

Capetown, 6 Nov. 1863

My dear Loui,

Many thanks for your & Fan's kind letter of 20th October, which I received yesterday. The same Mail brought also Julia's longer letter to Jemmie of the 13th Oct., and Fan's one to Nellie of the same date. First, Jemmie is very much better. The nurse has already been dismissed for a few days. The Doctor appears only very rarely. Jemmie has leave to go out, &c. Poor little Bella seems suffering much from cutting her teeth; a curious strong pain coming off and on the top of her left shoulder. Nothing is visible, but it seems as if two small veins there were in some way affected by the process. – She sometimes cries with the pain, - though otherwise she is very hardy. – Perhaps some overfatigue in walking may have told also upon her. On Tuesday last Nellie, Bella and I went more than half way up the Lion's rump, - to the house and farm of Mr. Maskew, the Librarian, where we scrambled much about in the orchard. The sun was very hot when we went, and not knowing the road, we walked up a very steep path. Nellie enjoyed it exceedingly; and it did her a great deal of good; but it was probably too much for poor Bella and even for me, though I did not feel the effects at once. Wednesday night, however, I was perfectly done. I had been visiting all that morning without interruption, till our two o'clock dinner; and I seem not yet able to do so much. I feel as yet not good for much, though better; - and so must not write much more. The Mail closes now $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour earlier than formerly. Jemmie, who has been much interrupted by baby last night, is just dressing her, after which she will probably have to give her breakfast, dress herself and have breakfast. So I am afraid, she will not be able to write this time, not having done so yesterday; - on which day we had many interruptions. Nellie will have this morning to do Bella's work in addition to her own; she will probably have no time either. Tomorrow we shall be thinking very much of you dear Loui, - and be wishing you all possible happiness in the new year then beginning for you, and in all those many ones which we hope will still follow. We so hope things will turn out so much better than our short foresight is able to anticipate them; - and that you will indeed gain again strength and health sufficient to let you enjoy existence. As to the children, things have turned out so much better than any one could foresee; - and I believe we may all look with some satisfaction upon the way, in which they are at present situated, - and for them at least your father's departure has for the present, I believe, been rather a benefit than otherwise. A few days ago I had by the "Queen of the South" a letter from Miss Townsend, dated 18 Sept. 1863. The following extracts may interest you. "Whilst it occurs to me I must mention two things; the first is that when calling on Mrs. Colenso last week, she told me that the Bishop had been in Germany for ten days, & that she had last heard of him from Dresden, with whose glorious picture gallery he was greatly delighted. Mrs. Colenso & the two boys & little Agnes who were at home were quite well, & gave good accounts of Harrie & Fanny, who are still at school.

"Secondly, about 10 days ___ whilst I was at 79 Pall Mall" (Gospel Propagation Society) "talking to Mr. Bullock, Mrs. Bleek's father the Revd. Mr. Lloyd came in and remained for an hour or more talking about Natal & its bishop & clergy. He recognized me at once, & I was glad to hear that Mrs. Lloyd was quite well".

Jemmie sends her best love to you all, and many thanks for the letters, which she is very sorry she cannot answer at once. Baby is very well; - be this not a bad omen, would a superstitious cousin of mine have added to this phrase [?].

With best love to you all your's affectionately

Wilhelm