make it worth my while, I am sure of the librarianship of this most valuable collection. + + + + +

In Dr Bleek's next letter, dated Cape Town, 19 February 1862 the following words occur.

Regarding my own present ~~position~~ worldly position, it is not at all encouraging, I mean not as it lies now, though my prospects are good. The first act almost of our present Governor Mr. Rodehouse was to dismiss me, which he told me was very painful, but what step to take the state of the finances peremptorily required him. He however expressed his willingness to help me in what way he possibly could and I have now patiently to wait the result, whether he can at least for the next five months provide for me; for, then I trust Parliament will have settled the question with regard to the Sir George Grey's library of which I told you in my last letter, I think, and as this has been promised me by the Trustees, and will be a permanent thing of at least £200 or £250 a year, to which I may hope to add a little by literary work + + [indicating other arrangements which could then be carried out]. + + +

21st March (1862) Dr Bleek again writes

My own affairs have not yet mended. The only thing is that the Trustees of the Grey Library have proposed that for the custody of this collection I should be thrown on 50/ this task

of course depend on Parliament, but I think the chances are favorable; & then the appointment is as good as promised to me. In the mean time my Companion Grammar is going slowly thro' the Press. + + + 21st March I send you a number of the Cape Monthly Magazine in which the article on Sir George Grey's Library is from me. — + +

Cape Town, 9 April 1862

+ + + I cd not find the time to write + + 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. + + + + + on

9 April/62

BG 15'
BC A 103 (1)

Extract from C4.9

Extract from a letter from [J. Lloyd]
Dr Bleek to myself dated

Cape Town,
+ + + + + 19 January 1862

+ + + + + +

appointment which has today been taken by the House of Assembly voting unanimously the grant for the Library, which is to include my appointment. + + + Major Long more very kindly informed me at once as soon as the vote was passed sending a special message. He is Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Assembly. + + + +

"Sunday, 13 July 1862 + + + + + I hope I can by this mail give you a decided account, whether this appointment will be mine or not; but it will depend, whether the Estimates can be got through the Council this week. If the grant is also passed (as I almost confidently expect it will), then Government and Trustees are pledged to give me the appointment.

On August 19th (1862) Dr Bleek again writes

"Regarding my own affairs I was glad to be able to tell your father that all was fully settled and that I hold now an appointment, giving me an income of £250 per annum. The matter was not indeed so far that my appointment was made out but

BC 151
~~BCA 103~~ (2)

but I have the positive assurance from Mr Justin Huntsman, who gave it to me for this purpose in writing that I could consider myself as fully being in the position as if the appointment had actually been made out, and that my salary would be paid from the time that my former appointment ceased.

August 22nd (same letter)

+ + + and hold now the position of Librarian to the Library

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 into the future; for, though the Governor seems not to take any interest in my researches, yet he has said that he regarded it as his duty to provide for me. + + +

Under date 9 April, 1862 Dr Bleek again wrote as follows

+ + + I had an interview with the Governor which did not lead to any other result than that he promised [d] to do what he could for me for getting through Parliament the foundation of the Library to such an ~~certain~~ amount as to enable the Trustees to secure my services. + +

On 9th July 1862 Dr Bleek further writes of

"the first step towards my appointment

DC 151
~~BCA 103~~ (3)

debrary presented by him [Sir George Grey] &c &c, Since Yesterday this still more ~~[illegible]~~ fixed) as a Sub-Committee has unanimously adopted the above resolutions, and the whole Committee is bound to do the same". [This is the first time that there is any mention of a Committee in these letters of Dr Bleek's clearly showing that up to that moment the whole Grey Library arrangements had been both nominally & also nominally in the hands of the Trustees]

J. C. B.

BC151 C489

Napier, 29 January 1862

My dear friend,

Your kind letter arrived a few days ago. I do not think I was ever so anxiously looking out for a letter from you than this time, and if it did, therefore, not quite satisfy my expectations, it did on the other hand alleviate my fears in what way you would take that letter of mine, to which it ought to have been an answer, though, as you candidly confess it was rather not in answer to it. This makes me all the more anxious for your next letter, and indeed till I know its contents, I cannot possibly but be puzzled in some way — for, though my trust in you is great, yet it does not go to the presumption to know whether I really must not write on this subject. In presenting it, I shall either appear too warm, or by unnaturally suppressing my feelings, too cool, to please either you or myself, in whatever character we may stand towards each other. But more than even by this undecided state of affairs, I am troubled by the bad accounts which you give of the state of your health, or, I should more accurately say, by the indisposition of which you suffered. I only hope that it is really only temporary. Also from Lucy I had not quite so good news as I wished but such a kind letter. She treats me at once as a friend, and makes me quite love her, even on her own account, and not only her sister's, as I was predisposed to do. How I regret that I have no expectation of seeing them soon. But you have really given me a bad character in Tyne eyes by saying that I laugh at people sometimes. Please, did I ever laugh at you? or, had you ever reason to believe I did? But really I must not take it ill, for, after all, you are perfectly right in your general statement, though

some one whom I cared for with me. But I must really leave off complaining, and groaning, the imperative necessities of acting are too great, and immediate. — You speak so much of the troubles and anxieties which you always have in Natal, and as I fear on account of your father. I know it is such a delicate subject that only the most intimate friendship, or closest relationship could urge and justify you to speak upon it. But can you really, dear friend, pour out your heart and let me share to some extent such troubling thoughts. May it not be that to some extent I may be able to comfort you, and to alleviate even actively, and remove the causes of your trouble. Nay — I think that is saying too much. Yet I heard always your father's kindness praised, except in one point, and on that, pardon me, he was thought not to know what he was doing. I was indeed told that thereby he was actually cruel (this was the hard term used, which I merely repeat without of course endorsing it) towards you and your sisters. — I should not mention all this, if not my great concern for you all, made it almost a duty to me to try to see clear in this matter, and to see whether there is any positivity of my doing any good. I rather doubt it, but without the actual attempt I shall probably never know. — You will excuse my writing very little this time. I have so many letters to write necessarily about my affairs, my [illegible] Sir George as a New Zealand

you might think, I did not I did laugh at myself perhaps quite as much as at other people. — Now the following months will I hope bring some decision into my fate. There are two additional elements besides the most important, the way in which you will stand to me, — namely the presentation of Sir George Grey's Library ~~and the~~ to the South African Public Library, and the arrival of your new Governor Mr. Wodehouse. The first was announced by Sir George Grey in a letter from New Zealand, and it opens to me an expectation to a permanent and most suitable employment, as they have resolved to keep it under separate custody, and in case they can get from Parliament a grant sufficient to make it worth my while, I am sure of the Librarianship of this most valuable Collection. The arrival of the new Governor is too late an event to have as yet influenced my position. In his Military Secretary who was formerly in Sir George Grey's service, and came now again out with Mr. Wodeh., and stays present at Government House, I have a most determined enemy, as I believe. But it would be cowardice for me not to stand by my post, on that account, and do my duty. — Mr. Wodehouse himself seems a very pleasant and kind person, though perhaps a little haughty. — Do you know there is after all some delight even in such struggles and troubles which raise our energy, — as long at least as one can master them, — though it must be a fearful thing to be mastered by them. — Our house is almost empty, we are only four, one of whom is going immediately after the departure of the Mail. — I hope and I shall exert my influence to have only gentlemen in future admitted, — I mean not of the exclusion of ladies, but of low vulgar persons, some of which were formerly our boarders, the last now being about to leave the house. In case they give me the Librarianship, I hope to get quarters in the Library, at least as long as they can spare them. — In health I feel now stronger and better than I ever did before, I mean, since my return from England, yet I know I shall never be quite strong and healthy. I had a very nice letter from Mr. Shepstone by the last Mail, in which he wrote on account of the Lieut. Governor of Natal, regretting their inability to secure my services for their Colony. It was no disappointment to me, as I had not expected a different answer to my offer, knowing the state of things there. It was however given in very handsome terms, and which my modesty forbid me to repeat. I do not think the rough Natal ways would suit me much, or the next summer there, though the winter is certainly preferable to the same season here. — But how shall I bear my long separation from all those who are dear to me. I think I would not only be more happy but even more careful of myself, if some

BC151 C4·9

Maid goes to day, but I cannot
in the least collect my thoughts
for what all I wanted still to say
you, and even the mere time is
wanting. Let Mrs Fisher send
you the Cape paper which I send
her this time, and you will find
an account of Sir George Grey's
present, and the state of things
here generally. I am not even quite
so well as I wished to be, and as I was
a few days ago. After the Maid is gone,
I shall have to nurse myself a little.
The Fosters who staid with me
at Granite Lodge, have now gone up
to Natal, – but as they do not intend
remaining at D'Urban, and I did not
know that your sisters would be
great friends with Mrs. Foster, I did
not speak of them to the Fosters. – The
Glovers returned with the Governor. He
looks well, but very thin. – I had a
letter from Miss Townsend; but I think
her departure will at all events be
too late for you; but I believe I can
find you some not disagreeable Cape
people to return with towards the
end of the year. How do you think
to go on with your religious puzzles.
Have you read anything that did you good,
or

So are you still in the midst of your dilemma? I believe me that nothing would please me more than hear you clearly say down what really distresses you. I don't like to write vague remarks but to give answers to the point. But I really must close.

With all my love
Your's most affectionately
Robert Gleek