

Cape Town, 16 Sept. 1863

My dear Loui,

Last Friday we despatched already a long letter with our joyful news. So, I shall this time only give you a condensed statement. Since Tuesday the 8th inst. about 6 ½ o'clock p.m. I am the most happy and proud father of a strong little girl. Both mother and child are doing well. You will understand that we cannot yet allow dear Jemmie to write herself. We need not apologise further as we know how you would not wish her to do differently. Everything went on as well as one under the circumstances could expect, and the Doctor, although very careful and attentive, has already ceased to visit her daily. The first day he was three times in the house, and till Saturday every day. On Sunday she was exceedingly well, on which account we were much with her, perhaps a little too much. So she had on Monday to be kept a little more quiet; but was again yesterday (Tuesday) quite rested; has had a good night, and is very flourishing this morning. The nurse is very careful, has not yet allowed her to leave the, or any nookie even, but today she is, I think, to lie on the sofa. Nookie cannot be far behind. Our little Edith Charlotte is as strong and healthy a baby as could be wished, - not handsome, but an intelligent roguish little face, with fat cheeks, [illeg] nose, dark blue eyes, and head full of dark brown hair. Yesterday she has been for the first time out of doors, which seems to have done her much good. Your dear letters, per O.L.M. and per Norman arrived both on Thursday last, the 10th inst. Jemmie has not yet been able, as you may think, to read them; and has this treat still in view. She sends her very best love to you all, and wishes me to tell you what a happy mother she is. We are both very sorry to hear, dear Loui, you were not quite well, and fear, you have again over exerted yourself. We are so sorry not to have made it quite clearly understood (we are afraid we have not) that of course all the expense regarding Willie's education for the present, and all expenses, incurred with the view to send him to School, were to be born by us. Dear Loui, you will, therefore, kindly let us know all extra expense besides to be paid to Mr. Yarnold [?], which may have been incurred by our causing Willie to leave Mr. Ross's, [illeg]. It is only just and right and a thing we always intended, though in the haste of writing, &c we may have failed to say so clearly. You will, dearest Loui, see the justice of this and please kindly let us know all the extra expense which this may have caused. I am very sorry not to have been clear about it at once, as it must have much inconvenienced you, and I hope very much, that another time if I should forget to say so, you will remember what, if I had thought of it, I would certainly have said, and confidently act on this. I know this is asking a very great deal, but now it seems to me as if I could ask it, and not be thought asking too much. As there may be immediately more expenses with Willie, I send at once a cheque for ten pounds; but please should the remainder of it be wanted at once, to draw a bill upon me immediately. I am sure Yarow [?] will make no difficulty in asking it. - Regarding the Rivett business, I will say nothing now, except how very sorry I am that you had anything so disagreeable. When I have seen the letter I may be better able to see what can and ought to be done, . Thank you for the extract and for telling me about the O.L.M. letters. We send the last one in a thick envelope. - The Roeschs [?] have not yet sent the pattern, but I trust they will send it before the Eveline again goes to Natal. She has, however, not yet arrived here; - so our parcel will have to wait another fortnight, I believe. - But, dear Loui, really you must not make new frocks for the little ones. I am sure you are not fit for it; and if they are sensible they will much prefer wearing their very oldest frocks than seeing you worn to death by working for them. Please consider that you do them a serious wrong, by this. Will you excuse me in telling you, dearest Loui, that I am just a little afraid that with regard to the children you fall in one serious, thought very very excusable, mistake, - i.e. of fixing for yourself a certain standard according to which those children ought to be kept. If that standard is not reached, you make yourself unhappy, and in order to reach it, you do yourself and thereby those you wish to help also, great injury. Now is not this standard one of your own fixing and have you any real right to fix it? Ought you not rather to take things as they are, - just only trying to make the best of them.; and when you have done all that you rightly can do, leaving the rest (and there will with our best efforts always numerous things undone which one might wish to be done) as not being your real duty, but a real wrong, if

you tried it. – Jemmie wishes you to thank Willie and Mrs. Sanderson much for their letters, which she hopes much to enjoy soon. I am sorry, I cannot write separately to Fan & Julia, - but they will accept the news given you. Give them our best love, and best thanks for their dear letters. I enclose two letters received from Mrs. Fisher. I am sorry, I have not been able to write my long intended letter to Mr. Sanderson, to whom you will give our kindest regards. – Jemmie (who is lying on the Sofa) and to whom I have just read this letter (whilst Baby is out with nurse) wants me to tell you that she has plenty of food for the little crature. Nellie [?] has probably told you that Bell a went to the Paulings on Saturday afternoon, for a week or ten days. Sarah saw Jemmie just for a moment that day, otherwise no visitors have been admitted. The Maclears called twice on Saturday and Tuesday;

2 p.m. I must close, in haste, - I enclose letters from Miss ____house, Cattie & Aunt Elizabeth received this [illeg], as Jemmie will for some good time not be able to answer them. With much love to all, also Susy, Ing [?], Willie, believe me, your affectionate
Wilhelm