

Pretoria.

Dec 11-1900

My dear Maggie.

When am I coming home you ask. That is just what I want to know; in about two years as far as I can make out at present. Everyone else seems to have gone, I suppose I am too valuable.

I took some men to Krugersdorp last week, the line had been washed away between here & Elendfontein, so we trekked to Olifantsfontein about 17 miles & then entrained. Krugersdorp is a pretty little village. I saw the monument there built over a pile of stones. In 1850 the boers had a great meeting at which they all swore to lay down their lives if necessary in defence of the republic, each man as he took the oath threw a stone on the ground, the monument was then built over the heap of stones.

I am off again this evening I do not know where to, I hope down to the free state. Dr Wet is down there they are concentrating troops in that part of the world to try & catch him, I hope we shall succeed this time;

I found a large tin case much bashed in at the P.O yesterday, it was too large to carry away I have sent for it today. Many thanks for it. ~~Please thank Jennie for the cigarettes~~ a very good brand "Vabichis" please send some more.

I was chaffing the Post-Master about the amount of parcels which never arrive. He assured me that no case had occurred of a parcel being sent off & not having arrived. He said he would be delighted if anyone would prove that a parcel had gone astray. I believe you can get receipts for parcels when you post them. I wish you would do so when you send me anything, & send the receipts to me by registered letter.

better still register the parcels
if that is possible & not too expensive

bye bye.

John.