

## Letter to Catherine McRobert, 18 January 1846

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[0001]

Written in haste so do not

Chonuane 18 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1846

My Dear M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Robert

A considerable time has elapsed since we the pleasure of hearing from you. What is the matter, you never were compelled to listen for months to the round of news, maka hela, of this country to make me pant with feverish desire for from the world sick in order to realize a refreshment good news imparts. It is now a time since we heard from the Kuruman side and all hear from the natives they well characterize as lies only is so little truth in public report here a native begins by saying "there are no news. none at all have heard a few lies only." And then beginning their it is sure to be rumours of war - contentions tribes or something so vague we can scarcely head or tail of it. Why dont you write frequently then? The Penny Post has made all so expert in the use of the pen you have excuse.

We heard last week from an authentic source Sekhomi the chief of the BamangWerto had a large party of Matibele to death. They came year to reside with him and being dissatisfied his government began to flee to a neighbouring when to prevent the whole following that example who remained were indiscriminately massacred little more than ten months ago Mosilikatze sent 23 to the Bamangwerto for tribute. Sekhomi an ambuscade for them and the poor fellows hemmed in in a deep valley I well know everyone cut off: A gentleman lately saw bones. I do not wish to harrow up feelings by these stories But when I mention the fact of the destruction of the men

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Mosilikatze and likewise that the Bamangwerto have "lifted" some of that gentleman's cattle no attempt has been made to punish them, I give th information as evidence that Mosilikatze is on the wane. And we probably will be allowed carry on our operations without any hindrance him. He was once the great obstacle in the of the evangelization of the interior. God in His has removed him out of the way and there is every probability that this region will become abode of righteousness and peace. A large tribe Matibele or Joolarhs lives about 10 days East of Sechele have fought three times with Mosilikatze and with or less success each time. He is now at a great from us. And long may it remain so. He too long been the cause of lamentation cursing & sorrow . But I must return to the point for which I the deeds of Sekhomi, viz, to give deed of Mosheu of whom you may have read either M<sup>r</sup> Moffats work or speeches. A village 12 or 14 miles from >Mabotsa was lately by a party of Korannas from the Vaal river. The whole of the cattle & goods of the were swept off, and a few lives were lost the marauders reached their residence next to of Mosheu, their horses & selves being all tired the long journey (nearly 200 miles) Mosheu no time in ordering them to restore everything as he is a man of authority among them do not dare to refuse obedience to what Mosheu them was the Divine will they made restitution for they had stolen And Mosheu calling on the of the cattle and goods delivered the into their hands. He would not even accept present for what he had done

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I have heard the above particulars from the natives, I am yet aware of the whole of the

facts But what a to Sekhomi, I have conversed with Mosheu found him a simple humble minded Christian I reproved Sekhomi for having murdered his he replied "But he killed me first" referring the fact of his brother having broken allegiance rose up and went off to another part of the town afterwards enquiring whether it were true that I saw who were dead ~~alive~~ still in existence, I replied yes & will see your brother and stand to be judged by side. He replied "maka hela" his only. Let your be made without ceasing for conversion these degraded Heathen

Sechele the chief to whom we have transferred labours is an intelligent man, and it is probable allowed to dwell in peace will become both rich powerful. You would be amused to see his highness Prince Al. & not he but a king stand to his knees in water and two persons scrubbing royal person all over. As a preliminary to washing his wardrobe himself. It takes a whole to wash an old red coat and a few other duds which sold to a Jew in London would not realise 5/ wives too are fond of European clothing. And as [...] >

[0004] to mention. Anything which will make strong . If furnished by any of our friends you assure them we shall take every pains to make gifts of use in the course of Christ. For the labour by their gifts we shall endeavour to pay the which is always considerable in this region. I have mentioned tools for the teachers to M<sup>r</sup> Whish, they are exceedingly , the natives are all fond of working them And as a few I have are too often the station is rather hard put to for mending I have bought all or nearly all those

Proceed with the instructions of [*\*A native tracker supported by Chris [...] in Glasgow*] M[...] is furnished with the leading pa[...] a sermon he makes a good addr[...] it Love to M<sup>r</sup> [...] .

Ralph Lindsay Esq<sup>re</sup> has contributed £ 10..10 for another but I dont know anything him Do you know him? does he intend to continue the sum? I am at a loss want of proper information M<sup>rs</sup> Philip only notified the simple fact and no about it. If you know him I should like to hold some communication [...]

any unless perfectly sure of their characters as also of [...] him David is [...] doing well