

Maffeking
Nov. 2 1881

To Captain Nourse.

My friend,

You ask me to agree to a ^{armistice} ~~peace~~ with Moshele. You promise me that he will keep this armistice. I want you to know what has happened before, and then you will see why I cannot now agree.

Major Buller & De la Roubert came to me last May to make a peace between myself, and ~~X~~ Moshele and his servant Matchabi. I was the first to agree to this peace, and I promised to keep it. Moshele also promised for himself ~~X~~ and his servant Matchabi, and Matchabi ~~for~~ also promised to keep it.

No sooner were Major Buller & P. J. ^{Thom} away than Matchabi stole my horses and ~~horses~~, and although both those gentlemen ~~had~~ ^{promised} declared that the one who broke the peace should be punished, I have received no satisfaction, no steps have been taken against the offender.

Also my people were unable to go to the Diamond Fields with loads as they were ~~there~~ and ill treated by Moshele although he had promised peace. What am I to do with my corn if I cannot take it to sell - I grow corn for the markets to get money.

I tell you what the Boers want me to make peace for; they want to wait till all of the troops have gone, and then they will again help my enemies.

Is not Mr. Griff a Transvaal official, and why did he not prevent my enemies from committing a breach of the line ^{at any time} when I wrote to warn him.

I do not wish to fight with anyone but I will not accept Moshele's word that he will keep ~~the~~ ^{his} ~~peace~~ ^{armistice} and already ~~he~~ ^{he} ~~has~~ ^{broken} ~~it~~ ^{it}.

he has no authority over them, they do as they please
and the Boers will do as they please.

I must be warned for the future by the past.
Therefore if you desire to make an armistice
I must first receive back the cattle that were taken
into the Transvaal against the law, ^{and to Curana} and then I will
make a ^{armistice} ~~peace~~ for two months to allow the government
to do justice. if ^{enlight} an officer and a body of police are
sent to Curana to make the people keep the peace.

They may also send some to me, but that is not
needed, for I do what I promise.

The peace that Major Buller & P Joubert made was
to last until the government had decided the case, and
this last fight was a breach of that armistice as no
decision had been given.

You threaten to send soldiers to this part, I want
to know why, as the government has given me this freedom,
and ~~Belmont~~ ^{Boysen} told me that I could do what
I pleased now in my own country.

I must have the cattle back first, as they have
burned my corn & my people want the milk to live
on.

I am your friend

Mankisa

Chief Baroka

Israel Motema

Witnesses

Stephen ~~James~~

Copy

Collection Number: A979

Silas T MOLEMA and Solomon T PLAATJE Papers

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

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