
 quiet chat
 with you -
 Did you know
 Fanny Pallen
 Yes I think so
 afterwards?
 Mr. Church?
 I am - you know
 He is returning
 from Melbourne
 Widows - the
 poor husband
 drowned their
 dear late of
 -

I feel now & know how ~~an~~ ^{many} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~people~~ ^{people} ~~who~~ ^{who} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~school~~ ^{school} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~afflictions~~ ^{afflictions} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~learn~~ ^{learn} ~~lessons~~ ^{lessons} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~could~~ ^{could} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~learn~~ ^{learn} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~any~~ ^{any} ~~other~~ ^{other} ~~way~~ ^{way} - Our Father in
 Heaven who knows exactly the des-
 cription his children of mine has
 done it - and when the task is
 accomplished - and for this I am
 so anxious that the good intended
 might be received & he will
 know it - — Daily support
 is administered, daily assurances
 for his own word that there and
 a part of the Portion he gives
 his children - including it with
 his own presence drawing the

I sat aside into this loved presence
^{there} hearing the whisper of his love,
as many as I love I echo & echo
"In love I give thee". The sympathy
for those who have suffered in a
similar way is good medicine &
the tender loving kindness shown
to us is indeed subject for praise.

You have been of absence for you
dear one better than I should I
fear - He is now at Barnet (our
house) & has a rich part of
spiritual enjoyment in Communion
with so many excellencies of the last
I hope he will come home tomorrow
he left us on Tuesday last -
Many many told me of his pleasure
in meeting you. The dear folks
(the Miss Lollys)

who are now at Durham
were those who were visiting us
Martha (who died) was suffering
from depression when we were staying
at Bridgewater - She had passed
away, and just before her attack
they feared another return of the
painful depression. So all is
well she is safely landed, and now
has returned the 9th of May.

Have you seen Mrs Jones?
She is the sister of Mr. John Greenwood
whom you have seen here, I
think, a very sweet young woman
& do you know the dear Mother
of Martha Tully - you would like
her much. I did not much
like Mrs Martin - you would
like her, we should like each other.
Oh! I did not gain much for her.

Saturday

18/1

Dear Friend - It is long
since I wrote. & I have
had the debt began also
for my mind for Dick &
& for the work - I think it
was 2/6 - and now we hear
of his death. have you p.^d
the tax over for him - if so
I will pay in the 12/ - we
are thankful he is gone -
for that disease is so trouble-
some. he had it once before
& P. had the disagreeable
job of applying. I have

the C could not be obliterated.
It is beautifully done - but I do not
think the ornaments any improved
I do not wish them when the trouble to do
another - How interested I was in yr
meeting! - I suppose what dear Jan colle-
cted for - may as well go to yr weekly
meetings now - finish the same objects -
I have been so troubled of late with
restless nights for cough - that a change is

her own with
water, & other things, - after
a long time cured it -
& then the residence at
Annetts, restored his fleecy
coat - We are glad you
had parted with him in
that way. - It is so disgusting
to look at - Pinner is very
thankful that he has ended
his career - for the felt he is
now he is great thanks to
you -

Is it not singular
that the mistakes in these
cases, is more evidence than
in any former ones - Suppose

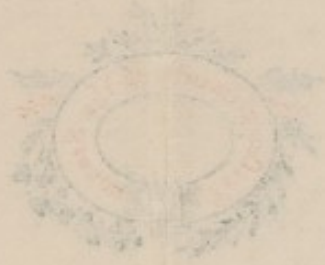
Contemplated - Mr. Ansell
returned ~~was~~ last week -
and now an ~~other~~ ~~has~~
ended of receiving a letter
boarding the minister -
I am leaving for Reading on
Monday, London Tuesday
visit Mrs. Banks, at Pether
Rye - a lovely air - unlike
the murky London -

Mr. Davis tells me the bill
for the book thing is £22
of three copies - Have an
things going on at Cheltenham
- a very wide quay
but we are interested in all

that concerns you - Thank
 you very much for his kind letter
 you will be interested to hear
 that Henry brought them as
 well as Mrs Dawson for (her) -
 They spoke of Benjamin with
 interest, hoped he would be
 in at Katala if he were
 doing well - Mr Dawson is
 better, but will not be able
 to return yet - your names
 are prepared in the form of
 card of business - How is Mr Cox
 doing here for him -
 Dear Mr Lewis sails for Calcutta
 on the 20th much supported
 - prospect of being 4 (th) -
 behind, but a heavy heart -

Her Ayah accompanied an
Eng^l family house and returns
with her (her L Baker much
to cheer Mrs Lewis's joy) -

Then I tell her when the party
for dear Chas^r are over come
the greetings of a loving Mrs^d
meeting impatiently to welcome
him - & her L sweet little
ones - for them he parted as
infants - now running about
the arbours for Lark^r dear
Rebecca, anticipates this
pleasure of meeting one more
for she hath a deep interest in
Mrs Lewis - I must be close
ye & pack up for London
Love Kate - for a loving friend
J.H.



I hope, please God,
next summer I
may have the pleasure
of seeing you soon
here. It seems so
strange and this
year closing for
so short a time appears
to have passed since
the beginning of it.
I trust the next will
be more devoted to
your service as by me

I had an opportunity
of receiving the letter from
Dear ^{Conny} Harry & he tells
me he leaves by
the 12th. I do indeed.
Sympathizing with
him & feeling for
the trial of parting
will be very great
& we can only commit
our faith to the ^{divine}
loving care of
our Heavenly Father
hoping He may
permit us to see

his bright face again
on earth. Mrs Lockhart
& Josephine will
feel the parting very
much.

I have not forgotten
my promise about
sending you my letter
which you shall have
as soon as I can get home.
I shall expect
you in return!

We had a Christmas
Tree for the Misses
last week & realize more
than £30 I had with another
Lady to Sea. Matt &
I did very well; on the
Monday the school had
to be dressed & after the
Sea we had to be busy
about 10 or 12 helping to

Barton Cliff,
Lymington,
Hants.

May 27th 1868.

Most good, Most kind
of you my dear, dear friend
to have written again to
me, & I feel I must answer
it at once. How my heart
is with you in this time
of rich spiritual blessing.
Will some few drops reach
my thirsty spirit in this
far off land? I often think
of highly favoured believers
who that grow in, & with

May gather, for himself, a
rich harvest of precious souls.
Dear Husband seems most
graciously refreshed - how
I picture the little gathering
around the family altar in
your own beloved home - I
seem especially present with
you dear friend - I have
such an assurance, that
deprived as you are of hearing
much of what is spoken
at the meetings, you will
nevertheless have a very
large share of the blessing.
When thinking of & praying

for you, it is as though
Jesus himself ~~told~~^{tells} me
that he is entertaining you
in his banquet house
& that you are sitting under
his shadow with great
delight. If such joy is
sometimes ours on earth
what will it be in heaven?

Your tender sympathy & love
make me long to embrace
you again down here,
yet somehow or other,
my thoughts will more
continually dwell upon that
time when we shall meet

to part no more - our intercourse
here is so limited, such sketches
of fellowship - just a sip only
tasting the sweet, without
grasping it, but oh the
communion of saints above
in the immediate presence
of our precious Saviour, that
will be bliss indeed!

Please give my kind love &
sympathy to Mrs Button, I
did not know her sweet
boy was so afflicted. Is
not dear Mr. Wells enjoying
the conference, his soul is
overflowing I know. My
Martyr sends you a kiss &
says "You are to come to-morrow"
I echo it. Miss Tanner desires her love
All myself to you. Clara Tanner;