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Grafton Jan 1st 1828

Dear Parents,

Ascribing praise to God that I am yet numbered with the living who stand as candidates for eternity. I embrace this opportunity of confessing with you although absent from you. And my first salutation is that I wish you a happy New Year, and if it be your last, may it be your best. And now let us take a retrospective view of the past year, which has terminated the existence of many of our race.

The thoughts which last bear to my mind are these: how mysterious are these past few ways of God? what a march it is that we take whilst so many of those who commenced their earthly career with us and among the last year, have gone the way whence we expect them not to return, and what reason we have to rejoice, that God from on high is yet waiting to be gracious to us, yet giving us a space for repentance and opportunity to do good to our fellow Creatures. And so we reason that we have come so far short of and duty the past year, that we are not under such cultivation we have brought forth no more fruit to him whose we are shall we not pray to God that he would enable us to bring forth greater revenues of glory?

Your Son

Most Devoutly
Pier Parker
Dear Catherine,

You are desirous (I doubt not) to know
with what success I meet. I can say that I have an interesting school, but shorter than I expected. It will be but six or seven weeks.

My health is good. I have a good boarding place and am treated very kindly, enjoy many privileges.

My Sister! What shall I say to you? I need not say you are mortal; the providences of God have learned you this, and that there is a fountain open but Judah to rush in, and that there is a balm in Gilead and a Physician there, the scriptures inform you.

But this may soon this year. You and I may die before the close of this year, and bodies may become food for Worms, and the clouds of the valley may cover us, and Our Spirit go where disembodied Spirits are. Therefore sit out anew from resolutions, that God enabling you, you will live to his glory. Give yourself to God, it is all that he requires. I have written but briefly. For want of time

Prideck well on what I have written.

Catherine Parker

Grafton Jan 1st 1823

I subscribe myself your
Friends and Brother

Petr Parker

Do not expose this letter to the view of every one.
Mr. Nathan Parker
Framingham
Mass

paid 6

Envelop from 1826
Gift from