a
1 Nov 1924

Mt Morris Illinois
25th Sept 1894

My dear Mrs Bleeker

I thank you very much
for your welcome letter which
I got by last mail. I am truly
glad to hear you all have had
such a pleasant holiday, and
that you and Edith are really
benefited by the change. There
plenty of rest is the only
way to get strong.
I am very fortunate for Doris
to soon getting her opportunity,
& then they must have
confidence, and feel that

We have had such a build hunter, and so little rain, I am afraid unless we have some rain, there will be very little grass for the cattle — Saturday & Sunday we had a genuine South Easter, the dust was terrible — I much prefer hunter to summer — Mr. G. Marlow has had another attack, not so severe — his daughter from America is coming out to see him in hopes, which will give him quite pleasure, though it will be painful to them as he can only say yes & no.

You will I am sure be surprised at what I am going

to tell you. That is, that
Ethel is engaged to Mr.
Stokes of the Bank of Africa.
He is a nice young fellow, and
all seem of him, to me his
sister, his father is a Mr Stokes
a clergyman, living near Glasgow,
Mr Stokes has only been in the
Cape eighteen months. This is to
be a long engagement, about
eighteen months. I can't bear
to think of Ethel going away
from me, it has been hard to
give my consent.
Harry's letter today is much
better, and comes nearly every day,
Mr. Whitfeld has not yet gone to
Matabeleland. Harry & Mabel
are in a fright to a married
sister of his, at Charlestown
in hotel. I seem afraid of that
marriage.

Julia Lucy has a good teacher.
but you I hope it may lead
to something good. How
have I, the girls going
home first to put things in
order — When I returned from
my short visit to the Shenandoah
Ellen had left the servants to
turn out all the rooms, and
they looked so fresh and nice
and clean —

I was sorry to hear Mrs. J. Lloyd
had suffered during the Express.
but glad she is so much better
and that she is again near you
all. Mrs Lloyd sends my family
before she left.