

Capetown, 10 Sept. 1863

My dearest Loui,

Though Jemmie cannot write this time, she is yet very well considering, and the baby seems strong and healthy. She was born on Tuesday the 8th inst. between 6 and 6 ½ p.m. Jemmie had even the previous day been able to take a walk, and felt so well in the night from Monday to Tuesday that we did not feel even uneasy on account of the nurse's not coming, who since Saturday night had slept in the house, though during the day we had allowed her to go home. Poor thing, - a very strong South Easter making her going out dangerous. In the morning of Tuesday, however, Jemmie felt not well, and we sent at once Mary to fetch Mrs. Mason. Still Jemmie was able to be about and do a few little things (of course, up stairs) but I soon went for the Doctor, whom after some search I found at last and who came at eleven. He found things going on very regularly and promised to call again in the afternoon, if not wanted earlier. Between 3 and 4 I had to go for him again, and with the help of a Cab, which I happily soon caught, I brought him very quickly. He had then to wait still some time till his actual help was required. How I wished all this painful suffering could have been spared our dearest Jemmie. You do not know (though you may guess) how I felt for her. She says the Doctor was evidently very skilful and careful, and she feels very grateful for his help and assistance. But if you could see Jemmie's quiet happiness and her mother's pride of our darling Edith; it is really something to be glad of. Of course today, as I hear usually on the third day, she is somewhat weak, but otherwise very well, I believe. And the Doctor says they are both going on very nicely. He came back on Tuesday an hour and a half after he had left her after baby's birth, to look at them again, and comes now every morning. Mrs. Mason, the nurse, is everything that could be desired, - she seems very sensible, kind, careful, clean and attentive, and we can have the very best trust in her management. Jemmie says that she seems to understand so excellently to manage babies. So there seem to be so many things to be thankful for. We here down stairs go on excellently. Nellie is an excellent M.P., and Bella is so very nice and quiet, and helpful. Only I am sometimes a very naughty teaser. But I am afraid they have got to like my teasing. Bella says she thinks it so curious that I should be a Papa. When I however called Edith my eldest daughter, she strenuously objected, and declared that she (Edith) was my youngest daughter, and that Nellie was my eldest daughter. On the other hand Bella is quite proud of being a little Aunt. But now you want to know something of Baby. They declare that she is very much like me, - so you will believe that she was hearty. I do not know, how it is, the first night she looked much prettier than now, the features of her face being much more decided [?] and less wrinkled. She has very pretty ears, and dark blue eyes which she can open pretty widely. She has evidently all her senses well developed. Her head is covered with hair, which is on the back of the head quite thick. We intend to send you a lock by the Mail Steamer. She is rather stout, or as the nurse says, fat. Such nice little hands. She seems very intelligent, if one may use such a term of a baby. - We have decided to call her Edith Charlotte. Fancy the little thing being just 36 years and a half younger than I. It being my half yearly birthday. - Today we heard of you all through Nellie (O.L.M.). I am glad the news seemed good. I trust you did not too much exert yourself for poor Willie. I am glad he was to go to Verulam [?]. I trust Tiny can be provided for; and if you possibly could by getting some money from Mr. Shuter for her, - perhaps staying with you three would be almost the best, if you were careful not to let it become a burden to you more than you can bear. Mrs. Fynn's offer is very kindly meant, but of course quite unacceptable, even if she could well afford it, or if one could give her sufficient not to make it an expense to her. Of course the nature of her establishment would render it unadmissible. I express myself wrongly perhaps, at all events awkwardly, - but perhaps you will guess what I mean. I would not have said anything about it if not Ettie in each of her two letters to you had referred to the subject. I think Mr. Brickhill is very wise in thinking such a situation would not at all do for one so young as Willie. - We are looking out for the Natal Mail Steamer, which may arrive now any hour. - The English Mail arrived on the 7th inst., but we could not get our letters before the following morning. Jemmie had some from Uncle Marmaduke, Aunt Elizabeth Lloyd, Miss Moore with her photograph, and a very nice one

from Mrs. Fisher. We had also letters from my mother, my sister Hedwig and my brother Theodor. His wedding was to take place at Potsdam on the 29th August. They seemed all well; at least tolerably! I had of course letters from the Bishop of Natal, who sends his very kind regards to you. He was just in North Wales, intended at the end of August to go to Holland and Germany. He was in the best spirits. Of course he takes no notice of the Bishop of Capetown's absurd proceedings, which can not touch him in the least. The Natal Clergy __ will have to learn what fools they have made of themselves. It is as much as certain that the Bishop of Natal can return unmolested to his Diocese. I have seen letters from half a dozen clergymen of distinction who address the Bishop of Natal in most satisfactory terms. – I forgot to tell you that Jemmie had also a letter from Auntie enclosed in one of Mrs. Stanger's to Miss Maclear – Mrs. Pauling has not yet sent for Bella, - something must have prevented her. Of course she knows not yet the arrival of our little Edith, which event will be proclaimed only in Saturday's paper. If you like to ask Mr. Robinsonto announce it to our Natal friends in his paper – of course you will do so. – Jema sends her best love to you all, she feels much better & stronger this afternoon. Baby sleeps much. You do not know what a proud and happy father she makes me. But I must close, as Nellie waits to take this letter to the Post Office. – With best love to you all, you Loui & Fanny & Julia, and also Ettie, Tiny and Susy, as little Aunts, and Uncles – Willie & Charlie &c &c. With kindest regards to the Sandersons.

Your's most affectionately
Wilhelm

I cannot write to Fan & Julia separately; but you will tell them all.

PS 11 September

Friday 9 a.m. All is well this morning. Jemmie better and stronger. We received your letters per Norman yesterday afternoon. We shall answer them per Mail. In great haste.

W