

with you too remember me very kindly to Mrs May
when you see her & tell her I hope we now her husband
is much better - With you also please dear give
my ^{very} kind regards to Mrs Taylor - you won't forget
to tell me how she is dear Sam - for I do really care
about her - It is such a pleasure to think of her
gentle kind face - I've still two more to write - besides
3 English ones so must say goodbye dear - I don't
like spending time & space in apologies but Sam
really very sorry my dear Sam only to send this shabby
letter - I will hope to do better next time
Please forgive all its imperfections & with much
love believe me very affectionately (Gemma) -

Copy (copy)

BC 151 C8.54 Mr Noach's boarding house
Thursday March 21st 61 -

My dearest Biggie-born [to Frances]

I must begin by asking you to excuse the kind
of letter this will be, being obliged to write in the general
sitting room & of course subject to conversation going
on around me - I will account for incoherencies - Our
rooms being too hot just now with the snowing here
I do so want to know when you all are & how you
are yourself my dear Sam - I do hope feeling better than
when I left you - I shall so look & long for all of your
letters - I will not attempt a repetition here of our ex-
change at at as Louie will tell you of all that -
I am really better tho' with back & hands too shaky with
these three warm days to be able to write as or as
much as I hoped - It is on the whole very comfortable
& sufficiently clean here - Mr Noach & his daughters are
kind helpful & pleasant - I have left them in music
which here as it happens to be almost entirely new
to them - Mrs Jamieson kindly drove us to Green Point
yesterday - I did not like to take the time from my letters, but
we had already been obliged to refuse once & did not like to do so a-
gain - When at Green Point we had a walk on the beach - It was
so fresh & pleasant there, the beautiful surf tumbling in so
grandly over the rocks - we went on them & Mrs Fisher found
some seaweeds & seemed to enjoy it - all quite like a little child -
I much wish for her sake, that we shall be able to take
some day & get to Camps Bay - She would enjoy it so - he has
as yet been no walk excepting into the town on business
& it is as warm disagreeable & dirty as you could wish -
I've had my photo done as Louie particularly asked for it - but
part of it is so bad that I've pasted a bit of paper over
that piece which please tell dear Louie I warn her not to
remove it - As it is (with the paper) meany it is suffi-
ciently like & tolerably nice looking (I mean for me) but one
remove that, & you will have a painful caricature -
I do hope dear Sam that you've begun to be
good & do your arms at at home - even if
Guppy has not yet been carried into effect - I do
now now every more directly I'm out of bed. You
know that then when warm it is more effectual
than later when muscles at at have all stiffened -

There was such a beautiful table cloth on the mountain
yesterday - I've seen & heard nothing of Agnes as yet - Mr
Hake as Tom with his son is poorly in the country - &
I've not seen him yet - Nor Sarah - tho she & her hus-
band are in Cape Town - I dare say she and her
son come or perhaps does not care to see me - & you
know I should not like to go there first - One has
such a horror of intruding - I've not had the
pleasure of seeing the Bishop yet & hardly expect it
for there is a very painful affair with the
clergy men whom he (the Bishop) has been ob-
liged to suspend & I believe even deprive for
disobedience to his canonical authority - The
clergy man (Mr Long) has appealed against this
to the Supreme Court here & the case was tried
there last week - The Bishop had to plead his own
cause; two lawyers having refused to take his
brief, wh. they say was really very fortunate for
the Bishop as none would have made such an
able defence as he did - but you can imagine
it to be a very painful & disagreeable position
for him - I've read his speeches, they are very
eloquent & of course nice, gentle & gentleman-
ly too - such a contrast to those of his oppo-
nent Mr Long, advocate - I say the Bishop
is suffering much from the painful excitement
& that it was some nights since he had
slept - The judges took some time to prepare
their decision they give it today at one o'clock -
The opinion seems to be that it will be against
Mr Long - wh. people think he deserves, tho very
sorry on account of his wife & children, for he
has a large family I believe - A German
of a black & name has just come to stay here
he is in bad health, a curious but very intelligent
fellow - He was once at Natal - I believe is engaged
under Sir George Grey's auspices in compiling different
native dictionaries & grammars - I think I have told
you of all our other fellow lodgers - I say this
is a very clever man - Dear Tom you don't know

how comfortable all of things are thanks in great
part to your help & to your taking all the
surveillance off our hands & giving us so much
time to do & arrange every thing together - I can't
thank you in words dear for all your loving helpful
gentle ways to me & all your patience with my
bad temper - but you don't know how I do in my
heart - I hope you have not so much trouble
now with Jerry - Oh Mr Fisher has just discovered
the right name for my photo when seen in its native
hideousness - without the piece of paper I mean -
-- "grim" - Was there not a giant grim of Pilgrim
progress celebrity? I should like much to know of
the poor little ones at Miskin on getting over - with
you give my love to Tom & dear Betty - & I want
to know how my baby is - I mean Tabitha - I do hope
dear Tom you've not been much annoyed by him
poor fellow - either for money - or by questions
about me & all - I'm so sorry you sh. have the
disagreeable of refusing to take him all the time but it
is the only safe & right way - And dear Tanny please
you must be good & go out plenty & ~~exercise~~ not
wear certain holes in your skin tho quickly
not better your head & waste your time over try-
ing to learn Kapir - for indeed all that I think
is a real waste of time & energy - Think of all the
Kapir we know, how far better all those who
been left as God & nature made them are - than
those who've become made hypocrites & humbugs
by all the attempted K. language -
I hope Jerry is good & nice to you now - & that you
do not make yourself too anxious about dear Tom -
For I'm afraid you will be naughty & refuse going to
stay with your friends for fear of leaving her - & I'm
sure any thing like that sh. do you real good
and by the comfort & happiness that will be to her
be better for Tom even, than the help & comfort
of your presence - so you must be a dear
good tractable "boon" & not put yourself in the
"beastly" attitude of "quite refuse to go" Please
to remember me kindly to Mrs Humphreys & also
to Mr & Miss Jordan - I hope the latter is well
again -