

letters
that requires answering - that its now within
an hour only of shutting up time (for our
nearest post is some miles off) & I've neither
finished their letters or even acknowledged those
of 3 other Natal friends that last mail brought
me - I don't know why, but I somehow couldn't
begin a letter to you this time till I'd have
read yours - & this makes me very late you see -
but you are very good to make such excuses for
me & to trust me as about it - I do hope & try to
deserve it - & shall once more trespass on it for
understanding & excusing thy short letter this mail -
I have been at it keeping yet daily stronger & better
since I last wrote but happen to have caught cold
in my face a few days since & so am just now en-
joying the delights of a swollen painful face can
throw it out like I did at Cape Town - It's nothing
really only come provokingly just these last days
of writing for mail when I want all my strength
& senses doubly & by keeping me awake at nights
it is rather impairing to them - But I trust you
will forgive my extra stupid letter resulting from
it - I'm really much better so you may well think
again all this - I only mention it to acct for
different things - I'm still in my native coun-
try you see - I left Toronto (the place from
which I last wrote to you) on the 17th & came
here to stay with still older friends who have
been most kind to me too - & made my stay here as
nice & happy as they could & see much I've enjoyed
being with them & the quiet country life - many
things - But still the old pain of having to take
leave not even necessary to shock or pain them
to some degree spoils all - making me feel so
caged - oh I long to be back at Natal for that -
with all its faults & drawbacks one has
freedom there - Perhaps you will say it's my
own fault for that he who will may be free

any where - But to do that one must not be
a moral coward like I am - & I long for the
place where even a coward can be free - & I'd
at Natal - I believe I leave this on the 8th for a
mother friend of olden times who lives at Norbury
(our old parish & home) spend a few days with
her - then a few more at the Bentley (where I was
staying when I began my last letter to you) then a
week at or near Stone with the Normans
(Mr Floyds mother & sister you know) & on the
19th leave Staffordshire for a ten days visit
to Mr & Mrs Puckette (she is the eldest sister of
poor George Wolly who I spoke of in a former letter
as having been once engaged & dear soul & dying
last October at Natal to our great sorrow) at
Bromyard, Worcester shire - They were staying
at old Mr Wollys & at Mallock at the same
time I was - last July - I liked them both much
as am looking forward to this with great pleasure
& old Mr Wolly (whose liberal ideas I men-
tioned last letter) speaks of coming there too to see
me - oh you can understand my looking forward
two since our correspondence - Thence I go to
London for a few days with Mrs Fisher - as
shall hope to write from there next mail -
- an interruption here - & a most pleasant one
for it brought your letter of the 7th just in time
to acknowledge - I'm so glad - Thank you
much for it - The 2 papers also wh I recd
with yr fine letter on the 1st - I shall much
enjoy them when the mail has gone - I'd
think of a chance of seeing you in England - that
is too good - only I fear we should have no nice
pleasant time - please for seeing each other like
I should wish - I think you too - if not too busy
with yr manifold other friends & business too
however all that's in the abeyance of the future at
present - I can well understand the anxiety for
Natal after that rumour - but it seems
to have been quite false - if so its disgraceful

for people ought not to be thus troubled
- frightened for nothing - I've not seen that re-
view a book but will try & read both - then
you must for tell me of them - I do so like
to know of nice real ones -
You forgot to enclose that card after all -
I shd like to have seen it - I'm very glad your
father is so happy - Yes it does seem a very
funny idea to me - I mean people's publicly
announcing these things I think all the ^{very} ~~very~~
remains et al that are made all ^{engaged} ~~others~~
~~things~~ so hateful - But perhaps the very busi-
ness like publicity in Germany makes it less
noticed & in this unpleasant way I mean -
I think I may safely promise to tell you what you
speak of should it ever happen - as I believe
nothing to be more improbable than that I shd
have to fulfill the promise no dear Dr Bleek
I don't mind your saying it - but thank you
very much for your kind interest for me -
I think like you all it - about the reality I mean
not you mentioning it - for I didn't make a face at
all, or either say or think the kind speech you
give me credit for - It's quite true English
ideas & prejudices on these subjects must be
rather different to German ones - as to our
side things I mean - but the great heart
of humanity which underlies all distinctions
of name & race - makes the real feeling the
same in all I think - & it's this in what you say
that makes me quite understand & accept it
as if my real brother had said it - I think you
know I have no brother really - I often think
about it now & wonder how it must feel
to have one - But really I shd tell you for talk
in that way & try to turn all your kind words
into ridicule afterwards as - well I must con-

Knightsley Gorse - nr Eccleshall, Staffordshire
Recd. 9 Nov. 61
answ. 27 Nov 61
Friday October 4 - 1861 -
BC 151 C8.6
My dear Friend & brother - Thank you very
much for your dear kind letter of the 15th to 21st
Augth - It reached me on the 9th instant - I need
hardly say what a pleasure it was to me -
I have not yet rec'd the one you mention having
written on the 7th but shall hope for it daily
now & thank you here in anticipation -
Your letter made me very glad & sorry too -
very glad to think you were not gone to the
other side of the globe so far away & that I
may thus hope for the delight of meeting you
again - And that you had had such good
news from home & Berones Ager - ^{but} the former
is I fear selfish of me - when I think how you
are left so alone at the Cape now Sir George
Grey is gone - I am indeed sorry for this - & for you
not being so well again - I do hope for a better
acc't by the next mail - I'd quite see by your writing
that last day how ill you felt - & I shall long
to know how you find Genl^l living and what your
future plans will be - I'm very glad you're at last
got a good ^{long} leave of absence if you like to take
it - & that was so great - near a likelihood
of your paying a visit to Natal - I shall long
to know how you like my letters & if you've
seen much of them - & how you are there, &
every thing - at least every thing that you have time &
patience to tell me - I do feel so sorry when I think
of your getting my short shabby little letters in re-
turn for your welcome long ones - & that you
will receive another almost as unsatisfactory
one in point of length & coherence by the
next mail too - I hope I did better last one
though - I tried - But I fear this will be a
- nothing of the old kind - as I rec'd them so late
this mail & there was so much in my sister

conclude now tho very sorry to do so so
goodbye my dear friend & believe me,
very affectionately, your sister -
Jemima (Koy) -