

TM 1613

Macao China Feb 11. 1832

Dear Manning

Your Lett<sup>r</sup> of April 24<sup>th</sup> did not reach me till the arrival of the Winchelsea in January. I was glad to hear from you, though for the first time since you left China. Enticed I have done the needful in respect of my Duty and my Library: both of which I place at your Service.

With respect to the Chinese Books for your Parisian Friends, I have sent the list to Canton to my son John, who has put it into the hands of the Booksellers to know what Books they can supply & at what cost. This I hope to send you by the Winchelsea. Then the several gentlemen concerned can judge whether they would choose to go to so great an expence or not, & next season send out an order for the money. Several of the works of which 3 or 4 copies are required, are very expensive; and I have not the means of advancing so large a sum however willing I may be, & desirous indeed to promote Chinese Literature. I think you & I will serve our friends best by

Letting them know the cost before the Books are sent.

Your information concerning the Sivalogues of Paris, was very acceptable and interesting - With your opinions of the unfairness of carping & cavilling at the omipotence & imperfections of our predecessors who have on the whole done well, I perfectly agree. I have long suspected that the Parisian Sivalogues only new-wrought old materials.

Ball has never once written to me - but I am glad to hear that he is well. For the last few years in China we have had a great deal of dissatisfaction, and discomfort. The threatening storm seems blown over, but still the political sky is dark. A reference has again been made to the Bengal Government & the Admiral.

Pearson is going home next year. Davis being Chief & Smith in England, we have not much practical

Chinese in the Factory.

The Company's Press is printing  
a Fokien Dictionary for the Medhurst  
of Batavia. My son John makes  
considerable progress in Chinese & is  
superintending the Press.