

## Letter to Robert Moffat 1, July 1847

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

Published by Livingstone Online ([livingstoneonline.org](http://livingstoneonline.org))

[0001]

Banks of the Ñotoane

July 1847

My Dear Father

Through mercy we are now  
near the end of our journey. Have met  
with no accidents - the health of all very  
good. For the mercies we enjoy we  
thank Him who has been our protector  
night and day. A lion came up to  
us at the meritsowe but was driven  
off by the shouting of the people  
The lungs of Khalincele you may  
be sure did their duty: We have  
heard the roar frequently since but  
that is all. & we wish we may never  
experience more. We have been  
very unsuccessful in securing the  
game we wounded. Two spring- [ *Note:*  
*Robert has just come over the back*  
*of the seat head foremost & his heels*  
*whirled over on the table but knowing*  
*the somerset is his own fault does not*  
*cry.))* ]

-bucks one sersebe & a pitse are all

[0002]

we have got. [An ostrich nest twice - good eggs] The goats give a little milk  
morning & evening and are thus very  
useful. We have been very comfortable  
in this journey for most of which  
we have to thank your handywork &c.

M<sup>r</sup> Evans met us this evening  
He has not succeeded with Sechele  
but has with Sekomi. Cumming  
seems to have forestalled him. I feel  
sorry I was not there when Evans  
came through. I think Sechele has  
a prejudice against him ever since  
he was there in partnership with  
Greig. I might have removed part

of it. I think it would be more  
for his advantage to deal with M<sup>r</sup> Hume  
than with Cumming. The latter has  
always been very anxious that he should  
conclude a bargain to deal with him  
exclusively & may have managed it  
so now.

We spent sunday at Setlagole - had  
a meeting with Sebutsane's people there  
Gasitsioe son of Chose knows how to read  
[0003]  
the chief too knows the letters but cannot  
spell. He says he waits at Setlagole to see  
what the Griquas will do in his country  
before he returns to it. We could not come  
by a straighter course as we intended, the  
big waggon being too heavy for travelling  
through the long grass. We spent sunday  
last near Raputse came along the  
Bakhatla hills yesterday, course nearly  
north. and today came down to the  
Ñotuane. course N.E. even this is  
considerably shorter than the Mamoori  
road. We could reach home tomorrow  
but prefer an easy stage and make  
our entrance on Thursday -

Mosate called Moshatta by the Bamapela  
means maloapa a khosi

Bebenya to gleam as lightening

the Barolongs call the sea Lopenole

pena refers to the fullness of the water  
or the absence of banks

merisantse - a plaguy fellow.

Metsehula the sea

Likahela corn from every one levi[...] . &  
[0004]  
given to the Maroka or rain doctors. This  
is the word to which I referred as revenue  
Levies. They say Likahela tsa pula

Mashoa is another word for Makheto

Lehañke as applied to a stone means hard

Sehãñke to a man perhaps bravery or hard heartedness.

unmanageable?

Boceleka Tsikela - Konolola

Tlatlarega Tlatlarietsa - sound an alarm

shuma breathe h[...] d in sleep. Mema not Méma means the same as hegeloá or Momoga

serea paltry

Meretlega change the conduct

The Thobane ea bogaera is called Khoroane

ea khoti.(or khuti a hole)

The above are what I have been picking up in the way. Will be happy indeed if any of them proves of use - empekoan something of cowardice. Am glad of to have something as an inducement to pick up new words. I began to write an analysis of the language with