

William has brought me some nice  
paper so now I can write all I want to  
you know I am a miserable  
lovespender



Aug 23. 1888.

My own dear son,

I cannot tell you how it rejoiced my heart to  
see that good long letter, that gave us the descri-  
ption of your voyage out, you must have enjoyed  
it much, having such pleasant companions, and that  
done to. I was uneasy when I heard your wife had gone  
with you and in such a way without clothes among  
strangers, and I knew that it would be hard for you  
in your straitened circumstances to pay your way, but  
hope you will through all right. if I had any idea of your  
<sup>much</sup> Frank Hewins, I should have sent letters by him, he  
was as glad to meet you as you him, his two sisters leave  
him visiting us and left here today, they expect him in  
one week from today, won't he a queer fellow to  
be traveling up and down the Mountains all  
alone it is not safe, I was right glad that you  
could see so much of England's suburbs, it must  
be very fine and you are well to take in all the  
beautifull, I looked on the atlas and traced  
your journey to Cape Town it seems a

long stretch and am anxious for the  
next letter of I do hope that every  
thing will turn out well, it is like  
beginning life anew, keep up self respect  
and the dignity of your calling, of course  
the Manners and Customs of the People  
will be different from us, but don't adapt  
anything but the best, we shall wait  
with anxious Eyes for your next  
then tell us the truth and nothing but the truth  
You are the best Correspondent of the  
Family, I have written Lizzie Hudson a long  
letter and shall write again when next I  
occur, have also written to Georgie haven't  
I done well, Wm will not take a vacation  
this summer but has taken me to ride  
three times, the first we went to the beach  
and spent an hour on one of the quiet  
benches of the beach near Wintrop and  
there we sat drinking in the fresh sea  
breeze, you can't think how it invigorated  
me and increased my appetite, but Sam  
doomed to live on bread and meat.  
When all kinds of Vegetables and Fruit

are coming in and cant have only  
the smell, am losing my hair but  
not my hearing, so you see that's a  
blessing, and if we count them up we  
are surprised at the number, - 22  
we have had heavy rains and foul weather  
but to day it has cleared up warm and lovely,  
a line from Lucy saying she will be here  
tomorrow, slowly comes every week I am glad  
he does, its coming home. there is one that  
I want to caution you about, and dont  
laugh that is going out bathing, you dont  
know anything about the place so do be sure  
a Friend of ours came near drowning at the  
Chelsea beach, she felt perfectly safe, but  
happend to step on a quick sand and  
was taken off her feet and went under  
the third time but was fortunately rescued.  
You know James Poor the Stevens Replet  
he came by water getting in his ears while  
bathing, but how about those flies  
and fleas' horrible to think of - land  
shanksy. did you provide your silvers

with plenty of Campbells before you  
went) that's the worst of a warm  
climate you have to stand all these  
feists, but delieve me from snakes?  
now if you will excuse the pencil and  
all the blunders, I will write you some  
other times, and remember your  
Marnie, and keep up your dignity  
I have left space enough to pass on the  
writing, with much love hoping you  
may both be happy and well,

Mother

I don't know as you can read or see the best this miserable piece of an attempt of a letter but I don't work to write, but I do be contented, with heaps of love your ever aff. Mother  
J. S. Miller

Dec 22

My own Dear boy

It is now two weeks since I have attempted to write, this is such a busy time and so little daylight, & how memory runs back to the old days when I could gather all the dear ones around me, it makes me sad, altho I have so much to be thankful for, just the way we always forget the Mercies, come and keep the blessed day with us, Lucy and Stan will be here, and I have send for Charles family, but as Mrs. Sternes is so low, perhaps only Jerry and Emma, its not a year for presents as there seems to be a financial depression and money is scarce, however I have done some needle work for you, shall keep it until fortune favours me a chance to send and I hope you both will enjoy it, what do you set our mouths watering for telling about your strawberries

when we poor mortals cant hardly  
 keep from freezing, we are hard weather  
 there was a fire next to Hoags and the  
 Fireman was covered with Ice, you must  
 have a glorious time but I think you tramp to  
 much and sit up to late and I fear do not always  
 attend Church" dont get in that habit my boy,  
 I want you both to go together. Well I if  
 she were here now she would wish herself back  
 again and a great many <sup>we have</sup> Storms. Mrs. Mary Clark  
 that was <sup>was him</sup> she made particular enquirey after you  
 showed her your Picture though it excellent  
 so say we all.) only think how long I have  
 bin writing this letter and pardon the mistakes  
 well I know has time and you, we must not  
 all we could. Thanks family, Josephs and  
 you too, I want the Cousins to visit often  
 I and is growing up to be a good gentleman  
 my young man. Well that is an arrow that  
 shot has done him good. the three boys  
 had a good time together Lucy came  
 Sat and went back Sunday morning  
 we did not do much in Parents was

remembered by every one of the Lovejoy  
 family. see a nice letter from the Leonard  
 Book from the joy and a number of  
 cards from friends. your letter came  
 the next day, what a lovely leaf! what  
 leaf is it. and is that its natural state  
 I see by your letter that you still continue  
 walking. I should think you old enough  
 to know better people will think you  
 insane on the subject, remember  
 you are not so young as when you  
 walked to Salem - promise me you  
 wont do so again. it worries me it  
 doesnt show a well balanced mind  
 you know people sometimes have  
 their case I know how much you  
 enjoy rambling round and seeing  
 the beauties of the place but use  
 discretion. we cant take up a paper  
 but we see lives thrown away by  
 some indiscretion or impudence  
 How about that house it is nice  
 but how far away is it from

business and want it be expensive  
side to take care of it there is so  
many things to take into consider-  
ation. how would your wife like it  
would not you be troubled with poison-  
ous reptiles. Gentle Lovey is back again  
in a wholesale fruit store. when one day  
she was startled by a santi-frade crawling  
on the floor, deliver me from Snakes and  
the like's - I had a letter from Aunt Nancy  
acknowledging your picture they think it ex-  
cellent and glad you look so much more  
fleshy we ought to send you a pot he is  
thinner than ever. he gets more tired  
than he used to - I think we have the  
track of George's little orange what  
persuaded him to keep us in a war in  
there is one family come from the west  
say they can't stand the cold, and I  
even here don't the winter I have now  
a bad Cathartic cold. now my dear boy  
I can't tell you how much I would give  
for a kiss so try to imagine you have  
it



Dec 31. 1888.

My letter is still waiting; so I will  
spin out a few lines more in the first  
place. I wish you both a happy & easy  
year, in the fullest sense of the word  
and I hope should it be; blessed with health  
and no great to worry about it would  
be ungrateful to require the home should  
be what God intended it to be a type of  
Heaven. "This world's full of beauty  
as other worlds above and if we did our  
duty it would be full of love." if we look  
back we shall see many neglected  
opportunities, that will grieve us but  
we must turn to the next duty, forget  
our selves in making those around us  
happy; we all have our weaknesses and  
much to overcome, but if we had no any  
batter where would be the victory  
just now there is the sound of young  
voices in front of the house, is the

choir of boys belonging to the  
 Episcopal Church, they will stop  
 occasionally and sing their Christmas  
 and New Years Carols. Surely surely  
 I shall write Eben and send you I'll  
 on these leaves hard to obtain  
 and what its name I should like  
 to send one to Mrs Lovejoy if easily  
 obtained. I think they are lovely.  
 I go with you in imagination through  
 all your troubles. I never thought  
 it would be so difficult getting any  
 thing out to you, perhaps you can't  
 hardly read my writing I expected  
 that you had yes but was disappointed  
 so I shall not wait for any body  
 William will <sup>and</sup> papers while can  
 send nothing but my love  
 which you may be always sure  
 of and remember those long  
 tramps and that you are not so  
 young as formerly and try not to get  
 sick so far away from you will  
 mother

*R. July 7th*  
*Al. July 10th*



CAPT. GEO. F. HOLLIS,  
U. S. CONSUL,

Cape Town,  
South Africa.



My Dear boy

It is just one week to day since I got your letter informing me that at last you had received your share of the inheritance. I was feeling desperate that when you had written so many you were left out. I have just come from Church and hope you enjoyed the same privilege. rec a letter from Eben last night he says they are voting over in Solihick, but not one word about partition. what a fair way? he was very glad to hear of your safe arrival, and will send his pks the first chance. every body seems content over the Election, which came in a great majority, well I hope we shall have a just man. our nation never was more in need than at the present time God save the Common Wealth of our land. our thanksgiving day is close at hand I should like to send you <sup>mine</sup> a pie and B. pudding, Lucy and Tom will be here and I with George also, Eben says he would be glad to have him come out and stay as long as he has

a mind to, and perhaps get work. I think they  
need somebody to stir them up. we have had  
some of the most glorious sunsets that I ever  
witnessed, who could <sup>have</sup> witnessed them without admiring  
the creator of so much beauty spread out for  
our benefit and enjoyment. but it is a week  
tomorrow since last I wrote but day after day passes  
without my accomplishing half what I lay out to  
do: well since we live on the river we have more  
callers, and my friends have not forgotten  
me in my absence. we have some lovely weather  
but take it all through a remarkable wet season, every  
body is elated on the Election, and I hope things  
will prosper. I have been over to the City over  
to <sup>the</sup> some extent but got pretty tired not quite  
so strong as of yore. the leaves are all off the  
trees but the grass is green as June. if only this  
weather would last all through I have been  
looking for a letter from Mrs Hudson for she  
is always prompt to answer I wrote her three  
weeks since. hope they are not sick, does a packet  
ever go direct from here to Cape town. and how  
long would it take me you young to send for

anything. I mean had long before it reached  
you, we shall be on the lookout for an  
opportunity. I suppose you are beginning  
to see your friends you ought, and  
will be expected to, it need not be very  
expensive either, if only a friendly chat  
I would like to help you along in that  
way, only its so far off. I have an idea  
that their impressions of the American  
people are not <sup>so</sup> very favourable as  
might be. Stan left here yesterday  
said he had written so I hope you will not  
have to wait so long again, the dogs are  
growing so short that if I don't take  
the morning I don't bring much to feed  
and I am sad when I look back on my  
dog life to see little done, not many  
sheaves to bind, so many golden opor-  
tunities lost never mean to present  
themselves again. another week has  
passed and we have now got right  
into winter, it has for the last  
week been intense cold in some

parts of the west such sudden  
changes is not conducive to  
health. to day Nov 25<sup>th</sup> it is  
a tough snow storm & at this rate  
we shall have sleighing for weeks  
giving, wish you could be here,  
Stanley saw Charley yesterday  
he told him that Mrs. Harriet  
Ellens Mother was failing fast  
she has lie every feable all summer.  
So we go one after another, the  
longest life soon passes away and  
is like a dream, if we can only  
look back with some satisfaction  
on what we have done, but it is  
what we have left undone that  
troubles us. So let us be up and  
doing for the night comes when  
no man can work. hoping to hear  
soon, and also that you can read  
this letter in the wish of your old  
Mother and hope it may find  
you both well and happy. Ever Yours

3  
2  
My Dear Son

here it is the 14 of Jan how the time  
flies, and we are alive and well here.

We're just called in on his way to travel  
down to meet the funeral procession of  
Mrs. Stems, as I have just got over a  
severe Cold. they thought it not prudent  
for me to go. she was a dear old Lady  
they will miss her sadly, Horace has been  
one of the most affectionate of Sons, I am  
glad the oxen hold off, we have had a week  
of very fine weather very warm for the  
season. have you heard of the terrible Cyclone  
at Pittsburgh, Pa. so sudden and great  
loss of life, our papers are filled with  
all kinds of horrible reading, if they would  
only publish some of the good and leave  
out some of the bad, I think it would  
have a better influence on the publick.  
I have just mailed two papers to Mrs



Hudson. I sent a Card on Christmas  
 and have not rec a line since, and  
 you know she is always very punctu-  
 al in acknowledging any letter I fear  
 some one is sick, Stanley was here  
 on Tuesday and said he would send  
 her one of your photos, which we all think  
 are splendid. You must have grown fat  
 now I am not going to take back one word  
 I said about extravagant walking  
 and neglecting Church and all that,  
 because you know dear how anxious  
 I am. You are among strangers all alone  
 to make your first impression for a good  
 reputation and it must be built on a  
 good foundation. So see Eugene can we  
 list you - - - - -  
 Mat: The L just called  
 in and says give my best love to  
 George <sup>and I</sup> and say I hope to hear that he is  
 prospering and happy. She has that  
 Child yet and no money has come  
 as yet, but plenty of promises,  
 from the Father a man and

you by a pouring rain, wind & East-  
 continues warm, yesterday Praterville  
 boasted of conditions in Bloom, but  
 we have an Eclipse of the Moon that  
 will bring a change of weather I hope  
 so as this is unnatural and will produce  
 diseases, it is not called healthy weather  
 William and Maud have given the office  
 to her Martha and Sam alone so I thought  
 to have a letter chat with you, but as I don't  
 go out much I am burden of news.

I suppose Stanley has informed you that  
 Charles had moved to the next building,  
 surgery operations and see Bent. I think  
 he looks five years older this last  
 year the gold mines have bin too much  
 for him, and Joseph is thinner than  
 ever he was telling me that he lost  
 fifteen pound last summer, while I  
 have gained my usual weight, all  
 I need is strength and that don't  
 come my hair fell off and left  
 me quite bald, but strange to say

It is growing out again. If only  
a set of teeth would grow out  
it would be nice. (that not the way to  
talk) be thankful for what is given  
and bless the giver. I have my sight  
and hearing, two great blessings  
which I can't be too thankful for. Mrs  
Loverjoy is quite kind of hearing and  
likewise Aunt Nancy — please don't  
forget when you write home to give as  
the name of that leaf we think the main  
atom of the mountain a perfect little gem.  
(the bellings) Enter Mrs Manning with  
dish Ice Cream and Orange Cake, and  
remember me to George (Exit) was  
obliged to eat the cream before it melt-  
ed had rather share it with some one  
it has cleared away and the moon  
is shining bright as day nearly  
full, Sam sitting in the sewing room  
and looking out over to Somerville  
Sean see nearly a dozen Electric Lights

May the  
blessing of  
God rest  
upon  
you  
and keep  
you from  
all enemies  
and fill your  
soul with His  
love

Mr has rec your letter, and says you  
will be at home by the time this reaches  
you, I have rec a good letter from Elizabeth  
son, all well, had to stop writing as my  
girl left us. This was no 2 on account of  
some sickness, she was a young thing but  
we have one now from Maine, truly  
American, hope to keep her its getting  
to be one of the greatest trials of house  
keeping. For the two last weeks I have  
taken the charge of the family, thank  
God with me for returning health, it  
(for this week) Hannah has just come  
from the City and called on Mrs Lovings  
she is rather poorly this winter and  
is quite hard of hearing caused by  
trouble in her head, we rec a postlet  
last night from Eben wonderfull  
and the promise of a letter soon

he was much pleased with your  
photo and will return the compliment  
soon, hope he wont forget it Stanley  
will be here again on Sunday and  
I hope he will meet with more encour-  
agement. he is trying to make a nice  
steady industrious prudent man.  
he seems to enjoy the different orga-  
nizations to which he belongs. and he  
talks very prudently. (a rainy Sunday  
and I can't go to Church but shall  
finish this sheet and send tomorrow  
if you can read it well and good, written  
at intervals. do you remember Mr Kendall  
that once boarded with us he was here  
and engaged all about Agnes Splendid  
looking 'Man in man's' engaged in  
the wool trade trading by int.  
we heard from Lucy yesterday it was her  
birth day. I had forgotten it. how the  
years fly around, now Sam at the college  
and must wind up with all the  
love and good wishes to both of you  
mother

you the 19

anniversary of  
my wedding day

1825 64 years

Walter's  
wedding

day

June 19<sup>th</sup>

1825

Chelsea May. 19<sup>th</sup> 1887

Dear Sir, I am hearing of your trouble  
I feel very anxious about you, and miss  
your letters so much, all we know is what  
Louise wrote to her sister, but try to  
hope for the best; slowly it will at last  
be hearing something favorable, he is probably  
in Philadelphia today left here on the 19<sup>th</sup>.  
This is a most perfect day, and it seems  
so long since I have attended church,  
for after getting over the lather I by  
some means was suddenly seized with  
Bronchial trouble which proved with  
several confinements to my bed some  
time, but by the blessing of God and  
good nursing, I am again on my feet  
and cough nearly gone, I am not  
felt altogether as well as usual this  
spring, the hot weather has come so  
rapidly it takes right hold of me.

<sup>1-14</sup>  
<sup>1-14</sup>  
tuesday) got a letter from Stanley  
he was in Skiddah and would be home  
Wednesday Morning a letter came to him  
from the Cape. and we are all anxious  
to learn the news but must wait  
until tomorrow. I have to hear that  
you are better do take care of yourself  
I am glad to feel again like writing.  
I saw several but it seemed a great deal  
entaking to write a letter Mrs Wendell  
has bin here several weeks, she took me  
right in hand. good soul that she is. it's  
warm and for the last week the heat has  
bin oppressive, but yesterday and today  
we are a lovely rain. Vegetation never looked  
more lovely than now, wish you were to see  
you it with me, and now I must wait till  
tomorrow before I can hear from you, it's  
so long since we have rec any letters, but  
hope keeps the heart whole and I will hope  
for the best, so take care of your self and  
God bless you, my ever dear son  
love to I and to yourself well

**George Fearing Hollis Papers**

**1852 - 1903**

**MSS.0471**

**Box: 1 Folder: 33**

**CAPE TOWN CONSULSHIP - Correspondence - Letters  
from Hannah Sweet to her son, George F. Hollis, 1888 - 1889**



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