

Personal

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Department of Native Affairs,

Cape Town, ³¹ March, 1911.

1 April

Dear Mr. Plaatje,

An article has been brought to my notice which appeared in the "Tsala ea Beoana" in connection with the case of Rex versus Patsy O'Brien recently tried at Beaconsfield.

The matter to which you referred was carefully inquired into by me as is usually the practice in such cases affecting Natives.

I find that Chrissie Tom on whom the assault was alleged to have been committed had been drinking on the night in question and is reported to have given her evidence in a very unsatisfactory manner, further her evidence did not agree with that of her mother or of a Native witness who gave evidence for the prosecution.

The presiding Magistrate was therefore compelled to acquit the accused.

This.....

Mr. Sol Plaatje,

Box 145,

Kimberley.

This Department will always be ready to assist you in obtaining redress when sought for but exaggeration in cases of this nature will only tend to damage the cause you advocate and may have a prejudicial effect in the future in cases when real injustice has been suffered.

I remain

Yours faithfully,

Edward Dower

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Silas T MOLEMA and Solomon T PLAATJE Papers

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