To the Imperial House, Former General of the Grand Army and Procurator, under the Board of War, Vice High Chancellor, vice guardian of the Honorable Apparent Minister and Commissioner Extraordinary of the Taiping Empire makes this reply.

I have received the honorable missive, deeply abashed that being about to leave Canton, he had that day delivered over to Parker, Secretary of Legation, all the affairs of the United States Mission to China, and should immediately take his departure to. This coming before me, the Minister I have perused and fully understood it. Parker, Secretary of Legation, has resided in the South of China many years, is a man of the sincerest, generous and benevolent and ever desires of perpetuating the amity and friendship of our two nations, and in taking charge of and superintending the affairs of the Mission, he will certainly be able to conduct all in the highest degree safely and harmoniously, and the Minister am sincerely delighted. But your Honor's Banne the same day commencing its march, and the Minister having left the Provincial city of public business, was unable to escort you which I exceedingly regretted.

I make this reply and embrace the opportunity of presenting my compliments and my wishes that tranquility and delight.
may attend your going. As requisite I send this communication.

The foregoing communication is to James Biddle, Commander in Chief of the Naval forces, and acting Commissioner of the United States of America in China.

From Fanning 26th. S. M. E. July 12th.
22 April 1846.