London July 11th 1871

My dear Mrs. Parker,

Your letter dated July 4th, and holding out the hope that we might see you with Mr. Parker at your end in England in long, reached me only on the 8th inst. enclosed in one of later date from your esteemed line, and to my Father announcing a change of plan, or rather the consolable postponement of your visit to England which we trust has only be accomplished by a delay. There have indeed been many changes amongst since the time of our acquaintance in China, but I think you would find my dear Father looking better than he did twelve years ago. He is happy in a
kind, attentive & devoted wife, I also rejoice in the pigeon of eleven grand children, of whom the youngest train's baby son was born just before Easter. We are in town as usual for two months of the season which we greatly enjoy. Edith has been spending some weeks at Whitby in Yorkshire and seems to have benefited by the change though the weather has been anything but pleasant: cold, wet & stormy. We have seen several of our China friends of late. Mr. Stoddart & his unmarried daughter are settled in Exeter & Mr. Pole (formerly Hebbes) & Mr. Land are sometimes with this brother. Mr. General Stoddart is just come home on furlough, as also Mr. Robertson, & G. Winchett is now
settled in England. Sir R. Sturt has been in town, but has not seen us the East India.

The International Exhibition has assembled many foreigners here besides the members of French who have escaped from the miseries of foreign civil war; the latter being much more destructive of all law and order than the former. It is impossible to foresee what day will be the end of this woeful state of things, as no one at present has been found with power to unite the divided discontented French nation with its conflicting parties, each wishing to put down every other. However, we hear that Paris is again becoming a gay city, & returning to all its ancient amusements both public & private. The Emperor has retired into private life at Windsor, about five miles from London, where he receives his friends as often as he likes.
appear to be recovering his health.

My Father went over to see him a few days ago. Perhaps the greatest change in London is the introduction of under-ground railways in every direction, but though they are as extensively used as the omnibuses, they seem more numerous than ever, and it is now to be said that the people are always on the move. 

He heard of arrival of our American friends, the Mr. Elligers. The latter spoke most affectionately of that sweet old lady, Mrs. Shett who was in England some thirty years ago, whose letters have carefully preserved ever since.

But I shall tire you with their long descriptive talk. As will only add best regards to yourself, Mr. Parker, your son with all good wishes for each and all from your dear Mr. Parker.

Yours sincerely & affectionately,

A. B. Braving