Answered
17th

Monday
15th Jan 1899.

My dear Mr. Black,

I felt your kind hearts would grieve with us, in this sad bereavement. It was a terrible shock to all who knew him. I feel quite sure his mind was unhinged, from over strain and grief at having to leave the women & children of "Bryburg" to their fate. It has a cruel position he has placed us. From Mr. Scott, I had a sad, heart broken letter from her, she says her future is very dark. Her letter brought my own trouble thirteen years ago, back very vividly, only hers is even more sad. She tells me the children don't realize what really has happened. As soon as it is safe Mr. Scott send the letter

ones will come to me, until things are arranged. By this mail I had a letter from one of his sisters, they had also heard he was gone. Ever since the news began both Harry & myself, had a presentiment he would be killed, and the 13th. Oct the Sunday he left Oxford I was so unsettled I did not know what to do with myself. Could not settle to anything. Poor fellow. My comfort is, God rules all.

I am thankful to say Mr Dawson and Mr Dobie are both safe out of the Transvaal. Mr Dawson is with us, Ethel & Mr Dobie are in Natal, near Fresh Water.

George is at Hermansdorp, the farmers there are dutch, but very quiet. It is not far from Lydenburg. Our troops have done well, and the Natal Light Horse, splendidly, I see the General has complimented them.

Which a number of our Officers have been picked off. How many homes made desolate, by this horrible war. and hundreds maimed.

I had a letter from Mrs Floyd she would have liked to come and stay with me for a few weeks, but I had no room the house is quite full. I shall not be able to put Mr Dobie & Ethel up. Mrs Floyd said she expected to hear Metal about the 11th. Thank you for remembering my birth day, it has rather a sad one.

Now I must answer your letter of the 28th Sept. We are having our autumn rains, not so much as the troops are daily arriving, for some time the forced reserves, in that case the duties in the Colony might have risen, and it would have been circ war. It seems to me when the Army moves forward, most likely we shall

have two terrible letters, one before entering the Free State, the other going to the relief of Ladysmith - Even down some of the boers have re-turned to their farms, and Dundee fight.

It is so good of you to think of me. One is often asked to help in different ways, but I only give what I can afford and if my home is full I can manage kindly - Fresh month I hope to send you a draft the first thing this year.

Some day soon I hope to write to Edith but I have had so many letters to write lately, and so does not feel to do it.

The boers respects me, more than you would think, sometimes I feel quite ill.

Give your one in front love to Yourself & the girls. I don't know how to thank you for all your many kindnesses to me.

Ever sincerely yours

H. E. Knight