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Canton 17th November 1846

Rev P. Parker M.D.,

Canton

My most esteemed and honored sir,

Convinced as I am of your kindness to me and fellow feelings, I hesitate not in the least to trouble you with the perusal of this. Would to Heaven that all were as humane and susceptible of same fellow feelings as you are. This is spontaneous expression and pray sir, never allow it to be construed into an admission of flattery which I beg today I heartily hate.

You know it sir that I am short-sighted—which is not an hereditary disease, but brought on by the application of Caustic to effect cure of a kind of small Pimples on my head that used to shed matters. I am grieved to state that this short-sightedness gradually and imperceptibly grows on, and if I could not find a remedy to stop its progress or to cure it entirely, I am sorry to say I shall be blind. This remedy I have every hopes of finding at your ever so successful and effectual hands that have cured thousands labouring under various painful and mortal diseases. Believe sir, if I do not find a cure at your ever so blessed and blessed hands, I may never find.
find it at any others. But, why should I say this since I am rolled up in confidence that I shall certainly obtain it from you. Allow me to say so that I shall be content even if I become blind (which I repeat, I am convinced I shall never) under your operation. Pray let try therefore once more and do something for one by seeing that you have cured thousands, has been naturally and therefore we immutably compelled to base his reliance for relief upon you in this most sad, painful and exposing case. Believe him Sir, who looks up to you from this ever eating anxiety which heavily and injuriously hangs upon him day and night.

In end I beg to state that my aim in addressing you this is to request you will be kind enough to let me know at what time and when I may wait on you at your quarter, so that I may not prove a disturbance to you by calling upon you at once and thereby a barrier to myself in giving you a thorough examination of this to cruel accords for the cure of which. Scowff, I am unable to make an adequate return to you in any other way but by only praying for your ever happiness. In hope of your kind reply.

Remain
My most Esteemed Sir,
Your most obt. humble, grateful and dut.

[Signature]