BC151 C14.30

Probably from Dr. Bleek.

Bleek's handwriting

Gov. House Capetown
23 July 1859

My dear Norris,

I see just to my horror that I have not yet answered your last kind letter of 20 Dec. 58; but this year has as it has affected me been a very hard one for me. I lost my best friend — my father who died at the end of February. I was afterwards myself most severely ill, and am only just on the reco-

recovery. For two months I have so much as not been able to do anything; and that in consequence of over exertion. — As far as my position goes, I am not yet a bit better off than I was, — on the contrary Sir George Grey's most unexpected recall renders its continuance rather precarious. It remains to be seen whether he will be able before leaving to do something here for me — otherwise, I shall probably go home with him, though the state of my health makes it scarcely advisable for me to stay a winter over in a Northern climate. — I am very much obliged for your hint about the Dutch Interpretership in Japan; — but I did not know how to move in this matter, from Thos distance; and I fear by this time such places are all filled up. The position would certainly have suited me very well. —