

their love and to do it with my best wishes for a pleasant & successful
Christmas.

Berlin Dec. 21st 04.

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My dear Kelly

I have posted to-day
a little book as a Xmas present for
you, which I hope will interest
you on account of its author, whose
acquaintance you made when you
came to visit us at Plenkburg in
the Hay mountains. At least you
ought to take some interest in Fran-
z Grunck. Lühne, who remembers
you with enthusiasm, declaring the
never met so charming and sym-
pathetic an Englishwoman either

before or after you. I stayed with her a few days this last autumn and she inquired after you with great warmth. She has gone over to the Roman Catholic church a few years ago and spends her time partly in authorship, partly in practically advancing the social works of charity of this denomination.

I was very glad to get good news of your return to England and such a satisfactory account of your doings out in South Africa.

Now I hope you will appreciate the charms and comforts of your highly civilised British island and enjoy some well-earned rest and amusement in the Xmas holidays. My sister Ellen is with us since a few days, but we shall otherwise have a very quiet time at Xmas, except a few family-dinners. And there was what you would call a most "jolly" students' party at the Lyceum the other night, a kind of Xmas-festival, with a big tree in

the middle of the large hall, prettily decorated
with supper tables all round, ^{and} ^{with a}
toasts, speeches, and afterwards some
charming performances, acting, dancing
etc. They had asked all their professors
and the little play they had composed
sparkled with witty and humorous
allusions to the woman's question in general
and their special studies in particular.

She made some very handsome clasps,
broaches and pins for the artists' fair, which
have kept her busy all this time. In the
Xmas holidays (which have just begun for
me) we want to take long walks, if the
weather continues so fine, and to rest.

Good bye, dear Betty, my sisters send you