

Wainland  
Cape

2nd June 1912

My dearest Father,

Just a word to let you know that I received the money £4 which my sister Harriet sent me.

I am keeping well Papa thanks. We are on with our work of Exposition. The business was begun yesterday and will last till the 9<sup>th</sup> July. I expect we shall be leaving for Love Dale on the 10<sup>th</sup> as our school re-opens on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. I shall try and get you a copy of the Cape Times that you may see the records of the Abolitionist Exhibition. The Love Dale choir sang in the City Hall last last night. We got white a hearty cheer for our music.

I cannot write longer today Papa. I shall write to you again soon.

My love to mother, my sisters and brothers Daniel Eva. Much love from your affectionate son  
Nelson.

The Matilie  
Lovedale  
29th Sept 1912

My dearest Papa,

I am still keeping well. I hope you are the same.

I received your last two letters. One you wrote from Kimberley, and the other from home. Ever so many thanks for them Papa. Yes, I got those papers which were sent to you from Ireland. They were sent to you at the request of Mr Houghton. Of course it is too early yet to say anything about them. Moreover I hope to be home in December, so there will be ample opportunity to talk about them.

We are very busy now preparing for our examinations. They will begin on the 26<sup>th</sup> November and will last for a week. I am ~~doing~~ trying to do my best at my studies and earnestly hope to have my efforts blessed with success.

Papa I have been quiet for rather a long time. I hope you are not very anxious.

My best love to mother and my little  
brothers.

Goodbye now Papa. Much love to you  
from  
Your very affectionate son  
Walter.

P.S. By the way Papa, I would like to have  
about 7/6 to have my book mended.  
May I have it by return of post please?

Lovetale  
22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 1912

My dearest Father,

I am in receipt of your letter. Ever so many thanks for it; and many more for the enclosed postal order of one sovereign. But you know what Ira - you put the ~~Alice~~ wrong name of Alice on it - you must have forgotten and put Fort Beaufort instead of Lovetale or Alice. I shall have to go to Fort Beaufort to get it changed. I am keeping well Ira. I hope you are also well.

Yes, I have also a mind to go home in December. It is not very long before the closing comes. But I feel so anxious about my examinations. Perhaps I may leave just after them if I find it necessary. Of course our exams are always over by the end of November, and the closing

does not come until the 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. so  
that we have full two weeks after  
the examinations, and those who wish  
to leave are granted permission to  
do so. But I am not decided  
yet on this point.

My love to Mother and children  
Good bye Rosa, much love to you,  
Your affectionate son  
Nelvin.

Lovedale Inst

27th Oct 1912

My dearest Father,

I am writing to you in connection with my holidays. You mentioned that I should go home for my December holidays. I was just wondering what answer you made to Mr. Molebalo's letter. I believe he wrote to you about me, touching the situation I could fill for a short time at Capetown in December.

The post is in one of the medical companies and I believe the pay is reasonable. Of course it will not be a permanent post, so that I will only stay there for some short time and then go home. Moreover Papa, I think this is my last year in Lovedale, and I have been wondering what I shall be doing next year and all the time till you send me across. I would not like to stay, doing nothing during that time.

To be frank Papa I think it will be a great advantage to me if I go and occupy that position both from the view of pay it will bring and additional medical knowledge. Besides, as I have already said, my stay there will not be long, or if it is desirable, I could go home first and then proceed to Capetown, I could go home after our examinations if it is necessary.

I to dues write Papa dear, to give you my view  
of ~~not~~ the matter, as I think you would like to  
know it.

Let me please hear what you say Ppa. If  
you are very anxious that I should go home as soon  
as possible, & it could be arranged.

I must conclude now Ppa. Much love to you  
from

Your very affectionate Son

Abraham Deacon

Lovedale

24<sup>th</sup> Nov 1912

My dearest Father,

Very many thanks for your letter.  
I was glad to hear that you are all well.  
Kitumela thater qoutloa fa lo co ga sentle.  
Thanks for allowing me to go to Capetown.  
I think I shall be there for only a month.  
But I'll write again to you Papa. I am  
still very busy with my studies now.

The closing is on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. But I may  
leave earlier. If possible I will leave on  
the 4<sup>th</sup> Dec; so please Papa, let me have  
my travelling expenses as early as possible.  
I cannot write long now Papa - though I  
have much to say and ask, but I shall  
do so when I write again.

Our Examinations will be from the 25<sup>th</sup> Nov  
to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec. That is we begin tomorrow.  
Good bye now Papa. Much love to you  
from your very affectionate son

Walter

Dear

My dearest Father /

14th Dec 1912

I am still keeping well.

I am just on my way to Bakerton.

I shall write to you again immediately after my arrival there.

I have sent two boxes home. the larger one contains my books. And the other - the smaller, which I have sent by the Goods train contains some photos. I herewith enclose a ticket for the first which can be got from the station. the other can be got - on application to the parcel office.

I did write to Tzirkloof, but I have had no answer as yet

My best love to Mother and the youngsters.  
Goodbye Papa, much love to you from  
your very affectionate son

Albie

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.  
POSTKANTOOR TELEGRAAFDIENST.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. UNIE VAN ZUID-AFRIKA.**

If the accuracy of this Telegram (being an Inland Telegram) is doubted, it will be repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission; and, if found to be incorrect, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Cablegrams.

Indien de juistheid van dit Telegram (zijnde een Binnenlands Telegram) betwijfeld wordt, zal het herhaald worden tegen betaling van de helft van het voor de overeining oorspronkelijk betaald bedrag. Indien het blijkt dat het oorspronkelijke telegram onjuist overgeseind was, wordt het voor de herhaling betaald bedrag terugbetaald. Speciale bepalingen gelden voor de herhaling van Kabelgrammen.

**N.B.—This Form should accompany any enquiry made respecting this Telegram.**

**N.B.—Deze vorm moet alle navragen met betrekking tot dit Telegram vergezellen.**

| Charges to Pay | { | £ | , | S. | d. |
|----------------|---|---|---|----|----|
| Te Betalen     |   |   |   |    |    |

Dated Stamp of  
Datum-stempel  
van  
DE 8 12 1912  
PEKING  
Delivering Office  
Beste kantoor.

Handed in at  
Ingeleverd te

at  
om

Received here at  
Ontvangen hier om

M.

From  
Van

Moliri

To  
Aan

Silas Motemer  
MAPEKING

wire Money immediately

Wes. Abanse  
Uitvlugt  
Nieuwland  
Capetown

My dearest Father,

30<sup>th</sup> Dec 1912

Ke santee ke eogile sentle  
bra, ke sholofela gore lekyena losa  
tshidile sentle. Kene ka go koalela  
ko a Detar kelta koano. I believe  
you got the letter safely together  
with the enclosed tickets of my  
boxes which I sent home from Alice.

Yaka kona ka bua, kona ka  
ira apply ko a Tijerloof for the post  
of a teacher. They have been very  
long in replying, but I have got  
their answer at last which I enclose.  
I only got it this morning,  
so I immediately turned my eyes  
to something else.

You see Papaw, I have made up my  
mind to get some employment this next  
year - God willing. It may not be possible  
to get a good post from the very start  
but great things have small beginnings,  
and so I am trying to get a per-  
manent post in one of the local large  
business firms. I shall let you know  
when I have it.

I

My idea is also to try and pursue my studies  
in a short time. There are many able  
professors in the places and I mean to  
attend the lectures of those in a few  
subjects I like to get up.

Kenna le nlr nlelebaloa mono qepo  
le Gabouthloeloe o gone. Nlr nlelebaloa  
omokopile gone anne nae. Mr Plaatje  
le nlotshumi lebone ba mono.

My love to mother and all the young  
sters.

Goodbye Rev. Much love to you from  
your affectionate son  
Nolani

Cape Town  
16<sup>th</sup> Mar. '13

My dearest Father,

Many thanks for your two letters of last week. I was so sorry to hear of the baby's death - But God is so great. And then I got Harriet's telegram to say that our grandmother Masiaho has also gone to rest. My only comfort must be that these are with the Lord. But you know Bro these incidents come almost as a reproach to me that I should have gone home to be present and mourn the deceased with you.

I am keeping well Bro - only lonely since Theo left. I suppose, by the way he has now reached Mafeking.

As for your second letter, I must say I am prepared to go home any time when it is necessary. Besides the fact that I long to see the people, there are many things I would like to have explained to me in connection with my education and starting life. Some how I always want to hear something myself. The letter never satisfy me, and consequently I never write about them.

But Ara, I am very anxious to have Mr Henderson's account settled before I leave Capetown. These small debts never make me feel quite free and happy until they are squared off. I promised to get it payed before the end of May, and if I stay here till then, I reckon that I shall manage it. But of course this cannot confine me here. Even if you call me home tomorrow, I shall be ready to respond the

call, so long as there is provision made for  
Mr Henderson's Account to be paid in due  
time.

What doctor are you making arrangements  
with Ria? And what work will I be  
required to do. I wonder could they  
communicate with me.

I shall say the rest when I come  
home.

My love to mother and all the  
children.

Goodbye Ria - Much love to you from  
your affectionate son  
Modiru

Cape Town

20.4.13

My dearest Father,

I had a letter from Mr Plaatje during the week - on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. suggesting that I should fill the pl. vacancy for a teacher in their public school at Kimberley temporarily. They have already replied me by wire, asking me to go up immediately; so I shall leave Cape Town on the 21<sup>st</sup> April for Kimberley. I hope you will find nothing to displease you in the step I have taken further.

My best love to mother and the children. I hope all are in sound health.

I conclude, with my love to you &

Your very affectionate son  
Modiri.

Lynndhurst Rd  
Public School

Kimberley

My dear Father,

30th April

Thanks very much for  
the letters you forwarded me.

As for Mr James Henderson's letter  
I don't understand why he should  
write as if his payment has been  
refused. As a matter of fact the  
amount he mentioned will not be  
due until the end of May. I would  
understand the letter if it was  
written after that date - May 30th.  
I have written to him today to  
say "He will get every farthing of it"  
and he will get it.

As for the Graham Remedies Company, they  
must have received the booklet they mentioned  
a few hours after posting that letter, for  
I sent it back corrected from Debar.

Of course I was very willing to leave them  
peacefully, so I said I was called home.

I shall advance Mr Henderson's  
money on ~~over~~ my very first payment-

II

and I can assure you I am as anxious  
about it as he is.

How is mother doing? I am so near  
home now that I shall not miss  
the earliest opportunity to go there.

Maye le bana ba dumele thata.  
I hope they are all doing well.  
Dumella thata Kra!

Your loving son  
Moderie

4.7.1913

My dearest Father,

Rena na fitha maloba sentle.  
When we arrived @ I-Kraapans  
there was no waggon to fetch  
Mrs Tengyang. And @ Kraapans  
no motoring Monamme Letsapankie  
nor fitha fithela gotec o  
de Pitsane. Things were  
were ~~so~~ bad enough but  
they would certainly have  
been worse for Mrs Tengyang  
and daughters if I was not  
present. When you come to  
imagine that, I, a native of these  
parts - (that is ngoana oa gae)  
could scarcely see any people I  
knew, much less willing to give  
necessary assistance.

Ka Modimo o ite dilo (jaka rene  
re bua mogo neea Madibr Maloba)  
I saw a wagon - an old pickety  
thing - but nevertheless a wagon

11

going to Kunana, belonging to a  
fewish Merchant there. I used  
all the persuasive faculty at my  
command, and finally succeeded  
in inducing him to give us room  
in his wagon even if he should  
~~req~~ require renumeration.

This being the case, I found it  
necessary for me to proceed to  
Kunana also ~~to~~ to make  
assurance doubly sure gone  
baeng ba gorogile settle. I  
had not a single minute to  
spare even for seeing the old  
man (Rakakamyang). The only  
person I had the good luck  
of meeting was Rakatholo,  
at the station, and he gave me  
all the assistance in his power.  
Mrs Fenyang is so pleased that  
she has no words to express her  
gratitude. O itumelov thata

## **Collection Number: A979**

### **Silas T MOLEMA and Solomon T PLAATJE Papers**

#### **PUBLISHER:**

*Publisher:- Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand*

*Location:- Johannesburg*

**©2012**

#### **LEGAL NOTICES:**

**Copyright Notice:** Copyright for all materials on the Historical Papers website is owned by The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and is protected by South African copyright law. Material may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

**Disclaimer and Terms of Use:** Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a collection owned by the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and deposited at Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.

---