

St Martins
Beckenham
Kent
November 8th 1900

My dear Frank.

We do not know if you have started for home yet, but we shall address the letters this week to Pretoria, & hope for day!

I expect you will know before this reaches you that Dad is no longer Fin. Sec. I think he feels relieved, the work was frightfully hard, & these last five years have taken it out of him. Lord Stanley has got the post. There have been a good many changes & Mr Broderick is made S of S for War. & Lord Selbourne is First Lord of the Admiralty.

Dad says he should like three months holiday, & I wish he and Mother could go away, she wants a change after this influenza. Rowley has got a cold - & consequently is very sorry for himself! It is rather a pity as his exam comes off early in January, & he is, of course, very busy.

Madame Vautier wrote the other day to ask if I could get a nursery governess for Madame de Sadeleer's children - they must have a Roman Catholic - of course I can't find one, & if I could I don't think I should advise her to go. Just imagine what a time those little wretches would give her!? Madame has been in France for some weeks - She tells me she thinks Madame du Saillant is really ill - she always has a cold, & is very depressed - Gabrielle was with Madame of course & now Juliette has gone I believe.

I do hope, my dear boy, that you will be home by Christmas, you had better be quick as the time is getting short! Up till today the weather has been quite mild - & we have not had a stove lit once. Tom & I have been in Town all today, & as the wind suddenly became east we got frozen.

This is a most uninteresting letter, mais que voulez-vous? George will be come in a day or two, & he is probably catching it in the Bay tonight! K.B. sends his love, & he will be very glad to see you again.

I'm too tired to write. Take care of yourself, & don't let your traction train be blown up.

Always your loving sister Dodo