

Letter to Arthur Tidman, 12 December 1852

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[0001]

Kuruman 12 December
1852
Rev^d D^r Tidman
Dear Sir
Enclosed you will
recieve a letter to Sir John Pakington, H.M. Secretary
for the Colonies, I wrote to the Lieutenant
Governor Darling an account of the attack
of the Boers on Kolobeng and sent also
a similar letter to H. Green the British
Resident with the addition of a claim
for compensation, my property having
been destroyed in the violation of a treaty
I scarcely expect any compensation but
thought the more noise we made the less
likely would they be to do the same thing
over again. But the more I become
acquainted with ^ the present Governor - Sir
George Cathcart's feelings the less hope

[0002]

I have of the least favour being shewn to
anything in the shape of either missionary or
Hottentot. Indeed it would be unspeakably
pleasing to Sir George to hang us all on
one gibbet. He will never forgive the
Hottentots for completely foiling him in war
nor us missionaries because our belief
that Hottentots have souls has turned out
in connection with the name of this mighty
man of valour, true all the world over.
Such being the case I mustered courage to
write to his master Sir John Pakington.
I think I have good cause for complaint
but whether I have done it in a proper
manner and whether it ought to be presented
at all I leave entirely to your decision
A M^r Codrington, a gentleman of large
landed property in Wiltshire lost a good

deal of property at Kolobeng. He had gone

[0003]

down the Limpopo on a hunting expedition and when he returned his cattle and goods were gone. As he has Parliamentary influence he will make some noise about the affair. He goes home to England. now only one half of his cattle were taken and the other half were by some mistake left behind. Sechele sent them out to M^r Moffat, and though an attempt was made by the person who had them in charge to steal them, the people here pursued them - overtook the thievish Englishman - ^ (a M^r Simpson) fined him and the price of the missing cattle and such as remained are in custody here for the owner. It is pleasant to see the people making efforts to promote justice and perhaps it is not always wrong even to fight for their country Rains have fallen and I have nearly succeeded in getting a complement of men. I fully intend starting from this on the 14th currt.

I advised you of £10. for books from M^r MacLehose and another £10. for clothing from M^r Drummond, neither of which sums, though deducted from my salary have yet been drawn

[0004]

They will be applied for soon. I gave Mebaloe £10. in consideration of his losses at Kolobeng and because he had kept school and other services and remained at his work up to the commencement of the firing. He is now at Kuruman

Believe me yours Affectionately

David Livingston

I have written during my sojourn here An Analysis of the Sechuana It may be accepted by the Asiatic Journal. If publised some months hence you will see I have some important objects in view in it

Care of Rev^d W. Thompson

Cape Town

Prepaid

Rev^d D^r Tidman

Mission House

Blomfield St

London

13th December I leave this tomorrow afternoon
DL.