

9-8-1892

## Akpan Papers, September 8, 1892

Arthur W. C. Smyth

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217 So 4<sup>th</sup> St

Dishmond Va Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 1892

My Dear Darling Bee

I must not let this post go without at least a line or two to tell you of my safe arrival home (with Sister Maggie & Alice at the station to welcome me home) and my delight at finding this splendid letter, which my darling had sat up so late to write & so soon after I had left her. After reading this letter it makes so much assurance of my poor attempt that I sent you from the train.

I found a little line from Olive in reply to the one I wrote her from Dumoulin & which I read to you, she writes as follows viz. Good Friend. Welcome to your native land, & if you have brought the happiness you went in search of



I wish to congratulate you with all  
my heart. I wrote my last letter  
purposely to make you feel doubly  
free to offer your hand again  
where your heart has always  
been. - There is luck in the  
third venture you know

The balance was only telling me  
of some Florida news.

She seems to have interpreted my  
letter correctly & I am very glad  
she seems so well satisfied.

You need not have troubled  
yourself about my supper the  
night I left for I had a plenty  
of time to get it at St. Pancreas.  
It would have been thoughtful of  
me to have made you have some  
supper, for you must have  
been hungry & faint before you  
got home after that long &  
treasure journey. I thank you

my love for riding home. I would  
not have felt at all satisfied if  
I had thought you would wait.

The girls have actually left my  
neck & I am now very well  
with the exception of a little cold  
& contracted in New York.

I, too, have often thought of that  
moment, when you said  
"I'm going in Arthur" & it makes  
me shudder now to think of  
the consequences of your doing  
it. Yes, I got address letters in  
Glasgow & I was very much pleased  
for I was feeling very lonesome.

I have told Lucy, Sister Maggie  
& Alice of our engagement and  
they are all perfectly delighted  
and have congratulated me over  
& over again. Alice is wild  
with delight & says I must give  
her fond love to her "Auntie Bie"



Sister Maggie, Alice & I took dinner at  
Lucy's yesterday & in the afternoon  
I took the former out for a drive in  
the Mumford buggy, we had a long  
& very satisfactory talk & she says  
that Mother will do just what  
she determined to do before and  
that was to do everything she  
possibly could for our happiness  
by first giving us free counsel & then  
by loving you as she does me.

As Sister Maggie is putting a note in  
this I must make mine short so I am  
enclosing a draft in favor of Annie  
Clara for \$25.00., If you think  
you can buy the ring to better  
advantage in London you  
& she might take some of this  
money & go there to buy it & be  
sure to get a very nice one  
for I positively will not be  
satisfied with a cheap one.



I don't know at all the prices are  
there but I think you ought not  
to get one for less than twenty  
pounds. The balance of the  
morning I told you ~~what~~ <sup>papers</sup> to  
use, just tell Cousin what  
I said & tell her to send me my  
not writing now for I have  
so much to do.

I have been wanting  
to write that letter to Woodstock  
for this post but I find  
I cannot do it, but will  
try certainly to get it off by  
the next. — I will give your  
message to my Mother & I feel  
sure you will be pleased,  
my precious darling, with  
her reply. I am going up to pay  
her a visit next Tuesday, I love



very glad to have had that talk  
with you and I propose to  
write you a lot this winter  
about my business & direct  
you to without reserve ask me  
anything you want to know.

Yes my love I have been  
reading a chapter a day in  
Mother ever since Aug 25<sup>th</sup> except  
some one or two days when

I could not do it. It seems  
to do me a lot of good to know that we  
are reading the same every day & both  
trying to keep in the right path. You must  
pray for me all the time my darling & pray  
that I shall not be hypocritical for although  
I know I do want to be good & to follow Christ  
because I know it will make you happy.  
Still I do <sup>not</sup> want it for that reason only.

This is all I can write now or my  
letter will be too heavy. You must  
send your next letter to Dr. Cloud but  
I think you know that. With regards for them  
all I am your own fond Arthur