Canton 28th Dec. 1848

Dear Brother and Sister,

I write a few lines by the overland mail to apprise you that
Your Sister "Hattie" sailed for New York in the fine ship "Monticello" Capt. Mike Michael
on the 17th instant, on a visit to our relations &
friends in happy America. She will probably
arrive in the latter part of March, and after
visiting her Mother & Sister in Washington
will visit my Brother and friends in Washington,
and after her movements she will probably write to you from New York. I know
you will be very much interested in hearing from her once more in the flesh. As you will readily concede
our separation for a year & a half or two years
is trying to us in the extreme. But for almost
seven years experience of the climate of China
with all the first files of other trying scenes
through which she has passed have made a
frightful impression upon her health. But
some how she was very ill and though her
health has become very good since the
cold weather, it would be at considerable
risk for her to remain much longer without
without a change of climate. Besides the seven years our marriage lasted, when I encountered her mother this is when they gave me to me that I would return her to them. For the last two years they have begun in nearly every letter her return to them, even especially since hearing how ill she was last summer. It was quite impossible for me to accompany her, mother is then any brother that I could for some years to come. Fortunately a late opportunity has offered for her to return without me. The manikin belongs to Miss Wetmore & Co. is one of the finest fabrics that sail out of the United States, and as for Capt. Macnichol I have known him well for fifteen years, and know that he will make no pains to render her voyage pleasant or comfortable. Mr. Macnichol for fellow passenger is a firm and excellent young man whom I have known for two years and will be as a brother to her, and the only other passenger is a Mr. Bouck of one of the first families in Philadelphia. Heather has the whole ride of the ship to herself and has every accommodation that can be enjoyed at sea. But oh the loneliness I feel in her absence! It is the more with me my feelings I fear would put the better of my
ECTOR, and forgetting her health and her mother
and sister entreaties I might think from parting
with her till one or the other of us should be taken
carried, to another in sickness, to blind a
sufferer's eye. In her I found 'obtained a blessing
from the Lord.' She is a most precious wife to me

More even come more evidently. Her comrade
in time of trial and perplexity always wise,
and been invaluable. Her devotion at all times,
and especially in the hour of sickness, cannot
be surpassed and seldom equalled. She says
'to come me is by far more trying than parting
with all whom she loved, and who loved her so
intensely in America, when she promised them
'all to come with me alone to the East.'

Receive for, dear Miss Hester, as my 'living Ephie,' as
my 'better half,' and for all your love to him you
will receive love in return in full measure, a
without hypocrisy or any alloy.

Hoping to write you by a fast Sailing vessel, to
the 'Swiftly' which sails on the 3d proximo, I
will add no more now. I write a long letter to Mr.
Mr. P. Temple, by the same ship, from which I
shall kindly allow you, you will deduce from
me particular thus I can now write. If missing you
dear Brother this, pray all your heart ever derive of you
accept of Divine Goodness. I am your affectionate Brother
Peter Carter.
Salzwerth
Dec 26 1848

Important

- YORK SHIP
MAR 26 7-

Always M. J. A. Clark

[Handwritten note:]
Of the wife
Had sailed for home