

Letter to Margaret Sewell, 20 February, 2 March 1850

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Kolobeng 20th February 1850

My Very Dear Friend

We were favoured with N^{os} 21 & 22 about a ago, the parcels in which they came we expect in about fortnight. the Publications had reached Kuruman in safety the messenger being on foot could bring no more than the . N^o 22. shews that the Med. Rev. & Eclectic &c. are safe to May last. It is really marvellous that you do not recieve acknowledgements for I believe I write you oftener than do the Pynes. the longest interval occurred when I was absent the Lake but I wrote a note before starting (about May) and as soon as I returned (about October) and I had it in to write you now though no letter or parcel had . Be assured I have always written you without waiting an answer. But the idea that my pains are all in vain rather discouraging. I must inclose them to some of my perhaps. Your good nature in continuing your kind in the teeth of my apparent ingratitude is certainly .

We had a visit from M^r Freeman. He came a few days before 1849 fled and left a few days after /50 began. the visit was most . the only causes for sorrow in connection with it were being so short, and our accommodation so poor. Ever I have had the idea strongly impressed on my mind that triennial deputation would lend much to the efficiency the mission and if M^r Tidman would come out the I am sure would add ten years to his life. this really a fine climate and a trip up here to breathe the air of the Desert and infuse spirit into the forlorn would certainly do your London ministers no . the perpetual hurry scurry in which they move make them glad of a little desert calm

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the object M^r F. had in view was to reduce the expenditure of the in Africa from £9000 to £4000. But he has I am sorry say fallen in completely with the views of the Rev D^r Philip in to the necessity of keeping up the colonial stations who hold the opposite views maintain that the colonial having fulfilled their object in affording protection the coloured population till their liberty and instruction have [...] [guaranteed] by the Gov^t ought now to be abandoned & of the funds appropriated to the real missionary field in regions beyond. the reduction in expenditure ought to be thus. But the worthy D^r maintains that if the stations abandoned the Hottentots would sink again into their state. this is giving small credit to the conservative of the truth which has been furnished them without and price for more than 30 years. Another argument thus. the London M.S. is the only society that does to the Blacks. the Dutch Reformed (parish ministers) Wesleyan missionaries attend exclusively to the whites we abandon them no one will care for their souls. But the Dutch Ref. & Wesleyans make the fact of our attend-to the coloured population their excuse for following the nothing line. We are a salve to their consciences - the promise great things to M^r Freeman but then what "great things" are in their estimation. It only am-to raising by great effort £100 for their missionaries the current year. Bare justice would in the opinion many be £100 for the missionary they detain from pro-to the Heathen - and the outfit & salary of another in stead. If the Hottentots after being christianized for 20 are to have a regular supply of pastors from Europe ever & aye Bless the fellows, they are better off than we in England. I say christianized for when a decided in a village are professing christians they deserve appellation, and such has been the case in several

for more than 20 years. If they do not now the gospel among themselves I dont see at what

[0003] the society should slip out from being a sort of go-cart them. Perpetual tutelage & everlasting leading strings would enfeeble . You folks in England talk very knowingly about "concentration" that maybe is philosophy but it is gammon relation to Africa. Concentrate in India or China you have an immense population but not in Africa little experience I have had leads me to believe that concentration not the thing for Africa. We cannot force the thing gardeners do plants. By the above you will have birds eye view of the question which agitates our mission horizon at present. Many thanks for the parcels all the news your letters contain. A fine set of you Europeans are become, shooting each as the people here do Rhinoceros and you dont eat other either. You will get to that too bye & bye. Soup will start up behind the Barricades

Mr Brown is a long way from us. It is not likely I shall see him. there is I am sorry to say but little doing [...] [in] missionary field here. successive years of scarcity proved a great hindrance to us in this tribe. We have by the Divine goodness the prospect of a harvest may next and then we hope that the attendance of the will be more regular. I am much delighted with new field beyond. the Boers will not allow us labour among the tribes East of this I greatly desire be allowed to reduce the new language to writing translate God's word into it though after that I shall like a sucked orange & not worth burial. there however 600 miles additional land carriage. 270 beyond Kuruman makes an impression on the sufficient to induce us to look unutterable things the other 600. an epidemic frequently fatal. Great of mosquitoes & sparrows by the million

[0004] us think of the little olive plants of which we have now

3 two boys & a girl - for we shall not probably be able to raise there. Poor Africa.

I must write Charles. & If I can will enclose it in this and will wafer & address it for me.

Could not possibly write My good friend Charles will if spared. Periodicals came all safe day ago. ~~Feb~~ 2^d [March]. this goes off tomorrow

I have written MacLehose about the Reviews - wishing them to bound in cloth before sending them. Accept the kindest from M^{rs} L and self. Mokoteri is not yet. Can not get a wife poor fellow.

Very Affectionately yours

David Livingston

Is M^{rs} Henderson[(Miss Leslie)] & gone out?

Why didn't MacLehose marry Miss Hall?

Care of Rev^d D^r Philip Cape Town

M^{rs} Sewell

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