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Kimberley.

7. February 1880.

To Moutsoa.

Chief.

I have received your letter of 28th January. It was brought to me by Mr Dacomb & he got it and other letters from your messengers -

Your men are now going back to you and I write to tell you the news -

I am very pleased to hear you are determined to do as the High Commissioner wishes. and I have written to tell him.

He is also the General over all the English troops & he has to stop the rebellion of the Boers, & we must all do what he says is best, for he is the head -

At the beginning the Boers killed and captured a good many of our soldiers. they were taken by surprise and were not

ready.

Now we know what the rebels are doing and our soldiers are safe.

They are in forts at Pretoria at Potchefstroom Rustenburg. Marabastad, Leydenburg. Wakkerstroom & Standerton, and the rebels have not been able to take any of these places -

Sir George Colley tried on 28. Jan^y to take more troops up the Berg out of Natal to help the Transvaal, but he had only 900 & the Boers on the hill were too strong and our troops could not get up. Both sides fought well & we lost many men and the Boers also.

The General will now wait till the other troops which have come from England and India arrive near the Transvaal Border. Then he will easily take the Berg and drive the Boers back.

I hope we shall then soon have peace.

All the Boers are collecting near Natal.
now. There are only small patrols
elsewhere except round Pretoria.

I am sure they will not have enough
to trouble you.

I think you do right to assemble
your people & other friendly peoples
This will shew the Boers that you
mean what you say & they will be
afraid to come.

Do not mind what they talk.

I thank you for receiving those who
do not want to take up arms.

We do not want you to fight for
us because we know we are strong
enough, & we do not want the Barolong
to have troubles. but we want the
Barolong to be our friends.

I am sorry this war will delay
settling the land, but perhaps it

will be easier settled afterwards.

If Moshetta & young Machabie believe what the Boers say they will be sorry by & bye.

I have written to Moshetta & I do not think he will do much harm -

Machabie is so near the Boers he is perhaps afraid of them -

I think Sir G. Colley will attack the Boers in about 20 days -

Do not believe all the stories you hear. the Boers spread untruths.

I will always send you the true news when I can -

I send you my greetings and hope you are well.

Your friend.

Chas. Probyer.

L.P.S.

Dep. Commr.

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