My dear Mr. Parker

15 October 1857

I have your 2428 Ultt. - We are truly sorry that it is now a past affliction. That you had so much to say, I assure you on my behalf to Salkin. May you be accompanied by a pleasant transit in the rest of your homeward tour.

Our principal China news is that Mr. Conolly has failed in his attempts to obtain anything that the policy of the Court is to refuse all barbary advances. It is a happy thing for Lord Elgin that circumstances compel delay, or undoubtedly he would have met with a rejection at the Council which would not have caused embarrassment her after.

Beauclerk is just arrived but I have not yet seen him. (nor has Lord Elgin) ch imagine they will determine what is to be done. I doubt not they will adopt our letting amount of the letter, but they have no pleasant answer Peter Parker

25 12
As the long delay has given strength to the adverse policy of the Mandarins of this kind, I hear nothing from any quarter; but I suspect great disappointment await him, so that he will find a stubbornness of temper in the part of the Chinese, for which he seems little prepared. Cantonese affairs remain pretty much as they were, but the [illegible] has undoubtedly had many sacrifices—have taken. We shall again mean [illegible] Canton.

[Illegible] is appointed to march against them, but [illegible] in consequence of [illegible] an affair will not let him have troops from the City. He has a very strong presence there, in a quarter known as Shanghai, or [illegible] went to censure, inspected the City. It is a doubtful affair, I should have been anxious enough. I am at [illegible] I think the [illegible] (of St. Mary's) has acted with much precipitation. [Illegible] Board shows appears of the view he has taken of the question, but undersm the other proceedings. A Williams has appeared to me in the course of your [illegible] correspondence with the
Impt. Council, on the subject of the export of grain—but it was not communicated to me. I only saw the translation in the Chinese Repository of the question in between American & British mail. A subject, I think, rather more than anything else in the matter. Lord Elgin's attention has been called alike to the dispositions of rival consuls to have themselves before the tribunal of their superior ordinate.

I believe he will discuss the matter with Mr. Rust. The last Consul frequently in China takes upon himself action which Mr. Belling would hesitate at any rate. The Superior Courts without any reference to the supreme authority. Your letter is a striking example of conduct. Now it is in a striking example of conduct in the manner in which he did not ask the letter of advice and of disregarding your authority altogether to be held over, as it compromised your government with other States. I hope you will communicate with other States. I have now with your letter—of yours & the letter to myself reciprocate. I am sorry to hear an indifferent account of your lady. I am so far from being any concern, they are all a good deal interested. My wife writes very handsomely in your letter but regard to that, &

faithfully yours,

John Russell