Canton December 30th 1837

My dear Father

We arrived safe here a few days ago, and
and on our way up the river met Ship Sunda for New York,
by her I had only time to drop you a line, informing you of our
arrival. I have just learned the Ship Omega for the U.S
leaves also tomorrow, I shall therefore give you all the news
I have learned. Merchants here like all others are a curious
set, you cannot get scarcely any information for them, un-
less they think they can make something by you. I am
known thank God quite independent of them; as I have
my interest interwoven with Mr McCua's in such a manner
as to secure to me the full confidence of his agent. And all
the advantages in the investment of my funds as that
the Ship can possess — having at the same time my
own rights secured that any mishap that might
possibly occur either to the Consignee or owner cannot
effect me. I have too made several English acquaintances
already, that may be of service to me, and upon the
whole think I shall not be at loss for funds in these
strange parts. Things here are very different from
what was expected by every one — takes quite a contrary
turn — Bills of Exchange which you know was thou-
ght would not be worth a dollar out here, are a
much better article than dollars — U. States
Bank bills — or bills drawn on the Barings are
quite in demand at par — Specie is very low
and I am simply told "If" as also Mr McCua will
lose ten or eleven per Cent on all we have — there are
I understand thousands of Spanish dollars here
brought from the Coast of Africa and South America
engaged principally in the opium trade.