

object of my life; but I regret to say that circumstances do not allow me at present such an enjoyment. You will also be concerned to hear that the last letters from England do not at all give satisfactory accounts of dear Femiina's state of health. The doctor seems not to think that she will be quite well, before she is quietly at rest in a home of her own; and he advises her to go back to the Cape in a large sailing vessel. In this account, I

Cape Town, 18 July 1862

Reverend and Dear Sir,

This Mail has, I believe, brought you a letter from your third daughter, informing you that I have asked her to become my wife, and to this our contemplated union we now ask your fatherly consent and approbation. Though our friendship dates since her last stay at



at Capetown, where we first became acquainted with each other, - I have only lately gained the confidence of telling her my love.

In asking here your Daughter's hand from you, I feel indeed that I am in a somewhat awkward position in as far as I am personally almost unknown to you (I can scarcely expect that you will recollect having met me once before, though I bear

bear well in mind your kind welcoming me to Natal), and I can only hope that your trust in dear Femina will help you at least in some degree to be satisfied regarding the suitableness of this match.

I should have much wished to be able to go up at once to Natal, and to have the great pleasure of becoming personally acquainted with all who stand nearest to the one whose happiness will now be the dearest object