

Mr. Robinson  
"Natal Mercury" Office, Natal, politics

Durban, Jan: 4 1874

My dear Mr. Cherson,

Harmed thro' Law I must  
send you a line of friendliest sympathy  
under your sad bereavement, of which  
I believe has affixed me. I too,  
as you may remember, lost my  
dearest daughter - then my only  
child - when 7000 miles of ocean  
separated us from her. Her pangs  
are bitter & can not be assuaged  
by any human considerations. I  
think they do us good, however  
by opening somewhat to us, the  
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hereafter, & giving us an instructive  
cubling of the things that shall be.  
That we shall be of yourself may be  
able to find some sweetness, however  
vague, out of this great loss is my  
true & earnest hope.

// We are greatly stunned in Natal  
by the success that has attended  
Clauson's machinations - I never  
thought that he could stoop to  
secret slanders, but he has now  
done this in two occasions -  
Taking the articles in the Spectator  
as a fair reflex of his so-called  
"blunders" we can but conclude  
that it is as remarkable an

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not shrink from any step that the  
Common weal may necessitate.

Mr. Parke has been amusing us by  
a series of speeches, exceedingly clever &  
amusing in themselves but so fraught  
with superficial observations that  
we are all wondering whether his lectures  
are framed in the same mould.

The keenest anxiety is felt in  
regard to the decision which the  
Capitalists will come to on the  
Newbury question - £60,000 might be  
voted I think if the Co. was fairly forward  
if work was begun.

I see lots of colonial stories in  
the press. I wonder how they will  
manage to work the trade. I rather  
doubt the three years limit I devoted  
off to my Nbs; - with kind regards  
Very truly  
W. M. M.