

Dear Lucy's letter, or letters
to dear ^{with} Julian & me when
she was just wrecked

for dear Doris & Helme
& Harry.

CAPE TOWN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1862.

LOSS OF THE NATAL MAIL STEAMER.

ALL HANDS AND THE MAILS SAFE.

Argus Office, Thursday Morning, Oct. 16.

The inhabitants of Cape Town were considerably alarmed this morning by the receipt of the Natal mails by post-cart from Somerset West. There was no way bill, and it could not for some time be ascertained what had happened. Soon afterwards the Government received a letter announcing that the steamer had gone ashore at Struys Point, and Messrs. Deane & Johnson the agents of the ship received the following particulars from Capt. Joss:

Struy's Point, October 14, 1862.

JAMES MURISON, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I am sorry to inform you that the *Waldensian* is a total wreck on Struy's Point reef. I passed Cape Infanta about half-past six last night about seven to eight miles off the land, and steering my usual course for L'Agulhas Point light. The night was very hazy, and about half-past nine I went off the deck leaving the second mate in charge, I said to him keep a good look out for ships, as it was dark, and a light South-East with the square sails set. I did not leave the deck to turn in, but I went down to read, and about ten p.m., I fell asleep, and about 11 p.m., the ship ran on the reef, going about seven knots. I jumped on deck and was for a minute quite taken aback, as I thought we were so far off the land. I tried to back astern, but found her so fast that she would not move, and the bottom soon got holed; the water came in and put the fires out; by this time we had all the boats out and under the lee side of the ship, and I had by that time got a sight of the land, and knowing the place, I then sent the 2nd officer with a boat to look for the landing place, which I also knew was there. He came back, saying that he had landed. I then got the ladies in the first two boats, ashore sixteen of them, under the charge of the 1st and 2nd officers, the other two boats, carpenter and boatswain, and took the old man. All the others we sent, as we could in several trips, which took a long time, but by daylight I had them all on shore, and by that time two of the boats had been stove. A shore boat came off at seven p.m., and I took the mails in her, and left the ship myself, all the others being safe on shore. The ship is now broken in two parts.

I have been off again, but we can save nothing. All are well. Mr. Barry is down, and we have arranged to take the passengers to Struy's Bay, and you must send the *Kadie* or *Albatross* for us. I write more particulars to-morrow. In haste for the express from Mr. Barry, this is down on the beach.

I am, &c.,

W. A. Joss.

LIST OF PASSENGERS.—Saloon: Miss Raude; Mr. and Mrs. Pavey; Miss Heatlie; Mr. and Mrs. Naud, child and servant; Rev. Mr. Jeffreys; Mr. G. Avelin; Mr. C. Avelin; Mrs. Fellowes; Dr. and Mrs. Dyer; Rev. J. Pears; Mrs. and Miss Pears; Mrs. Meyer; Mrs. Dyce and 2 children; Miss Lloyd; Miss Christina Ferreira; Miss Lawra Ferreira; Rev. Mr. Brooklyn; Rev. G. Gradwell; Rev. Mr. Grielzel; Count of Kunthbery and Krinth; Mr. Howard, and 2 servants; Mr. A. G. Spiers; Mr. G. Naude; Mr. C. Collins; Mr. and Mrs. Cachet; Mr. and Mrs. Hillit; Rev. Mr. Huet, Rev. Mr. Biccand; Rev. Mr. McCarter; Rev. Mr. McMillan; Rev. Mr. Stevenson; Rev. Mr. Brown; Rev. Mr. Cachet; Mr. Carpenter; Rev. Mr. Moller; Rev. Mr. Meintjes; Rev. Mr. Ford; Rev. Mr. Woolley; Rev. Mr. Gumbriuskie; Rev. Mr. Bower; Mr. Read; Mr. Rigby; Captain Bayley, R.E.; Mr. A. G. Clough; Rev. G. Renny; Master Aspelung; Rev. Mr. Thomson; Rev. Mr. Smith; Messrs. Melvyn, Brown, Nish, Norton, Rainford, Stewart, Steele. Steerage,—Mr. Mackay; Mrs. Eagar; Mrs. Barry and infant; 7 men, 1 woman, and 7 children, R.E.; 1 man.

The request for a steamer was immediately complied with, the *Albatross* and *Kadie* are underweigh.

15th - October - 1862 -

My our darlings

I do trust that this may reach
you soon. We are all alive - & safe & well.

The steamer ran ashore near the bay I think
they call it - but we are all safe - & I think can
feel grateful enough that all the dear
precious lives were spared - (even the
the ship cat & poor old Theitch the dog.)
I am so grieved that of course the parcels with
which others had entrusted me - are lost with
my things - one box of mine was floated ashore -
containing Mrs. Haines' parcel - Mr. Wolcott's
valise through - but a jewel box - Mrs. Hays'
tracings - Mrs. Wells' & dear Mrs. Hays' parcel
which I thought I put so safe in a
~~small~~ small box - I fear I shall not
see again - I do not feel as if I ever would
take a parcel for any one again - I do
feel a very vexed that they should have
been lost under my care - but when I think
of the results - what my dear Captain
leaves me has lost - I do not think
about them before things; of it
is always distressing as to be able to
help or trust - it was things found
when we ran on the reef they say -
they were a brave good & kind to us
board the poor steamer. I shall never
forget Capt. Jones Mr. Stuart - two other
men were very kind to me too.
It was on the night of the 12th that they
sailed - last night (14th) we were
wrought at a Dutch farmer's house
when we have been so kind to
cleaned - We are many many miles
from Cape Horn - between one & 2

hundred of her men & means of pro-
gress are all preserved a little
uncertain. The Thaddeus (little steam-
tug) is a cork to the bay & the
thunderer has she will be
very small & crowded & I shall
try if I can (being alone) to get
on of land - because I shall feel
need a protection in that steam-
among the soldiers & other people -
if dear Capt Jopp. & Mr. Jopp should
be so - I mean the other Officers, not
by the Thaddeus) - I can't write
more of darlings. There is so much
to be written about - such infinite
interceptions - I shall earnestly
hope to be with dear Wilhelm
soon - & about all - & see you two my
darlings safe again - ~~at~~ soon, ~~and~~
see you off day -
I am so very very grateful that ~~all~~ ^{last} our
lives were spared - ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~water~~
felt so frightened about ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~water~~
one until I saw dear Capt Jopp
& all safe & sound - they sent us
home off in the 12th boat ~~that~~ ^{the}
left of course & I watched all night
on the shore until about 9 o'clock in
the morning when the last landed -
we struck at mid night I think
now they are all safe - I do not feel

[illegible]

them. which about had gone out to
L. safe & myself. & Mr. Stearns had to go
back for his life. & from the deck house
to the other part
My love to dear Madam. I am ^{very} sorry
her little present of Mary ^{will} ^{be} lost -
& my best love, & the dear Vander-
by a strange chance their boxes & de-
amies were floated up in a box -
& their card plate. & Mrs. Kinsey
I fear are lost too - & all dear family
things - I so wish I could see you both
and you would be so thrilled with what
I said & feeling if you heard it all & it is
in my head now -
I ~~would~~ back to get one of a little time
cabin box & Mabel's chest - I fear of it
fully in my hands just with chance
of getting it safe - but if I get them I
I a chance. & saved of order, with
safe back W. happened to be
in the same chop. - beside
the little run in a belt. & it is
such a comfort - as there is no other
for which I would like to accept &
shilly of their round run. but had
a strange & thoughtful set of
arrangements - in the same piece
heads etc etc - I could ~~not~~
have believed in such ways
that I had known them
be known. & it is their
way of living - & so far just as
I had many very different & creative

16. Brenda's dog -

My own darlings - I leave this letter
here according to counsel. to catch
the overland mail of the 15th
we had a good journey. I saw him. &
met with a most kind & affectionate
reception from a Dutch family - you
cannot think how kind & dear
they all are - ^{Mr & Mrs Hellyer are}
^(the messenger who protects me) with
very kind & nice to me - & I
them as far as Caledon - then in
the same wagon with a minister
his wife & child to the railway
station of West River tomorrow if
we get so far. & then it is only
an hour's further travelling. We
can't leave - we may reach it
on Saturday. but if not I hope on
Sunday - Any way I shall
be too late to write to dear W. M.
Adieu & Mr Wolley - So Goodbye
I must close this -
my own precious darlings -
be quite easy about me & it all
please darling - I wish that
every news, ⁱⁿ as happy a point as
I am -

in the world.

God's & good blessing on our darling
Then there been such dear love
& good men & kind men too.

in such unlooked for places

I feel I want to get it with
to much. - I cannot get

to you & dear Mr. Lander.

I'll dearest me. I want him if he

can accept it & profit of it

disposition & no more it for

himself now - of travel. with

a relation & protector of the our

very as much as it is better for

me & do this for him but for

women who will I feel for it the

very best if they like it -

I hope that you are both well &

safe by darlings - & dear too

Mr. Jeffers (on 7 on fellow passenger
at your camp. I found when

on board -

was very kind & helped to Mr.

& Mrs. Pacey (with me) kind

too - but I do not like the bus-

band - & cannot accept of people

rightly or indeed with a doing a wrong
& inquiry for him. Main view
dilemma

I should be sorry to pain those
who mean, I believe, to be
kindly - tho' the practice is at
times very strange & my thought
was very nice indeed. I am glad to
know ends good; again I darling
I do hope that you may have ~~heard~~^{not}
heard any reports of the accident
before you receive this - I shall
be long to hear from you - I wish
to see you at Clujeth - if you
see that it may have been
a little comfort -
goodbye again - I must say
it by darling - I send the
A Wilhelm & son

Miss Lloyd & Miss Julia

Lloyd

Adm'd bloom