1796

George Gibbs Esqr — Canton Novem. 11. 1796

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure of informing you of our safe arrival here in good health the 30th after a passage of nearly 7 Months. Capt. Wood having wrote the particulars of the Voyage any thing on my part is [illegible] We detained several days at Macoa before we could get up to Wampoa where we left the Ship. On our arrival at ~~Macoa~~ Canton, We called upon Capt Page having a letter for him & Capt Munro, and accepted his invitation to stay with him till we could get a factory for ourselves — this we effected in 4 or 5 days. — We chose our Security Merchant after a little further delay, this being the first step to be done & the most important one. — The Week that passed before, was really a scene of intrigue & has more initiated me than a common year's Experience. — We have however had every reason to approve of our arrangements. — The Merchant who has most in his power to deceive us bears a very good character, among all persons here: for the opinion of the World that the Chinese are all rogues is not entirely true. — There are two or three Men here who by every information I can procure possess as much integrity as any Merchts whatever and the Americans are so high in repute here & so desirable from the Money they bring, that they are solicitous in general to deserve their future custom. The strongest argument that we can use to a Chinese is "I think you lose your face next year" The Americans this year with the two Danish Ships have kept