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17 Dec 1900

is wonderful here
Mr. Hy Gurney is
very ill with
typhoid fever

Kimberley
Dec 3rd 1900

My Dear Mr. Blackburn & Mrs Blackburn
& Dear Aunt Hilda

I am afraid you will not get a very long letter today - George's wife and daughter arrived on Sunday morning & Flory & Ethel both being away, after my work is finished I have to run to town to church - She has not been well and the climate changes, and her mother & sisters are here from Kimberley also a sister from Johannesburg, so she will meet them all - One of her brothers is a born prisoner, he was a burglar of the Transvaal, his name is John Stephens - Doris is such a dear child, and not at all spoilt - Mr. Dawson & Flory Irene & Baby are at Greyville for a month, the

Jr

Ordered Flag sea bathing, as she is not strong - Ellen has been at Caledon for a fortnight, and will not return for a week, she has not been well for some time then got influenza, and looked miserable so Mr Olive wished her to try the baths and she is much better -

Yesterday Mrs J. Lloyd called to see Ines, she was not looking very well, had been ill with a cold, but is improving she was telling me of Mary's daughters I am glad they are both so well, you must be delighted with your little Granddaughter - but I should like to see the girls, when then were very pretty children -

I told you of the arrival of Mr. Scott and the children, they were only with me a week, when they sailed for England - Mrs. Edie wanted to stay with me, and I longed to keep

to keep them, but thought it was better for them to go home with Mr. Seth, and see their Father relations and the voyage would do them good - I hope the relations brought them will push Seth to a good English School he is a fine boy, so unselfish, and gentle - Edie I should like to have him but will not stand in her way, if it is better for her to remain in England Mr. Seth I understand left his boys their Guardian - I don't think she will insist on having them if other arrangements can be made - you know the children are fond of her and she of them, but she is young and attractive, I believe intends [redacted] of calling on her Father's relations, who are all wealthy and society people, if they take a fancy to her

She will find the children on her hands. Poor little mites, it is a hard case. Never mind! they can always come back to their Mamma.

We are having such variable weather one day like the middle of winter & the next very warm, today it is like summer with a hot wind blowing.

The war is dragging on, we have just had a slight reverse, a number of men killed & wounded & lost five guns. Pom "Mafeking" how cruel the Boers are in that quarter, if those generals are captured, they ought to be shown no mercy, but shot.

With the sovereigns you told me to use I got three very nice Flannelette Pyjamas two warm caps & one pair of socks to which we added some warm belts, Handkerchiefs, Caps, old linen and three pairs of socks Mrs. Dawson had knitted and sent it to No. 3 Hospital, parcel from Charlton House. Fresh meat we are making up our usual monthly parcel.