

I think usually very quick understanding of
meaning all things - to ~~express~~ ~~understand~~ ~~supp~~
all I cannot manage to express - I mean
you seem often at least you used last April
to almost know what I'm thinking at ^{an} in-
tuitively -

My own dear friend. there is so much I want to
say to you & I fear this stupid head, which is so wide
awake thinking all you most of the night & then
just weak - rather good for nothing as soon as the
morn'g comes, making me forget or omit half -
so I think for safety I must not tell you
my thoughts just as they come - but take
your dear letter as I ^{my} text & answer it in
order - but don't be thinking that I'm trying
myself wrong in trying to write so long at some
length - because I feel it isn't - & that I shall
be much better when I have done as if I ever
do much - for I know it's been greatly all I've
been thinking all - & the dread lest I should be ill
or any thing & so prevented saying it all to you -
which makes me feel like this - so please
take unalloyed, any pleasure which the sight of a
longer letter may give you - I'm writing amidst
occasional showers of London smuts falling on
paper & ink, & so that must act for many pro-
bable smudges -

I do feel so very glad you wrote to dear Annie -
both for the feeling that made you care to do it -
& because of the pleasure I know it will give
her - I'm sure she will take your note in the
spirit in which it was sent - yes I can well
imagine you feel one part of it unknown -
I mean from not knowing how far she knows
the relations in which we then stood to each other -
But in case I've not told you before - I will
now - that I have told her everything all you -
Every thing that is which I had any right to tell -

I don't think, much as I love her, I ^{could} ~~could~~ have
done so, had not she, in reply to my last ^{letter} from the
Cape (at which reached me of course after a short so-
journ in England) in which I had told her of
our big friends & my gladness at your having asked me
to write & promised to do so too - asked me a ques-
tion all you - in the nicest way, tell me not for
one moment to answer it ~~that~~ I rather not -
^{but} ~~but~~ as you were so likely then (if you remember)
to go to Natal, I had promised to go & see them
for me - she ~~wrote~~ ^{asked} if we were any thing
for me - or rather even likely to be anything more than simple
friends; know it feeling how differently she would
feel to go then - I mean as one who had a right
to a near place in her friendship & care - & to whom
she meant to be any friend or helper comfort,
whichever she would feel ^{more} presumption
to offer - so as I love her too well to pain
her love by altogether passing over a question
like that; & as I did not after some time in your first
letter give the unhesitating denial, which before
that I should certainly have done - as far as you
were concerned - & ^{I mean as to your going} ~~that~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{only} reason
of her asking it, I should have ^{just} ~~just~~ ^{merely} ~~merely~~ ^{said} ~~said~~ ^{that}
& said nothing of any ideas or feelings of my own - which
indeed it would only have been a constant en-
deavour to just ^{there} ~~throttled~~ ^{as best I could} - I there-
fore ^{just} told her the whole truth / you all
what your last letter is to me or I'd never re-
peat it to you ~~thence~~ - / How I do help her
understand that you did care for me a little - &
differently to a simple friend - but how I do
so saw that you did not think it right to in-
dulge these feelings - or rather I should say, express it -
even if my surmise respecting its existence was
true - & how I respected you for it - I mean for
doing what you thought right - And I also said how
I liked & respected you very much indeed - & ^{felt} ~~felt~~ ^{at times} ~~at times~~ ^{it} ~~it~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{that} ~~that~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^a ~~a~~ ^{thing} ~~thing~~ ^{which} ~~which~~ ^I ~~I ^{felt} ~~felt~~ ^I ~~I~~ ^{did} ~~did~~ ^{not} ~~not ^{think} ~~think~~ ^{it} ~~it~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{right} ~~right ^{to} ~~to ^{indulge} ~~indulge~~ ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{it} ~~it~~ ^{but} ~~but~~ ^{just} ~~just~~ ^{leave} ~~leave ^{all} ~~all~~ ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{her} ~~her ^{hands} ~~hands~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

than ours - & meanwhile to try - be a real sing-
ple friend ^{to you} such as you had asked me ^{to} - & strictly
to keep ^{to} that.
Then I told her again in Aug^r & early begin^g of
Sept letters - of the kind one I ^{then} just had from
you - I mean where you asked me to let you
be all a brother I - & how that I meant
to take that ~~as~~ simply as it was said - yet I
did at help fully the other idea confirmed
by some^{thing} else in that same dear letter -
I of you remember them ^{as} well as I do, you ^{will}
understand the parts in any of them which refer
to - without my saying them here - why besides
the time it ~~is~~ taking - I do not do, because I've
a great dislike to quoting my own letter to them
again - even yours to your dearest - unless
where it is quite necessary - but I can't help
think^{ing} that not only all those things did mean
what they seemed to say to me (apart from their
literal one I mean) but also were said expressly
- if this my th^t is correct I feel sure you will
remember - I told her partly because it was
a relief: & because I know every happiness (tho' there
was an almost painful one, if I may use such
an mixture of expropriation from the very sub-
stance & uncertainty of it) had gave her real
joy - & still more because it seemed at the
very probable that you'd go soon to Natal
(I wanted her to know how great friend^y
(even if not ^{redoubt} ^{more}) we ^{had} been I mean you
& I - I rec'd a very dear answer to that ^{letter} the
mail before this - which was more help - comfort
to me in my new joy last month than any the
else I have been - I mean any possible thing -
not having my dear mother - or being with Louie -
or perhaps best of all having you to talk to, instead
of that miserable imperfect writing - which has no an-
swer from ^{me} ^{where} ^{can} ^{you} ^{get} ^{any} ^{more} ^{of} ^{it} - where as I feel you ^{will} ^{have}
answered all my doubts & fears - & blown them
all away - You see how very differently I
feel now to what I did when answering you then

11 Bloomfield Terrace, Pimlico. S.W. London.

Thursday morning - Jan 30th 1862 -

My own dearest friend - BC 151 C8.14

This is ^{the} first moment of being able to
write to you since rec'd your dear & most welcome
letter of 18th to 21st Dec - on Monday afternoon,
the 27th inst - I can scarcely tell you the clear
light & surprise of rec'd it so early for the letter
was not due till Saturday next - (1st Feb) - I th^t
so liked the often stormy winter weather and
threw her out her full time - Oh I had been so
wearing for your letter to come all the end of
last week - tho' knowing it was far too early to
expect it - & how I'd been dreading having to wait
all this week too, I can't say - This seems very
unreasonable - wrong as ind^{ed} - but I am not
very strong or well just now - & can't com-
mand my thoughts - feelings as I said - I don't mean
outwardly - for that of course one always can
in get measure - but in my own mind -
This must excuse to you dearest friend all
the faults - incoherencies of this letter - which
with I fear be many - How constantly you
have been in my th^t the last few days I can
say - If only my mind had written it,
there wd be a long letter ready for posting to you
by now - but my body has been weak - ailing
so that I dared not try sitting up to write at
nights - & the day, having from different un-
avoidable causes, been much interrupted
- with no real peace or quiet down stairs
in which to write - ~~where~~ But today I have got
a fire in my own room - & do hope for
time & peace to write you much that is
in my mind - as far that is, as being physical
very nervous, & stupid ^{too} will let me - But
I will do my best - & then trust to your love
& patience to excuse all the faults - & to your

New year came with yr dear letter -
But still in spite of that, I did feel no glad-
thankful that you so loved & trusted me as
with for ever so near a tie as that - I still
somewhat in yr letter the same one made me think
that you meant as this, because you did not
then feel you w^d rightly ask for more -
So I went on, thinking of you much, & caring for you
too - And then came that letter by Oct mail
(beginning of Oct I mean) which gave me such a shock -
Oh I can't tell you what it was - or how
crushed it made me feel - or how it par-
ticularly at first - so pained indeed that I
feared much not being able sufficiently to hide
it in my answer, at least without saying
any untrue - which, however, I feel as if I dare
I can do to you - this only too apt to fall into
this sad error with regard to people gene-
rally - I don't mean I often tell down right
stories - but I can remember I think twice
since I've been in England that I've even
done that revolting thing - certainly once -
told from moral cowardice at the
moment - But there's something all your
my own friend who helps me to speak the
truth - exceedingly as regards yr self - & even
with regard to ^{as a degree} ~~quite~~ in different people who
may be ^{which think of a head for you} ~~surrounded by~~ - somehow you
have never made me feel really afraid of
you - not painfully so I mean, which is the
effect of almost every one but all really like
& respect - It is only indifferent people, be-
sides my few very dear ones - to whom it is
at all tolerable, say to me to be quite im-
-cise - I suppose I care too much for their
liking - good opinion: as am apt at the
moment of trial to think more of how
what I say or do may probably <sup>ever pos-
sibly -</sup>

that is their minds or feelings with regard to me
effect them, than of what is owing to
God - right -
I am so very thankful not to be afraid
of you dearest - as first I feared I should for
you know ^{you} are rather sarcastic sometimes -
but you've always been so very good, pa-
tient to me & not laughed, as you most rea-
sonably often ^{me}, I'm sure, at my crude ideas
- or awkward ways, or stupid expressions -
Perhaps it is that you are not so towards them
you really love (satirical mean) - or that I have
only told you in time how I dread any thing like
ridicule, & so in pity to my weakness you kindly
took care not to pain me ^{before you could have every} ~~thru~~ it - Because
I quite believe you w^d not knowingly wound any one
by it - unless ^{indeed} you did it as punishment where
you ^{indeed} ~~believe~~ ^{me} much deserved - So don't be
hurt please dearest at my using these sarca-
stic above, or think that I used it in any
ill natured sense - - - Interrupted here by dinner
afterwards -
You may remember my saying in answer to that
letter we are thinking of that it had given me mingled
pain & pleasure - this I don't feel sure you w^d under-
stand ^{quite} how I meant it - indeed of course I hoped then
most sincerely that for most reasons that you
w^d not - this had this life been over, at least my part
of it, I w^d have wished you to know - so that you w^d
not run the chance of causing another woman the
pain I was feeling then - for you must remember
that just at first I thought you really did ^{at} ~~en-~~
tirely mean it - I mean in all its 'eternity' as
any other person w^d have understood those
words of yours - I mean, feeling, or at least believing
for the moment, that you did not, however
had said all me, as I involuntarily did for
different things you had done - I felt you ^{not}
just as easily & unintentionally make any one
else who ^{at} ~~like~~ appreciate you - & who you just
liked a little in a friendly way, get to care
for you as I had done, & indeed far more so,

because I have not had the varied
painful experience of men & life that it
has fallen to my lot to witness & but only what
mess thanks God! But much of this, which
both be too long - irrelevant - to tell you here,
wh I have seen in the lives, sufferings from
it too - had made me think much of these
things; & resolved to be earnestly ever to give
my love where warranted & therefore unwilling
& or when I felt, this scarcely with acknowledge
to myself, that I was going to think of you - and
that, too much I just tried as hard as I could to put
such thoughts away - & to constantly realize to my-
self how very improbable it was for you
for me I mean - & how utterly free you were -
& to that now, you not like some one else -
indeed any of that kind that seemed likely
to be an effectual extraneous or to help that
way - Now for I should ultimately have suc-
ceeded, I can't dare to say - don't even think
of - for now at I have felt if I had not
but still I do think one can, at least women
can, school their hearts more than men -
And it seems to me, if true, to be only a mar-
vellous provision for them - But I spoke in
my last letter abt this so I think you will un-
derstand what I mean & am thinking of - with
out more words - What part makes me
speak of it again now, is the feeling which I can
not help having from your last dear letter, how
different your love is to mine - I mean mine
seems so different in some things, to the words
in wh you tell me how you care for me -
And this has naturally set me thinking what
can it be from? This difference I mean
for I believe both are true - At least I quite
believe yours is dearest - & I cannot but
hope - feel that mine is too, this indeed I feel
deeply how imperfect in many ways, to what
I do wish.

early in this month - BC 151 C 8.14
November letter - Not that I regret having written
to you all I did then - because it was perfectly
true at the time - as far as least as interpreted
& express my glimmering puzzled thoughts &
feelings - & I believe it is in front from harry,
to the best of my power, said them all out to you
that so may have gone away - You know what
a help to one that is puzzled it must be to have
to express them on paper even the pleasant or difficult
in words, because then one has them to re-read
whereas in the latter case the answer or next thing
you have just to go, or measure obliteration
them - And what helps me still more to wrote you
is the feeling that I have said them all out
to you what the truth is more that you will already
ever very this have written what ever reply the
suggested to you - & that this clear in and we
influence that - so you see I wrote all
this - trying, if I may, to tell you just the simple
truth abt all relating to us both - as it seems
to me now - May I ask you to take it
dearest friend with the same love & trust
that sends it - for did I not love you very
dearly & trust you very thoroughly you will
feel, what is true, that I do never wrote all
this - But just feeling who it is I am writing -
& in what relation you've asked me to stand to
you, helps me on -
But to continue abt telling dear Louis - wh I
felt this taking long, yet is not irrelevant - because
it will show you as far as on paper one brief
can, what I must have been doing the part of it to help
to explain things wh may have puzzled you some
times in my letter - You may remember how
in my answer to your letter rec'd by Norton (to
telly Louis of wh I've just been referring) - that
I said I did try to tell you all you asked - & to
consider you, what you asked to be, as a brother
I mean - for this was all I do honest say - for
I do not quite take to my share of it - being your
sister I mean - it somehow went against
one part of me - I suppose the one that
I had to keep locked up tight like this, as if

of course here I ^{don't} speak of those cases where
there's carelessness or willful deception prac-
tised upon them - but merely of those, such
as our Mr have been, where it is mere
simple friendship which is felt & meant
& which I can only be sure that is
expressed - Do you know what I mean?
I did like you, when we first met at Cape
Town - I remember watching you as much as
politeness would allow that I did ^{when} you and
daisy appeared at ^{the} dinner table - after we
were all assembled - your face struck me
very much, I don't mean any absurd compli-
ments dear friend; indeed they are more
such from me, for I think I've never yet seen
a handsome man I could abide - but the
character in it - you seemed to me unlike
any body else - I'd of course no idea who you
were - ^{no naturally} ^{imagined} that this sudden appeari-
tion must be some young guest of the
Jamiesons - you sat by him you know -
so a young because I mean it - you struck
me as too ^{young} young that day - I don't mean
a boy - but almost as young as an one can
be, who looks like a man -
And a natural consequence of this first in-
pression was, that when the opportunity
talking to you, came; I seized it; I can remember
now how awkwardly - partly from the wish
of finding out at least to a degree what kind
a character it was that so much looked
out from your face - (that it wd be all as
rather nice, I'd a good idea - I can't think of the
right word - less than a "strong idea" - but
somewhat in that direction) - or else being
alone as I was there, you with believe I wd
not have tried - For you know how
I shrink from all avoidable proving

to some who were there - Added to this single
curiosity & interest, there was the wish
of finding some one to whom one could
talk - have conversation with I mean
not mere conventional 'bow-wow-ing' -
And now there comes something which I wd not
speak of so lightly, ^{indeed} not lightly at all my dear
friend - tho I know not whether those it
may not have been merely Cape Town gossip
suffice it that I believe it thoroughly at the
time - & I wd not mention it here as it may
possibly be true, for fear of proving you my
own dear friend - were it not almost impossible
to explain some of my conduct - wd
for certainly the first part of this time we
spent more or less together at Mrs Proctor's
was very different to the course I had laid
down for my self ever since I'd tho or seen
much of these things -
I mean it said how you had cared all some-
one at the Cape & that after disappointment
there - that ^{these} things had come on but had made
you leave for change to Europe -
I don't know if you can at all easily find
yourself in my position then for a few mo-
ments, so as to understand how this know-
ledge or rather belief, shd in any way make me
be different to what had been the case other-
wise -
For one thing it made me feel more at ^{home} ease
with you, from an unreasonable perhaps
~~lost~~ ^{little} the real sort of vision feeling, that you wd
know I knew it - & so wd not mistleap out
an friendly word or ways with my growing
liking for the interest in you, made me feel
& real sorrow - sympathy for one ^{who} I felt was
it, alone & perhaps unhappy, made an wish
in an unobtrusive way to show - you see
this let me at rest as far as you side of the

question went - & also made me feel quite
sure & comfortable on my own - I mean not
afraid of feeling very friendly - because I always
while that story was fresh in my mind, looked
on you as being for some one ^{else} already - as
felt that no manifest pleasure in your friend-
ship, & ~~indeed~~ ^{indeed} me into an ^{unpleasant} ^{because} ^{because}
feeling, like I mean ^{but} ^{was} ^{not} ^{wanted}
to ^{you} ^{to} ^{give} ^{you} ^{no} ^{good} ^a ^{pleasure},
& he too sure to leave me a great deal
of pain - & of that kind which I think, that as
I said before cannot tell why - he would
feel ^{almost} degradation from happiness -
Then I think that first idea may have gotten
held up prominent in my mind - still I never
looked on you as any thing but a confirmed
invalid who from times to times expressed
in my presence I think - & never think
from that cause of being other than he was
& so that I had first thought of you as young
- all that; yet I got to look on you, by
degrees as some one older & much wiser
than I - who was my kind to me - & not be
perhaps at times a little interested, or at
least distracted, by his ^{own} ^{efforts} to
help me out of my puzzles - with which you
doubtless remember, I plentifully bothered
you - I mean I got to look upon you as a
real friend - whose I ^{thought} ^{rightly} ^{enjoyed}
as far as he let me - But that last belief
or two, I did not get on so well - I think he
with you more than ever - besides liking &
respecting you ^{yourself} ^{more} - but of course
one was the cause of other - but I do some
how an uncomfortable feeling at times
a kind of unconscious consciousness, that
it was not right or safe to be so much with
you - ^{this feeling was not always or distinctly} ^{not} ^{enough} ^{to} ^{hinder} ^{me} ^{at}
last not often - because of course

3 BC 151 C8.14
It's one of the things which I have been puzzling over
in my part wretched into part staving about on
purpose of course; I want to get well now for your
sake too, ^{part} ^{too} much for that, but ^{because} ^{just} ^{as} ^{all}
I suppose much joy & a good deal of anxiety in
some ways, connected with it too; being so pent
up during day & night. I had to be with others,
& occupied all ^{my} ^{dearest} ^{things} ^I ^{mean} ^{will} ^{want} ^{to} ^{do} ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{way}
things, just took their revenge at me in this
way - And I've come to the conclusion, that
in but a vague under form, that it arises
from the very different position men & women
have in the world - with regards to their re-
lations to each other ^{as} ^{far} ^{as} ^{concerns} ^{the} ^{right} ^{to} ^{ask} ^{for} ^{the} ^{accomplish}
the right to ^{ask} ^{for} ^{the} ^{accomplish} ^{the} ^{right} ^{to} ^{ask} ^{for} ^{the} ^{accomplish}
night to think of & intend it, perhaps for a week
or years previously - to thoroughly entertain
the idea until he has tried his chance -
while with us it seems to be, that we scarcely
see or say why, almost a sin & shame to you
unsought - I mean to feel it - at least it seems
from the general tone of both our good & bad
conversations, to be ^{that} ^{so} - & you can un-
derstand how that must effect the ideas
of a single girl, who dares not on
such a subject, quite new & untrodden as it
is to her, quite thick of ⁱⁿ ^{opposition} ^{to} ^{it}
& If this is true, or any thing like true, then it
does seem more in accordance with the
merciful way in which things seem arranged
in this world (I mean in the parts of it which
are God's making, not men's) that women
should have rather more power given them
over their feelings - so that they need not
perhaps ever be certain, or ^{after} ^{have}
the sad suffering of giving their best love
unreturning - if they only do their best to
try to see - do the best they can all it -

that day of yr sister's engagement & of the
reasons against it - And without my
knowing you well enough to be able in
any way to treat that part of the subject
rightly if you had told me of yr love
then (I mean even if the feeling at times
felt involuntarily ^{that} you had for me. Had got
to that ^{stage} - or enough either to entirely
trust you for it - I mean I know little in
deed of you then compared to what I do
now - I'd have quite trusted you in
all ordinary - & more extra ordinary things
but on a subject of such momentous im-
portance, as the whole rest of two future
lives, one must do a little more than
trust - I think one needs there that kind
of moral certainty but more intimate
longer knowledge of those we can
really love & trust, is sure to bring -
So I felt thankful to go - it was great
pain in many ways - but I felt it like
a refuge from some great temptation
certainly to me - perhaps to us both -
- Pain in my spine & tired powers of head too
drove me to leave off here, & lie down - I
now continue after tea - I've just been
reading this long story thro. to see how far it says
what I meant, or rather wished it should - & some
omissions occur to me but I with supple ^{ment}
before you on further ^{points} shall ^{then}
perhaps one of my friends -
One is that this which I've just told you of, & stay
at Cape Horn seems at first sight a strange &
great contradiction - to what I implied
when saying how, had it not been for that in your

first letter, I should have answered Louis question by
a simple denial - But I think if one looks into
it, it is not so - because all the little intangibles
the things which made me that at times you even
then did care for me - were so intermingled - I
felt and perhaps he more creation of a brain
at least in the sense of mistaken apprehension
of yr meaning in little things - For you were so
very careful never by word or deed to in the least
give me any reason for such a feeling - One I think
when one loves, or is to love ^{the} ever gentle in the be-
gining - almost before ^{the} ^{other} ^{part} ^{of} ^{the} ^{whole} ^{is} ^{the} ^{best} ^{possible} - that you see & feel by means of some odd ^{idea}
- the sense how things are - And you must please
remember too your dear friend how often
things which one hardly understands certainly doesn't
fully realize at the time; do afterwards take
almost vivid form a color when one gets to the
key note to them, ^{down} ^{then} afterwards - And I
feel to have it now, in the clear knowledge
of yr love for me; & in the both power & right
in that knowledge giving me, bravely to look
into all the corner of my mind, & hunt up all
the past - our past - & see as far as I can, ^{while}
what it was, & meant -
I did honor you so much for yr keeping so steadily
to ^{the} ^{right} ⁱⁿ ^{our} ^{relations} ^{there} - Don't for a
moment ^{forget} ^{that} ^{you} ^{mean} ^{what} ^{it} ^{does} - I mean
that you have not done so since death -
For, much as I admired yr self denying righteousness
at in no way try to win my love then, while you
didn't think - believe that I was untouched by its
power - & so that you, did you suffer, and so do alone
- also when you felt as my ill - Yet the case was
entirely altered when with the help you possessed
yr own heart you must have seen or at least
suspected from things in my letters that I too
had got to care all you - very much as a friend
& perhaps still more - For this I know I tried
hard to in no way, which I truthfully avoid, show
you that part of my thoughts or feelings - yet I
dared not for the sake of what I have seen

to come, right expediency (the I detect the
horrid phrase) - or else more, after that
oct - letter (I mean the one re: this), from wound
to pride, I dares not be the least untrue to
you in these things - & so after these must have
been at least omissions, wd you wd perhaps
read as almost tantamount to a dismission
such in fact they were, tho' not meant to be
read as such by you - unless yr feelings shd
be such as to make it almost impossible
for you to understand them in any other
way - I mind I don't take any credit to myself
for this - for from it - there are some things
all wh. one dares not lie - And besides this
& the sort of demand each dear letter is to me
to be quite truthful to you, there was also all
my own life's happiness at stake - & you know
had one no higher motives, one wd get over with
bride or false expediency for the sake of
that - But I will not be so unjust to the
self wh. tho' unworthy, you have so honoured
by yr love - choice - as not to say too - that I be-
lieve it was the tht of risking perhaps your
happiness, ^{too} my own sweet friend. wh. weighed
with me for more than either of these bare
reasons - for I did feel so to care that you
shd lose no happiness or earn no misery, thro'
me -
You know I don't like to see you blaming yr-
self as you do even in this last letter - for having
told me all - or at least a good deal at last - and
so I want to say just one or two little things att.
it if you will let me - I want you to realize
clearly how you left me as you tht, quite
free for months & months - & let time &
change & distance & even shorter intercourse
by letter than we at have had, do their work
(for you know how generous you urged me
never to write a wd more to you than was quite
easy.)

4
36 151 28.14
of course
if I at all the at it, the idea was too
presumptuous & all that kind of thing for me
to entertain it for a moment - I mean ^{the idea} that
you had any share in it - & yet little things
wd make me think, or rather feel, you
liked me in spite of all ^{at least wd have said so} reasons, &
wd have been to the contrary ^{at least} I dreaded
first, this loneliness, or as they call it, that
temporary hind, being led to think of or care for
you - without feeling any thing her some
deeper cure - I mean without feeling any
I shd like you any where at any time -
& you know the dangerous tht of yr
I felt we, or rather I, were then beginning
to tread ^{that it} - prevented by you, or leaving to
know you ever as far as I'd previously
done - for you know how if one feels
the highest degree conscious all tht, it
lays on emphasis on so many subjects - at
least makes one afraid of them -
I've seen & know a good deal of people
giddy to care for nothing merely from the circumstances -
wh. they were thrown to
gether, without any natural or intrinsic
- intrinsic unity of character, or any tht real, I mean
& this made me think this, & help perhaps
what my own to you an unnatural chance
upon yr self -
And then I'd sometimes the kind of feeling
that you did care all me too - at least
a little - & I so dreaded being on me a temptation
to you to break thro' a course wh.
you seemed to have aid down as the only
right one for you then - I mean what
you said, or implied, when speaking to me

to be ~~sure~~ - & whom it is my dearest wish (after
the one that we may be both helped to discharge
^{first} right) to one day call so entirely - I indeed were
not my love & trust such already, I could never
unhesitatingly say (brotherless - worse than
fatherless, & as good as friendless) as far as
as go to whom I should choose to tell or trust with
this my great joy ^{as you among them} & therefore obliged to
trust fully in all things to your perfect
love & honor) that I would be yours
for life - I mean both for this & all our other
lives, if God indeed permits us to have
more, & better, when this one shall be done
& therefore to meet again there (for I feel
as if somehow they can hardly be better
than this if those who are united soul
& spirit here, should there be eternally
separated - ~~separated~~) I feel this
one great love & trust involves all other
& so I ask you dearest to let me speak to
you whenever our duty to God's laws shall
make it needful, of any thing which we
^{ought} ~~consistently~~ ~~to~~ ~~trust~~ ~~in~~, look steadily in the
face - simply & truly - & to take it entire
-ly as I mean it - but this I feel sure you
will ~~gladly~~ only I know a good deal of this
we been so strange & perhaps ever wrong
to ~~many~~ people, for me to say to you; that
tho I feel that in doing it I am only fol-
lowing what my soul says it right - & the
only right situation as we are - & I do need
indeed do nothing else - feel that it can
be perhaps sacrificing real rights & our
solemn duties to others to do so - for any

take shame, or fear of how it will at this
 moment (before you have seen the point of
 view for which I see it) slightly shock or startle
 even you - tho I don't think it will - be-
 cause, both, of your own true sense & right mind
 & also from a belief, or rather idea,
 I have - that there is more right depth
 & freedom of thought even in Germany than in
 England, on other subjects than theology.
 But all these mingled doubts & difficulties, tho
 not enough to make me act differently with
 it - or even feel really & anxiously uncomfortable
 as to ~~your~~ your reception of my weak puff
 of faulty words - yet are sufficient to
 make ^{me} ask & long for from you dearest just
 a loving recognition of my having tried to do
 right in saying them; however ~~unwise~~ or ~~unhappy~~
 you may approve of it as a real right ~~decision~~
 One more little reason for my speaking to you this
 is that I want to give you full right to
 say all things, ^{to me} you wish & feel right in saying
 to her who feels herself your future wife - but
 who, fear of shocking English prejudices, & have
 detained you from, or at all events made you
 feel uncomfortable for my sake in, doing ---
 Later - My back has been so painful that
 I've obliged to leave off again for a while - but
 now return to my work much better for a
 short by doing & hoping to succeed in doing in
 some little more before real bedtime - for
 it's only after 9 as yet - tho I'm often in bed
 this you see I do try to rest plenty & take all
 right care in order to get well the sooner
 possible, yet may allow myself some talk
 tonight - feeling it not wrong to get a little
 even very tired if I can only thereby manage
 to write you what I wish to say - I think
 of it only owing to us both to write of - & will
 be needed to cheer my own dear friend who

for now alone than I, & so far away — — —
 West Friday morning at 2 a m. — I felt as sleep
 all at once when ending the above — naturally tired
 & sleepy as I have not done for many nights —
 as this very reluctant to leave you as it were,
 yet felt this only were the way to take advantage
 of it & get a little rest — & I was woken up now
 feeling better & more natural than I've done for days
 past. & you see dearest I was right in saying you
 must not think of writing to me, good, even this
 time by it ^{physically} because of it does me good,
 I can not sleep more ^{just} now — as he's dropped, —
 & soon very warm state from last night's fire,
 I've lit a candle; & hope to have plenty
 more quiet time for talking to you — before day
 light comes with its train of household
 noises — such as sweetly at rest — for I find
 all noise just now just distracts my weak
 head & bothers me —
 Oh I want to say which thinking about it — just the
 end of what led me into these long depressions —
 I mean the differences in our mutual love —
 what you say all yours being irrational
 surprised me at first, but makes me very glad
 now to feel that it does not depend on my own
 unworthy self & may not only imperfections, but
 down right faults too. but I feel sure you must
 find out when you know me better — so I am
 very grateful at this assurance your dear
 words give me that I may still trust its con-
 tinuance unimpaired by them — I can only
 hope that it is from some instinct, deeper
 meaning & grounded than we know of — which may
 be given more clearly to those who're the right
 & at last even clearly of asking — & so that it does
 mean there is as I've often thought I now
 almost believe / indeed quite at most times, but
 still painful doubts with some times creeping in real
 grave ones but just mere shadows enough to
 give one moments anxiety & pain, faints I can
 get your answers & hear more of you

1873/ 5 BC 151 CB 14
 that is as work they could do - & how carefully
 you would yr letters at that time, was to
 make me feel as far as honor went quite
 free to care for whom I wish. No my own
 dear friend I feel you did indeed do yr best;
 & even, that to have continued to repress the
 expression of yr feelings to me any longer, wd
 have been cruelly - not kindness - & not even
 right cruelty either - ^{if there is such a thing} - And besides they got
 so much better, ^{than} made you feel differently
 as to that too -
 No, I feel that you have indeed put all of
 what you felt to be the ^{prospects} obstacles, or disadvantages
 in a union with you, as plainly as
 ever you could find words to do, ^{to me} without
^{also} telling me of your love - For I know you will
 feel as I do ~~for~~ how very much we can in
 "perfect right & purity" refer to, to one
 another now, ~~as~~ I mean in the near & dear
 relationship in wh I feel we already by
 our mutual love - trust stand to each other
~~as~~ as that relationship, as high &
yet so near, does quite sanctify - in-
 deed to a certain degree in one - because
 it cannot be right to enter upon it without
 fully & conscientiously looking all its conse-
 quences in the face, as in presence of that
 God who made both us - them - & whose
 just & holy laws one cannot but feel it
 is our first du, in this, as every other step
 of life, than wh I think there is none more
grave solemn ^{than this we contemplate} to consider & try our best
to obey -
 Dear friend. I don't understand
 stand me in this - but believe ^{quite} you won't
 feeling as you will, that I speak it to my own
 dear husband - at least to him who has such

I did not help but leave off loving him I now do - the
you who this is present to me - pity, & care for
you, & a real deep interest in your future welfare
I am always feel - but the loss of all respect is
a death blow to my love - at least I believe I
do not feel it to them you - tho I always shd
love the being I had believed was you -
For how can one give ones best love, ^{which includes} ~~which includes~~
of necessity such entire trust - as must involve
respect - to any one whose ^{character} is utterly opposed to
all yr feelings - You will feel how I'm mean-
ing this case, as you did - by way of even plugging
my meaning - I need not say this does not
apply to faults & failings - perhaps even greater
ones - but we two must expect to find, but too
often perhaps, in each other which in this
lower world - Because many of both are yet
compatible with a real wish, ^{momentary} & constant ef-
fort, too, to become higher - better & less unworthy
of each others best love - & still more so, I say it
with all reverence, of that of the Allmerciful
Being whose creatures we are - for I do feel how
loving He has been & still is to me - all His other
poor erring creatures - tho perhaps one may say
we have not much positive evidence or rea-
son for believing this - beyond the strong feeling
of it in each ones own heart - for I think
all must know it at least sometime in
their lives - And I think it is the feeling
that we are each so striving, tho in sadly weak
& blinded erring ways some times, - the feeling I mean
that we each recognize right as that which
ought & therefore is, to be put before all other
things - that is the foundation or at least strong
support of our trust in each other - For
how can one truly trust one who you
feel with, ^{deliberately} do what he thinks wrong for the
sake of his own wishes - or even for your

sake - What foundation will you have for
trusting that one, sufficiently to commit the
whole rest of your life to his keeping - What gives
- an - that his love will last three years of trial
perhaps; tho's possible sickness or poverty - or fifty
other trying things; but, tho may my hope to escape
yet none can feel sure of doing so - No I feel it
is, ⁱⁿ the belief that we shall each try to put
right first, & own happiness, or at least seemingly
such - & wishes, afterwards - that we have
the surest reason - pledge of our future happi-
ness - ^{that is} the ground work of my entire trust in
you now - my own sweet friend - And it's there-
fore I write like this, with seemingly forgetfulness
of much in my last letter, & of the occasion it
will make you feel a duty to come to as to our
future outward lives - Because I feel that
no change in our earthly ties, or even ~~that~~ know-
ledge that they never may be rightly changed
by us, can make a difference in our right
to each others love now - or our true union
of soul & spirit - which alone sanctifies the other -
For since you have told me of your dear love
for me & all the trust which it involves - & the
growing knowledge which in this month of long
waiting I have gained of your heart - & which
your dear letter just rec'd has made me feel
sure of then ever - I mean by feeling in reading
it show me how dear you are to me - Since
all this has been, I feel we have indeed begun
to be united - are already one in share by every high
& holy right - & that should any real duty to
God keep us apart for months or years or even
our whole lives - (tho how fervently I hope
& trust this may not be true my words
say - your own heart will know that without
any words -) it need scarce after nothing of this -
And therefore my own dear friend I want you to
feel that however you may have the right

to answer my last letter - that this one is still
for you -
I trust you will not have been shocked by my ^{evening}
cold calculating reasoning with regard to our ^{the} position
or possible relations to each other which at Lake
Down last year - I do not believe you would
did you know all, or even 1/2 I've gone thro'
in my short life; whether personally or merely by
proxy as it were - thro' suffering for & with the
sufferings of those I loved ^{very} ~~perhaps~~ ^{but not} to witness ^{all}
the same - when you think of this - & also
of my position ^{then} as both Father & Mother
- & almost thrown alone on the great
outward world as I was of necessity in many
ways, while ^{journeying} between Natal & England - with
none but myself to look to for protection ^{guidance}
help or comfort - none on earth I mean -
you will feel I think that many thoughts
& feelings were excusable, & perhaps even a
duty, in me ^{then} - ^{one} who must have felt to be in any
thg but a right place in other circum-
stances -

[illegible]

that it was just possible that all I'd fancied was true, & so you don't rain them in the honorable endeavour to make me ^{feel} quite free - because you did not then know you had ^{already} won my love - and the very least got a great way towards doing so -

But the first impression was the strong one in my mind when writing to dear Louie (indeed perhaps I did not as yet at all concern the others) & so that was the only one I told her - at least I told her so - fully absolving you of all blame of course - for simple justice wd have compelled that even had I not cared to do so most thoroughly (since I truly met / from my dose of you make the fact of a nothing blaming you - ^{apart} by ^{the} best tolerable -

And its the answer to that letter wd I've just rec'd. - speaking most lovingly & comfortably to me all at all - & with such nice appreciation of you, that I wish I'd copy a few lines of it here for you to read - but fear to take the time & strength for ever that trying to extract the - as I feel its one we can do without -

But if you hear them, you wd see how the kind wd come to know you - & therefore more fully to understand what pleasure you would write to her will have given to - I quite hope she would guess the reason of an awkward miss you felt, & so attribute any stiffness to its right cause - But now I must leave this for a while; having to write to Dr. Knappell for some direction abt my medicine, which must go by an early post - & so be done before I sleep - So Goodbye for now my sweetest friend - You don't know how I desire going away from this - I feel when its all put away

from safety, as if you were further off than now when I am tally to you, with the firm hope of getting you dear arrived to it all some day, if we both live -

afternoon of same day / 31st / I am I send good bye to you this morning I've more or less really till now - not being up to writing - I know when I tell you how I've almost all the former mails letters from parents & my dear sister at Bristol an answer - besides of course all the present ones - & also letters to make out of the things I send in boxes to them & the Sandersons ship - for I had at last to push all so hurriedly that there was no time to write on any thing - & so they can not like, unless I write all at all it to go by this mail - & so reach them before the boxes - whose things all are - I mean who are con sum ing for friends there - who their own it all & also all the acts of the different things I do for people / who con sum ing me / as well as captains & of how some were not executed literally because they can be - All this to write out - as well as an expedition into city to do some of my hazy last mail presented are for a real good friend out there - I know you will quite feel my dearest friend that it is right I should by myself have no pleasure in talk with you this thing except as far as it relates to essential things - & will understand my certainly many I went to say - not only in order to that he - quite have other duties - but also not to try my back just now more than can be helped - I hope brief to be my good all this month - I mean ever since I had finished my boxes, & said good bye to the dear Sandersons, & packed up abt - come here - since then (I came on 13th) I have tried diligently to curtail all other writing and do no sewing & lie down a very great deal - since Dr. Knappell ordered me to do it as much as possible - I did not ever allow myself the delight of writing to you or home - more than once to her

a letter to you - also shortish scraps too -
I've been going to bed early - taking gentle
walks for health's sake - & not ever ready
when it tired me - so you see dearest I have
been really trying to get better - like I promised you
in my last I would - And the first ten days
here I really was a good deal better - for the
but weak & was feeling otherwise well - & in
no pain - Indeed was better than all the last
& weeks of my stay at Condon - But last
Thursday - & yesterday when I met the weather
changed much - We'd been having bitter freezing
frosty cold - very cold - & then on a sudden it had
changed to almost spring weather - so that the
stiff heavy winter dress became more or
evening and housework damp - chilly - yet
evening I who feel the cold so much when
there is a breeze - have been quite enjoying
being in a room with open windows -
Oh yes - the more I feel so poorly I have
a little bit - because that one often feels
chilly when not well - I think the change
of weather has tried me very much - you
can fancy to jump in one day from
frost to a most delicious kind of warmth
and to most people slightly - therefore
invalids much - & I think that the
same time this came - that the good effects
of my late recent change of air in coming
here were beginning to wear off - & so that
was how it had such a doubly exciting
effect on me - this relaxing warmth I
mean - And besides this I was getting very
anxious to get your next letter - so anxious
in such painful uncertainty - in many
ways that I'd rather drive it out of my
mind or rest - & you know I'd no one I
could say a word to - who you can fancy to be
an insupportable relief - comfort some-
times - for I felt as if I scarcely could
write to you dearest - at least not quite
freely - until I heard

7 BC 151 C8.14
I wishing for my sake to make that gentle plan
to me - or perhaps just to try, & seeing how I'd bear
such a speech as that from you, what my real
feels to you were - But any how I felt sure
you meant what you said - the letter of 20.3
motives not have dictated it - I mean I felt
that those loving words all your gladness at thought
that I'd give me true happiness - was your
real feel - whether as a natural result of
simple brotherly ^{or friendly} love - who would naturally
rejoice in its sister's happiness - or from a deeper
but therefore still more unselfish one - who
could more for me than yourself - & so I'd try to
be glad at any best good befalling me - whether at
the expense of bitter pain to yourself or not -
& I feel too the more you loved me, the less you
could brook the idea of my in any way becoming
yours - unless it was the best thing for me - & partly
- certainly unless I'd fully & freely given you my
whole heart - I merely tell you this to show
you how it was, that, in spite of the real
pain & other things of that kind - which the one part
of your letter had given me, I'd feel really glad
& in some degree comforted by the belief in the
truth of the love with which (of which you had it was)
had dictated it, & so could really mean sin-
cerely the grateful thanks I send you for it -
that letter I mean - For I felt sure that you
had done no wrong - that it was either I who
had foolishly, perhaps almost wickedly, misun-
derstood this, & that you had never said for me
at all in this way I mean - & therefore that you
could ^{rightly} mean it all in its literal sense - or (if this
latter that was one who meant for me more -
more, especially after "your next two letters came")

You see I only like it you know just to help
act for other things - especially for my feelings
so very weak - poorly when I fear might other
wise make you anxious - But you
must not feel that please of I wonder
friend - for I can't bear to pain you - & I
know what pain it is to me when I
feel you are ill & perhaps lonely - & so far
far away from me - I am however to help
you - No you must not be anxious
because you may feel I'm taking you too
trouble with all it all - I shall feel with
in keeping by the from you now -
I have certainly had more severe pain
in my back yesterday - today than I almost
ever remember - but I think want of sleep
natural anxiety - & other things may be quite
sufficient reason for it - without imagining
that it's really worse - as variability or
rather as real pain in spine I mean
but I shall curtail all writing ever for
this mail that I possibly can - & all
English correspondence both now
afterwards, still more - & go on trying
my very best - even harder than I have
yet done - to do every thing which is wise
& may help towards getting well - so I
think dear friend you may hopefully
promise yourself a better ail of me
next time - I shall however just ask
Dr. Russell next time he comes to just feel my
spine again - indeed I know he will wish it
when he hears of this sharp pain - & ask him
his true opinion of the result - I know
he is both truthful enough - & also I think
trusts me enough to tell me plainly if

(as I have sometimes put a ~~ten~~ but feared
during these last few days) there is any thing really
wrong then -
He is so very nice & friendly to me - & his wife
whose acquaintance I only made last week is
my friend too - he let me a book to read & things that
we have a paucity here at least of any that will in-
terest me for this is a home for Invalids & la-
dies who need to come to London for advice
& find as London lodging sadly trying & chesalip
all alone - It is under the superintendence
of a protestant order of Sisters, of which you may
have heard - whose headquarters are at Cleve-
land (or Windsor) - but who send units or more
out into London & other parts - whenever in-
deed there is an opening for doing either works
of charity generally or called such as helping or
teaching the poor - bringing up orphans etc etc
or of more the other meaning of charity - its
love - sympathy side I mean - which alone
we have made them think of setting up
a peaceful cheerful homelike home for
those who would have to be otherwise ill
all alone - And the simpler Charity etc.
is also joined in it - for they will take
at lower rate or even free those who can
not afford to pay the very moderate charges
which those who can afford it are asked - this
no one but ladies - as they have another
home elsewhere for those needing similar
accommodation but who belong to another
clap of life - I think you will say it
sounds very nice - & so it is - in nearly
every way - so much so indeed that I
do not need to leave in order to be near
Dr. & Russell (for Harley St is nearly 3 miles
from here I fancy) - I shall not think of
leaving here while I need to be in London

voluntarily - only feel it just possible
- perhaps even probable - that those
above said "religious disabilities" may do
it for me - But it's getting so dark that
I must end it after tea -

Feb 31st Morning - After tea I found it needful
to rest till it was time to go to the Knapells who
had most kindly asked me to again spend
the evening to meet some pleasant, like
at numbered friends of theirs. (S^r Knapell told me
this all thru in course of conversation - we
had last time he was here, about the above
possible reason obliging me to leave home.
How they did not follow the old received set
of ideas all things I mean - & say how it
was a pleasure to be with people who
dared think for themselves - he must
have very liberal views of my ^{humble} things
sure - with from my things in conver-
-sation. I am glad another time - & also
the ideas in a book of his he's lent me -
so I felt that just to go there would do me
-- after dinner - great good I was going to do -
I know how when one's mind been dully
bored - anxious on subjects which move one
or deepest thoughts & feelings even this much
great joy may be mixed with it. A counter
excitement if one may so call it - as
long as it's of a real but comforting kind
does one even physical good - in spite
of any fatigue it may involve - & he
hurried at an ordinary time might
even rather knock top - so this
what made me feel it right to go, tho
had I been well enough to ^{accompany} be
able to do any good in the way of getting
on with my letters to you & dearer
Loving & stay at

BC 151 C8.14

more from you - besides not liking to hunt
fully his physical self by doing so as
I wished to preserve all possible power
ready for the approaching mail (this one)
- this latter reason prevented my having
the comfort of writing to my dear Loui
either - so I'd been but weak - poorly for
4 days before your dear letter came to
help - comfort me - which it did
exceedingly - indeed I looked - felt so much
better the next day & so happy that I feared
any of those I'm with noticing it too much.
But at these same days (Monday - Tuesday)
I'd some very painfully perplexing letters
which obliged me to sit up long to answer
- but required every nerve to try - do as
I wished - I mustn't stay to tell you what
it all was - some day perhaps we
may talk it all over - I am as too per-
haps - but it was all very trying at the
time - & soon helped to knock out of
me the good wherever physically the joy
of getting your dear letter had begun to do -
It was all what I call (to parody a par-
lamentary or legal term) "my religious
disabilities" - just an unavoidable
thing, having been caused by natural mis-
takes with one of my aunts - & in no way
unkindly meant - indeed most gently &
lovingly dealt with - & I mean all
over now - leave greater love - peace
within than ever - & so except for it
rather disability the little power I would
to entirely apply to these matters letters, a thing
I can't regret - but exceedingly painful
at the time - & needing most thorough
& vigorous explanation even 3 or 4 times
long to put to rights -

expressed to you in my last letter & which
also I fully meant to have kept to - &
have done so except in this one most
stammer - but I felt it was fair mention
to Dr Russell nor yet to my own chance
of getting better not to give him a slight
idea of what had I known from its
constant presence in my mind - & its great
effect on all my feelings - down a good
deal towards both much more better
& worse - if you can understand such
an expression - better from all the joy
& hope & strength of it - but worse from all
the anxiousness of waiting for answers - upon
all the many questions of deep right & wrong in-
volved in our ^{political} union - & the feeling how ^{hard}
I ^{could} be able on paper to say all or even if I
wanted to you - & then too the having to keep
it all to myself so entirely - to ever take
care not to look too ^{glad} or any way with
those who I am right to believe how I know
or ask why - & the feeling how I was never all
their love & confidence which I did
not entirely return - All this had even
during last month I mean before this
mail came I rather expected a health look
ways - tho I know at least feel here
that its chief action had been very much
for good - But when this one had come
drying me your dear letter - the joy of it so great
& the longing to answer it but the fear
how should I ever answer it as I ought -
all this (mingled with other things) kept me
awake so many nights & so naturally made
me very different (for health I mean) to

what I had otherwise been - And so
dearest friend I give that it right to say
those few words to Dr Russell - knowing
I do quite trust him with them - & I
don't think you with blame me for so
doing - because I meant to say nothing more
(he didn't even know your name or any of it)
& I naturally conclude it was some one
at Bristol you know - But it was today
that the joy & surprise of getting at last my
long wished for chance of seeing Mr Russell
just made me forget at the moment - &
then felt it best to explain as simply as
I could - & then have heard Mrs Russell this
afternoon not mentioning Sir Charles Lyell when
you told me of - I thought I'd just ask
Dr Russell if he knew any of the other
friends you mentioned to me I said
how you I told me of them at a time
when we were merely friends & had
told me did I trust them to chain their
aggravations as your friends - just to
explain - Then he said something in
a very nice kind way which made me tell
him your name - You know I felt I'd
most trust after all these admiring
& after your last precious letter I almost
felt the right to do so - even on the party
we at present stand - because I believe
even if we did not see it right for us
to be united outwardly either for a few years
or indeed ever in this life (tho this I hope
you know how fervently wish not be
our sad trial) I mean should you think that
all the intimacy I told you - or any of other
sufficient bar to that - yet I do believe

dear - that you have chosen me with
your whole heart - given me your
best love now & that this will be the
same whatever our outward relation
may remain or become - & therefore
that you will not mind any of your
real friends either knowing or suspecting
the truth I mean that I do love you
best of all & may perhaps one day
God willing be your wife - I need not
say that I mean to keep them our dearest
best feelings - to ourselves - with the sacred
ness that belongs to all deep love - but
I feel that reserve may be carried too far
& did it prevent my becoming acquainted
with those you seem so to wish
me to know - & to know best
friend I shall go gladly among them
tonight - feeling comforted now I've told
you all this - from the assurance that
my heart gives me of your forgiveness
& approval - feeling more proud
of being your dear friend, than any thing
else could make me - & very anxious to
do all the honor my imperfectness will
let me to your choice - For did I
not believe that a deep true love makes
all things equal, I should indeed feel unworthy
to be yours - (I am in real earnest
now) - but now that I can thankfully
& gratefully feel that I have this feeling
towards you - it quite makes me very
happy & not painfully remember any
other inequalities between us - or

home? - - - I should not have gone, I must
have begun going to say - but there has been
a long hiatus between those last words &
today - Feb. 4th - tomorrow evening - when I feel
it down to scribble a few lines before
tea - to tell you of my delight at hearing
that I am to meet Professor Maurice (the
Mr Maurice I mean) at the Knappells this
evening - Oh I've been longing to see him
for so long, both from his high good views
& character - by Dr Colenso's friend - & from
things old Mr Walley has told me of him when
at Beomgand - but most of all from what
you & I told me of him - as a friend of yours -
your family - Dr Knappell has just been
here to see me, he comes regularly once a
week - & in repeating their wish that I would
go to night if I really could spare the time
(Dr Knappell has asked me for this evening when
I was busy on my things to come along last Fri-
day night -) from my letter, said that Mr Maur-
ice would be there - & in my eagerness of
night I said - what? that Mr Maurice
whom I've been longing for so long, must
to see? & then of course had to explain
a little why I cared so - (I'd had to just
tell him the other day that in of course
as few & simple words as possible - how I'd
had a letter by the previous mail - which tho'
made me very happy - yet I could not feel at all
at rest until I should receive the answer
to my answer - which I shall be the end of March
at earliest - I don't think you will blame
me dear friend for doing this - tho' it was
quite in opposition to my determination

done from memory but like I think
Mrs Fisher seems much pleased by
all of it but after - I send her
very kind regards & best thanks for
the little - send the papers -
oh I've been interrupted so long -
I shall never get done

Don't talk of wearying me by what
you say dearest - the more you
write - the more of all your own
thoughts & feelings you tell me the
greater my delight will be. Pro-
viding you don't do so a lot more
than you really like -

Had it not been for all your dear
reassuring words to me this
one could come - Oh how you
care for me I oh I never have
known been able to feel so happy
because so sure of your love
as I do now - But because it
seems almost too good & happy a
thing to have happened to poor little
me - so that for your words again
now - I do realize it as I
do - & how good & my dearest
one. Believe me with very much love
Ever your affectionate
Leminae

11 [10] BC 151 C 8.14
appraisals & feelings as to what I've said
in it - how I shall long for you
even I've no words to express.
I hope by curious & a word puzzle
you too must I see I've made
back then - by dashes - after
quite able - I've not ever time
to re-read - correct this letter.
I needn't ask you to take care
and accident places it in reach
of a hand or eyes but grows
for me alone - most alone - it
is meant -

I have quite (or almost quite) recovered
all that troubled feelings all religion
we was with me so much in
act nor - Dec - feel quite comfortable
tall again on large points -
can let smaller ones rest until
I see you over dear letters to tell
them too - I mean to read those
books & name when possible
at present I've no time for
them -

I know that tho I've tried to tell you
the truth in this letter I've
after failed - tho forgive me
or badly chosen words -

I wish send my photograph by next
mail - if all be well - I've no time
one by me now - and at once
if you could spare me one of yours
how I should like it - I've only a
little pencil profile of you