Capetown, 16 Sept. 1863

My dear Loni!

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 6½ 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 and we need not apologize for this 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 ~~given~~ 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, [illegible] 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)

(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
bed, but to day she is, I think,
to lie on the Sofa. 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, decided nose, dark
blue eyes, and ~~its~~ 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 (that
we are afraid we have not) that of course
all

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 what is to be paid to Mr.
Yarnold, which may have been
incurred by our causing Willie
to leave Mr. Ross's ~~and~~ &c. 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 ~~[illegible]~~. 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 ~~would~~ 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

(the 20 £)
should the remainder of it be wanted
at once, to draw a bill upon me
immediately. I am sure ~~your~~ Harry
will make no difficulty in cashing
it. – Regarding the Rivett business,
I will say nothing now, except how
very sorry I am that you had any-
thing so disagreable. When I have
seen the letters, 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.
I'll send the last one in a thick en-
velope. – The Roberts have not yet
sent the pattern, but I trust they
will send it before the Eveline goes
again 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 sensib
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

that with regard to the children
you fall into one serious, though
very very excusable, mistake, - i.e.,
of fixing for yourself a certain stan-
dard ~~in~~ according to which those children
ought to be kept. ~~in all~~ If that stand-
ard is not reached, you make your-
self 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 fixings, 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, ~~and~~ 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 for them received from Mrs Fisher.
I am sorry I have not yet been able
to

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 creature. Nellie has probably told you that Bella 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 Hursthouse Lottie & Aunt Elizabeth received this Mail, as Jemmie will for some good time not be able to answer them

With much love to all, also Lucy, Amy, Willie, believe me, your affectionate

Wilhelmina