



Thomas King, 1821-1893. Portrait by an unknown photographer, taken in 1860. *ATL Picture ref.: F- 12445-1/2-*.

favourably'), or whether it was because Thomas was not considered an eligible partner is not clear. Neither Thomas nor Mary were well off. Thomas later wrote of his 'almost hopeless love, my fearful and desponding mention of you to your brother and your brother's wise discouragement of my suit'.¹⁸ His position was volatile. In July 1846, he wrote to his patron in London that, while he was at present 'lodging in the house of a very respectable tradesman on the banks of the Huotoki [Huatoeki Stream] and opposite to the store I rent', a store that had the capacity to contain 150 tons of goods, he expected soon to be able to remit in advance of shipments.¹⁹ Not