provide for me. And in the face of this all, and knowing that it might be wrong to retrench in any way, which might be liable to impair my strength, I continue on the main to live on in the same way as previously, and except in a few articles, in which I thought I might be more economical, my expenses are pretty much the same as they were. I pay even more for some extras which I sometimes have and ordered (our ordinary fare being now, with few boarders and those paying little, rather coarse) when I felt I needed them; but I save again in rent, though I have a quite good room, double as large at least as those upstairs bedrooms to which Mrs. Roesch used to treat us. - I have been in general very well, - but am just this moment not entirely so, - partly too much exposure to South Eastern dust and heat has made me so: and partly a visit I paid yesterday to the Dentist's, who though he only stopped one front tooth, and did not pain me at all, yet affected my nerves too much. I went mainly there to consult him about my teeth in general but I have not much faith in him ~~general~~. To tell you the truth, I have lost a couple of front teeth more, since you last saw me, so that it might perhaps frighten you, if I opened my mouth. I think it also affects somewhat the distinctness of my voice, and I went, therefore, to consult him about the advisability of having some teeth set in. I did not mean to do have this done at once, but I meant in case all things went smoothly with me. But then he shocked me at first by telling me, I wanted I do not know how many teeth, and that it altogether would come to £15. Besides he said it would be best to take the teeth out every night, and sleep without them. Now I once saw a lady who had a set of very fine false teeth, ~~either~~ accidentally one early morning without them, and the difference made her so hideous to me, as she would never have been if I from the very beginning had seen her without them. Therefore, to spare your feelings could no further be my reason for ~~having put~~ getting a set of false teeth, - and I think, therefore, if you should not wish it, I shall not go to this expense. It would perhaps be different if there was some clever dentist (like you have them in London) who could put, as I am told teeth in with vulcanized india rubber (not distinguishable from the gum, instead of the gold plate of our Cape Dentist) which would stick firmly in and cannot be taken out. One should not mind making them part of one self. But ~~I~~ my dear ~~not~~ say exactly what you think of it, and I shall have plenty of time of beautifying my ugly self in this way as much as possible, if it should please you.

I then wished him (the Dentist) to examine my other teeth, and fancy, he wants to stop six of them. He began at once with one, but I felt not strong enough to have more than this one operated upon, and was even afterwards sorry that this was done, for it was a tooth which I cannot believe will be saved by any stopping. And now I hardly

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Capetown, 9 April 1862

My own dear Jemmie,

Though much thinking of you, yet I could not find the time to write you the thoughts I had, – being very busy with different things, – I mean with my publication which is only too slow in going through the press, with Library work, i.e. attending at the Library, and describing the Manuscripts, and also occasionally acting as showman. Then I had also to prepare for my Kafir classes, in which I have two pupils, whom you also know, Glover and Squibb, both I believe, or rather imagine merely, Candidates for a Kaffrarian Bishopric in spe. It is only one hour, however, a week, and only for the first time it made me a little nervous, as I was afraid of possibly prostituting my little learning and greater ignorance before them. But that has happily worn off; I find I can really teach them something, though Glover is very far advanced in his Kafir studies, the difficulty lies rather in Squibb's being too little advanced. The few shillings which this will bring into my pocket, is all my actual income since the beginning of February, when I lost my Office. But do not be alarmed, – I have money enough saved during the last year to last me still for some months, and in two months from this I may hope that Parliament has granted the money for the Grey Library, – and if not, some thing else must then be taken in hand, and I may look confidently in the future for, though the Governor seems not to take any interests in my researches, yet he has said that he regarded it as his duty to provide

hardly believe, I shall in soon trouble the Dentist again, though he may perhaps be right. But his operations affect me too much to be endured without the greatest certainty of ultimate benefit, which I have not, – As to personal appearance I know mine is downright ugly, and I believe, even a good deal more than it was a year ago, when your own loving eyes looked at me. But one thing regarding this I must tell you, which you ought to know. I have always, since I was a little child been inclined to have eruptions on the skin. In fact during four years after the first year of my life, I have been so fearfully afflicted with them, that I was several times near death, and was a most piteous, perhaps hideous sight to behold. I have been told that as little child of two years old, when my poor old grandmother who was very fond of me they say, asked me who I was, I used to answer (as I had been probably taught by aunts or uncles): "Ich bin ein kleines Scheusal" (a little hideous thing). From this illness, however, they say, it was that I became a stronger boy and man than any of my brothers and sisters, and I continued so till three, or perhaps four years ago, when the first signs of my present illness made their appearance, in consequence of which I may never expect to be quite a strong and healthy man. – I do not know whether you remarked it at Mrs. Roesch, but I believe when I was staying there I was a little suffering from eruptions; but not quite to that extent as now. And here again the Doctor says

whatever I wished to bring to your notice. I feel this distance will to a certain extent always prevent us from knowing each other so well as would be desirable for us both, and ~~thought~~ it calls the more forth the necessity of an implicit trust into each other, which whenever anything may want an explanation, will quietly settle in the meantime, till such can be given) our minds at rest in the entire mutual confidence which I know (this is a weak word for what I want to say), we possess. It is impossible to tell you every circumstance of my former life here in writing, as I would if you were sitting with me, I mean mainly of my inward life; for, my outward career may be easily learnt by you from my relations with whom you not improbably may be when this reaches you. I know, I am full of imperfections. You once scolded me deservedly for my rudeness (it was to Capt. Lowther, whose conversation with me you had accidentally overheard) and I felt very gratified by your rebuke, which I knew would not have been given but to a friend. I know I am not considered a humble man, and perhaps I am not in some regards, and do not even wish to be so in some points, in which I take a real pride, and know I can justly take a pride, though fully aware how faulty and unplaising I am on others, which may perhaps appear to most people of the greatest consequence. But I am wandering from my subject, I mean, from what I wanted to tell you, namely that I have read "A Life for a Life", and am rather puzzled to answer your question regarding what I think of it. There are so many points, on which you may wish to know my opinion, in this book, that I hardly know where to begin. But first of all I believe you wish to know I am sure, whether the love existing between Dora and Max was exactly the love which we two might hope to have for each other. Here I may say very nearly, not exactly, because I believe love is to a certain extent always different according to the nature and character (and perhaps even circumstances though of course in a very small degree) of those who love each other. Now I do not think that you are exactly like Dora, nor I perhaps even less, like Max; therefore, I think our love for each other, though it may be quite as deep, or become at least so, has a nature of its own, and I hardly like to compare it, and by analyzing, partly destroying my unconscious enjoyment of it. Yet there is such a reality in

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in every passage almost of this book which makes one feel the deepest interest in those who have bound themselves so together, and who give such a striking evidence how true love ennobles the character, and lifts one beyond the minor anxieties of trivial occurrences. I should say more on this subject, but since the time that I read it, and now (17 April) I have been so entirely taken up by various unavoidable occupations which indeed required all my thought and attention that I can hardly recollect the other points on which I wanted to speak with you. I know there were several points, but they are at present not vivid enough in my recollection to allow me to talk of them with any profit. I also read Agatha's Husband, which I believe however, is not by Miss Mulloch. Regarding that I think it very wrong under all the circumstances for the husband to have kept her so long in the dark regarding a circumstance which she ought at once to have known, and though it in no way may justify her conduct, yet it certainly caused this developement of her worst propensities, instead of the good which might have been called for by a generous confidence. I think I must tell you even now (as far as circumstances allow and in a letter I dare all

says and in this I believe him to be right that I ought not to do anything against it, as it might be good for draguing it of the lungs. Neither can I help sweating involuntarily sometimes, though mostly only half consciously between waking and sleep. It is confined almost entirely to my right leg, in the knee hole and the lower part, besides on the wrist of the right arm, and a little on the thumb of the left. A little it may be caused (I mean these eruptions) by the heat, and still more perhaps though the want of such a selection of my food as would be best suitable for my present constitution. At the end of last winter, and after the careful nursing I had had in Barbados (I do not like to associate him with our present Government House), the eruptions had entirely disappeared. I believe, therefore, that in a household of my own, and with a wife to look after my well doing, this nastiness may be kept under, without any such means which would throw it inside. But you ought to know this all, before taking entirely up with such a nasty disagreable fellow. I do not know I feel it hard upon me that, instead of quietly being able to tell you all about me, and immediately perceiving what impression it makes upon you, I shall only receive an answer, when I may have almost forgotten all what I wrote, I say almost, for I cannot quite and entirely forget whatever

I do thank you also for your two photographs. They are indeed very much alike each other; in fact the expression of the face is very different. The Worcester one is more girlish, the other more thoughtful womanly. The expression of the latter is more familiar to me and to my recollection of your appearance, though you are evidently stouter and stronger in both. The Worcester one gives you a more healthy appearance, but as you say, there were particular reasons for your nerves being overwrought then at London, and so I hope for the best. I can hardly fancy in reading through your dear letters and looking at your beloved countenance as it is reflected in those portraits, that it is possible that you really may be mine, my own dear wife, whom really I deserve I must daily strive to do my best. For indeed when I first gave you my love and offered myself to you, I really did not at all appreciate all the treasure which was hidden in your true real heart, loving and loveglving, as it appears to me now endowed even with higher qualities than I had at first attributed to it. A true realoneness with it, would be such an immense blessing to a poor desolate creature like me that I cannot be thankful enough for it, and its realization, I mean that of its outward community make me the happiest of men, if only I knew it made you as happy at the same time, as I really hope

all what she whom in thought I may call my wife ought to know regarding myself, or concerning us both, I know indeed that even afterwards there may be many things (official secrets, or confidential communications by other people) which I might not be allowed even to tell my wife, and I know that our love and mutual confidence and oneness will no ways be shaken by such necessary discretion which I shall, however, try to keep within its most narrow limits. I mean there will be sometimes even things which to know would rather embarass you, and which you will not wish to know, even were I allowed to tell them; and which if I should keep them to myself, would not be for want of confidence but perhaps because they are matters which I would rather not think of at all, and almost hide my own knowledge from myself. Of course if it in any way really affected either of us or would be the least benefit for you to know, I should be only too glad to pour all what I know, out into your loving soul (if that is anything!) — You do not fear, I know what. I treasure your love which you now let me so clearly see in your dear long letter which I received on Monday (14th inst) is to me. Oh! I so thank you for it, and feel so glad and happy in it that all else appears to me as trifling circumstances, and I feel such a new courage to do right on your account almost more than on my own, that this in itself is a source of great happiness to me.

indeed as the cold seems to affect you pretty strongly, I can hardly believe that Dr. Russell would advise this and in fact I almost fancy he will send you away even earlier than he now thinks. However, whatever my own personal wishes may be, the desire prevails that it should be done so as to be for the real permanent establishment of your health. I hope so that dear Lucy will quite or at least as much as we can expect recover from that last sharp attack of illness of which you seem to know (of course is natural) more than I do. Oh! if one could only devise something for her which would restore her strength in some way, and heal her nervous irritability which makes the trials which she has to undergo fall so particularly heavy on her! — Oh! that account which you dearest have given me of her past (fearful as she indeed calls it), how it has moved my sympathy, and how I felt for you all. And how thankful I am to you for telling me so all, as indeed it ~~would be~~ ought of course too frequently happen that I would unconsciously have touched upon some tender point, and though I believe she would not have taken it ill, yet I should feel so vexed to have thus even pained her. But I am sure such a true and good woman and so real a one as your dear wife must from all your account & her letters be well get even over this deep affliction, and be raised to higher considerations, and indeed as you tell me, she has already done so, and in the worth which she has still to be, she will yet find ultimate comfort. I so wish also to know one so dear to you and so worth your love, I mean personally; for, I am sure we shall never get quite so acquainted by letter, as that I really could do the least thing even to do her any much good, as a true friend's sympathy can give. And she has now as she tells me, some trials and a good deal of anxiety (though of what kind exactly I do not know) on account of your youngest sister, whose remarkable outward likeness to yourself indeed makes her peculiarly interesting to me, I mean increases the interest which I should feel for her already as your wife. And gentle dear Fanny is, from what you told me, far from strong in health. I am sorry that our position to each other could not be told them, though I quite agree with you on the advisability of keeping it a secret generally, particularly in Natal. But I am sure you will direct me (or otherwise Louie will, to whom I have communicated my puzzle) how it will be best to break it to your father, and whether it would be advisable for me to take any step myself herein, I mean not to ask his consent, which under the circumstances would be out of question to ask, but to let him know the fact in such a manner which would not tend to widen the breach and increase the mutual estrangement, and if you should not fear

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that it should come to him through others (a thing most undesirable of course) as you should still have delayed telling all your relations (notwithstanding your outspoken intention to tell them at once at the end of March or beginning of April), I should almost prefer that the announcement even to him (and if made to him, it will probably be public news soon in Natal) should be delayed till my future is more settled, and I have firmer hopes and expectations of making you really soon my wife, if willing to be so, and all remains well. I am so afraid that we shall be so misjudged by many people who though they may be indifferent to us, may influence others whose opinions we might care for. But all this is not on my account, but on yours, and on account of some very pitiable fears you had at first of announcing at once the engagement. But if you do not feel any reluctance, and will bear it all, dearest, I shall only be too glad to have you in this instance adopt whatever course you may think or have thought best and rightest. — One thing: How far does Mrs. Fisher know or guess? or rather did she before the end of March? I had her letter, and thank her very much for it; I am so sorry to hear that the hope and trust it will. — Regarding your health I am indeed concerned that you were not yet so much better as I had hoped, though Lizzy told me beforehand I should not expect better accounts of it by this March, for various reasons. But she hopes the best of the spring and summer. I am truly sorry on the one hand that Dr. Russell wishes you to stay for your health's sake ~~to remain~~ in England till October; but I am only too glad that he promises you the probability of an almost complete restoration of your health and strength; and as I really believe that your frame is by nature a strong one, I have good faith and confidence in the ultimate success of his cure. I even hardly venture to suggest the possibility that he might not have such an objection to your coming at once to the Cape even a little earlier, in case I could make things there quite comfortable for you, and my health and circumstances allow of such a plan. But there is plenty of time to consider still any such plan, if feasible and advisable; and I know that I must be quite prepared even to advise your returning later (for example, in Louis navigate in December after the Autumnal storms). Yet I hope it will at least not be thought a duty for you to remain all coming winter in England as Mrs. Fisher suggests, and

I wonder whether the Herschels were at Hawkhurst when you were there, I have heard so much of them here at the Cape, particularly through Sir George Grey and the Marlears, and at Pau through a brother of Lady Herschel, who resides there, a Mr. Stuart. — Did you ever ask the Doctor whether nux vomica was good for you to take, I mean not during, particularly to the nerves. I trust you did, and did not experiment on this or anyone upon yourself by your own judgment alone. — Now I must try to give you some account of my own doings, and preface with stating that my health is as good as under the circumstances I may expect, much better and stronger, than a year ago when you dearest saw me last. The cold just setting in earlier than usual (though we may have still some warm days in store) makes it necessary for me to be doubly careful. The effect has this change of weather also, the eruptions of which I spoke begin to disappear, in fact they are nearly gone, and I am sure by the end and even in the middle of winter they will be entirely gone, and in fact I am sure they would not appear even in summer, if only my diet was in any way properly chosen, and we were not so crammed with greasy chops &c, without almost any vegetables. In telling you all this as my future wife, you do not know whether I do not exceed the limits of English prudery, as established by conventionalism; but I know you dearest wish me to talk to you as openly regarding all such matters as if you were already what you intend to be, and that the oneness of feeling ought to a certain extent to be already established between us. I say to a certain extent, meaning to as great an extent as thousands of miles distance, and the halting intercourse by letters which cannot have an answer before the end of nearly three months will really enable us to bring it. I mean all the time even now you are in ignorance of what I told you in the letter sent a month ago from here, and which (though it contains nothing decisive) yet will clear up several at least one notion of a secret which until then you must have believed I had withheld from you, though if it had been of the nature which you supposed, I ought have felt myself bound to tell it you on the very beginning, before even declaring you what I really felt for you. I mean that you had that first time that I really should have done so, if the case had been as you supposed it first, and you, therefore, afterwards were led to doubt the report. But now even these doubts will be cleared away when at the end of this month you get my March letter.

I must tell you I saw some Natal friends when the last Mail left. I went on board myself and took leave from the Windhams. I only saw her and her baby then for the first time. He is an old fellow passenger to Natal with me, and friend of the Bishop of Natal. Their address in England will be 14 Connaught Place, Hyde Park, London. Of course I said nothing of you. One day I went to see the Gamisons, and also a Lady Duff Gordon (daughter of Mrs. Austen) who is herself an authoress, translating from the German. She lived a while much at Bonn, though almost before my time. She is about 40 years of age. She is here for her health's sake, suffering from Bronchitis; but will, I believe, go back to England for the summer, if she can find a comfortable sailing vessel. I had an interview with the Governor which did not lead to any other result than that he promise to do what he could for me for getting through Parliament the foundation of the Library to such an amount as to enable the Trustees to secure my services. My book is going slowly through the press. I have not yet secured more than the costs of printing. I had hoped for some orders from Europe, by this Mail, but may still expect them by next. I had long letters from the Bishop of Natal, who will probably leave in the Medusa in May. He hopes that he will have the pleasure of seeing you in England. You know I told him under the seal of greatest

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secrecy the cause of your leaving Natal. He was so ill, poor dear moth, as you call her, naughty girl! I hope she soon recovered; but I dare say after her long stay in Natal, she will find the climate of England very trying. Does the Parent still? and how does she generally live? – I am glad you found such friends in the Russell's, and in Mrs. Russell such a discreet partaker of your secret. Do not think I am so prejudiced against Homeopathic Doctors as not to appreciate all what he has done for you, and I never should like you to have any doctor in whom you had not the most perfect confidence. I am sorry to say I have no such confidence in any Doctor here; but in several at home, two of whom are Jews, one at Aix la Chapelle who cured me from a fearful attack of spitting of blood which overtook me on the journey back from Pau (Basses Pyrenées) in May 1860, and which detained me three weeks at Aix-la-Chapelle. The other, Dr. A. Wolff is our family doctor at Bonn, of whom I have spoken to you before. He is only getting rather old, but a most clever Doctor though he greatly dislikes Homeopathy, and from him I may have mostly imbibed my prejudices regarding it. – I am so much interested in all you tell me of your relations in England, and now know nearly every one by name, I mean at least those five sisters and two brothers of your dear mother whom you named, and two sisters and one brother of your father. I shall be always glad to hear more particulars regarding any who are dear to you.

position as far as she could see and intuitively guessed it, and a clear consciousness of all the right and wrongs involved in the question. But she wishes to leave it all to your own decision. I hope soon to get another letter (perhaps overland) from her, answering questions of mine regarding the particulars of your father's family, &c. Poor dear Lucy, she was so much like you when young. I wrote your March letter just received suffering from cold and in addition of inflamed eyes, that I must be so great for all the has already written this time. I had just a very interesting book from the Library (though I did not read much in it, having no time & getting it chiefly for a sick fellow boarder) "33 years in Tasmania & Victoria by George Thomas Lloyd". Is the author who lived in 1819 when Gippsland was, with his uncle Lieut. Charles Jeffreys R.N. to Tasmania, any relation of yours? From the connection of the names I must almost fancy that they both are. I have amused myself this afternoon (Saturday, 19 April) by looking in the Clergy List, Court Guide, Navy List & Peerage for the names of such of your relatives as you mentioned, and which I can find there. It was just like having a little bit of chat with you about them, — I mean only the chat certainly not the thing itself. — I am so looking out for your next letter, and the impression which all what I could answer (in the to which it will be the reply) to your first doubtful

doubtful answer, has made upon you, though I hardly think that I can be mistaken in my guesses regarding that. I do think one thing this distant courtship (if this was not almost too profane & detestable a word for what I mean!!) will teach us, is mutual trust and confidence, and I have the assurance that if ever by every day's life's contact we shall (as I hope with all my heart) pass this to be trial, our mutual love will stand the test, and we shall grow into that true oneness, in which indeed only the real happiness of the married state can be found. — Besides the letters from Lucy I had one from the Bishop of Natal who sent me a few hundred pages of a new work which he is going to publish and regarding which he wished to hear my opinion. I had of course a great deal to do for that Natal Mail on this account. The book will be published immediately after the Bishop's arrival in England, and is sure to make a great stir there. It will very greatly interest also you; but I must not say more about this now, at least I dare not by letter, as it is confided to me as a strict secret, and you must not even mention to any one (not even to the Bishop himself when you see him, though he has all faith in my discretion, and that I would not have told you this if I might not) that you know of this expected publication. It has been a great pleasure for me helping him partly with books (of which my father's was of the greatest use), and with my plain opinion to which he has paid more attention than perhaps any

any other person in his position would have done. And even where he does not do one main point, I see he refers to my opinion (as that of a friend's, not giving my name as I wished he should not) in the Preface, which is as noble as the whole person, who (with all his failings and shortcomings) is one of the few real men with whom it is a pleasure to have anything to do. He wishes also to publish my paper on "Unkulunkulu", but I hardly like the idea of it appearing in the columns of a Natal newspaper. He wanted to read it before the British Association, but will now probably be too late for this purpose. — I do not know, how you will manage about going to Bonn, dear! I greatly hope that you will be able to go there, and make yourself acquainted with my mother, brother and sisters, who will long to know you. I have been so thoughtless of not thinking of the necessity or at least advisability of an escort, of which dear Louie has reminded me. The journey is indeed only 20 hours, and perhaps even less. Yet it will questionable whether you can well perform it without interruption. If not, why of a longer voyage, you might go from London per steamer to Anvers, and from there to Bonn, you might spend a night, or as long as necessary to recruit yourself. If, I am any journey per rail to Bonn. I think you can take through tickets even over that

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secrecy of our mutual position, thinking it right not to do so, as I had asked him some questions (as I told you) regarding your father. Yet I should perhaps not have done so. That Mail, if I had thought he would still stay as long as a time in Natal, yet I am one, we are safe with him, though he cannot keep his own secrets very frequently. His address will be C. J. Bunyon Esq.
6 Crescent Bridge St,
Blackfriars.

Now I must explain why I do not send my photograph this time, as promised. In the first time I could not well have it taken, as I had just begun for sanatory reasons (as a kind of natural respirator) to let my beard entirely grow, and it of course had to grow to some length before it was presentable. Last week (no! I mean the beginning of this) I went several times to the Photographer, but found him always engaged and numerous parties waiting, I could never get a chance of being taken particularly as I was in great press of business and could not wait. Now I shall try my luck immediately after the Mail is gone, if all remains well; but I think it was better not to promise you anything, so that my promise may not remain unfulfilled. Of course I ought to tell you of dear long letters from your beloved Lucy, which showed me so much her clear understanding of our mutual pos-

with any Library Duties; though of course I should prefer I could devote all my spare time to the completion of My Comparative Grammar. My name and connection with the work is, however, to remain a secret for more reasons than one; and therefore, I do not like to tell you exactly what it is, though I would in a letter. Of course think it incumbent on me to tell you all about it, if you were with me, and shall do so, as soon as you are. This thing may make me very busy next March, and if by that and by the following March you get only short letters, do not fancy it is anything but that I must spare my strength for necessary labours, and contract the luxury which a chat with you is for me. I now must tell you, why I do not follow your example, and have the letter registered. But on the one hand I cannot sure that as you might not be at hand, it might occasion a delay in the delivery, and I cannot trust the Post Office Clerks here for not making it a matter of Gossip in this little place. What of course we both should dislike. I have, therefore, taken an other step to ensure its deliverance. I sending that a thick unregistered letter might be supposed to contain notes and therefore be liable to be stolen, I have divided it into two parts, and hope that by this means you will be sure to have it coming to you all right. I do, however, quite approve of your doing it, and in case you should wish me to do like you, I shall have no further hesitation.

I had very nice letters from home, particularly from my brother Hermann, who comes out much more liberal than I even expected, but this is partly owing to the antagonism to a very narrow orthodox tendency which prevails generally among the students of theology at Berlin where he is. Poor fellow he was suffering from the eyes, but otherwise he seemed to enjoy his stay in the first capital of Germany (my birth place) with numerous friends and relatives to show him kindness, and theatres and concerts to amuse him, very well. My brother Theodor also at Berlin has probably now an anxious time with his great examination; but I am fully confident he will be successful, and may come to see you at Bonn, if you should not go to Berlin, — what you hardly will do, particularly in summer, when with the dust and heat it is not a very nice place. Otherwise I should like you indeed to see it. I have not yet been able to see those articles in the Westminster Review which you mentioned, but

but hope to be able to read them soon. The
Theodor Parker's works I shall read as soon
as possible. There are many more liberal
people here than I could ever have
believed. I find it only just now out.
They have even a liberal theological
~~monthly~~ paper in Dutch the Ondervzoeker,
which I shall look through as soon as
I have time. I made the acquaintance
of the editor, who is a very intelligent
person, but not a theologian. He is,
however, assisted by some of the young
clergymen who have imbibed ~~that~~ liberal
ideas when ~~stud~~ studying in Holland.
Of course they do not go quite so far as
we two. Both (the Hollanders) express
that by sarum, meaning you and I, of
the common gender (they having nearly 200
different ways for translating the
English "we" and "us"); but one is always
glad to see people escape from the nar-
rowest and most bigoted views. — It is
now exactly a year that I saw you on board;
but it appears to me as if the weather was
much colder this year than last; I am,
however, comparatively very well, and
certainly much stronger than a year
ago, and I have more hope in the future.
I have something more to struggle for
than my own wretched self; though even
for me I must do myself the justice, my aims
though temporarily almost arrested in the
mere pursuit of health, had higher aims

and

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this place as well as over England, or
Ostende. I usually went the latter route,
~~and only from~~ Rotterdam to London;
my brother who went via Anvers recom-
mends this plan. If you let them know,
they are sure to send my brother Johannes
if possible, at least as far as Cologne.
If you could only travel with some
English family who know this route,
as far at least as Belgium, you
to get there through with the passport
and luggage examination business with
their help. When once in Belgium,
the remainder of the journey will be
as easy as if you travelled in England;
in fact you will find the guards, I believe,
even more attentive, and half a francs here
will go far with them to ensure you all
extra civility you may be in want of.
The Prussian examination of the luggage
takes only place in Cologne, and there
my brother or some other member of our
family will be sure to manage it for you.
A passport is I think not any further
needed for Prussia; but whether you
must have one for Belgium I do not
know; but you make better sure.
I had just a visitor who made me an offer
whereby I through light literary work
that will not occupy more than a couple
of hours twice a week, I can earn a £100
a year. It is not to commence before the
middle of next month. I have under
present circumstances thought it right
to accept his offer, as I can do it also in connection

with

BC151 C4:12

and I should not think myself worthy of your own sweet love, if I had not. I know there are certain things which I can do best, and to do them I must try as much as possible to devote my remaining strength and health. But notwithstanding all this, the motive which your love gives me, to try and retain strength still for as long as possible, is unmistakably of great force; and though I know you would like Dora (in a "Life for a life") rather wish me to perish in an honorable undertaking than lose my honor and wilt your pure love, — yet, prepared as we both may be to brave the worst, we do not wish if to come to that, — but hope to live to our mutual benefit, and, as I hope, also that of others. — But I must close my letter, it being near post time, on the 21 April 1862.

Believe me, dearest always
with my best love
your own
W. H. G. Bleek