

Please give a permit for them as I have no ammunition and cannot protect my country and my ~~people~~ friends. I have also opened my country to all and any troops ~~th~~ that may come, and I shall help them as much as I can."

Col Moysey answered to convey Governor Sir George Colley's thanks to Montshiwa for his loyalty to the British Government, as well as for his offers ~~for~~ of help; assured him that the British Government will not forget him or his wants after the war; said large forces were coming from England, wherefore Montshiwa's help would not be required; said it would not be right to give him so much ammunition as the Boers would hear of it and make trouble, but the Governor was willing to give a little to show him that he appreciated his help and friendship and so that he could defend his posts; Adjured him to be quiet and faithful, and to defend the loyalists; Thanked him again for his goodwill to the English, and assured him again that they would not forget him."

A letter in identical terms had been addressed by Colley to Mankurwane-

Chief of the Batlhaping at Taung.

In Dec 1880 after many months of heartburn, bitterness, resentment.
Shortly after the outbreak of the Transvaal war of Independence, to wit ~~on~~

December 1880

Mabeglela near
in the ~~February~~ Montshiwa convened a large meeting of the Molopo chiefs at his village

There were present-

of Sehuba, three Ratlou clan chiefs namely Moshete from Kunwana, Bonokwane from Morokweng, and Makgobi from Phitshane, also the Rapulana chief Matlaba from Bodibe (Polfontein). Each of them was accompanied by a large following of lesser chiefs and counsellors and commoners. Montshiwa stood up to propose Unity and common policy of all the Barolong chiefs with regard to the war now raging in the Transvaal and Natal between the South African Republic and the British Government. He favoured the lending of assistance to the latter.

There was no agreement among the chiefs on this proposal. Moshete and Matlaba said openly that "they were children of the Transvaal, that is to say allies or vassals of the South African Republic, while Bonokwane and Makgobi said they elected to remain neutral. Then a man Mogotsi *Moiwa* headman of the Rapulana *and nephew of Chief Matlaba* clan stood up and declaimed vehemently against Montshiwa, accusing him of ambition, greed for power and leadership, and excessive love for everything English. Mogotsi's speech was applauded by Matlaba's ~~bro~~thers and men of the Rapulana clan. *It is said* They were shared by the authorities of the Transvaal who had been keeping an eye on Montshiwa for many years, and now redoubled their vigilance.

On the 29th of December- a fortnight after the outbreak of the war, Gen. Piet Cronje, Commandant and spectacular hero of Potchefstroom wrote to Montshiwa :-

" Monchua : Take notice that as soon as you, or any of your people are found ~~and~~ armed fighting against the burghers of the South African Republic, which Governme^{nt} is again restored, and whereof Paul Kruger, Marthinus Pretorius and Piet Joubert form the government; or lend assistance to our enemies - the English Government, whom we have nearly worked out everywhere, we will consider you and your people as our enemies and treat you as such. We have always considered you and your people as friends of the Boers, and we are willing to treat you as our friends, that is if you remain peaceable, because we alone are able to work out the English. But you can send your people to help us work our corn and our farms, and for which we will pay your people well. " (B.V 26 Briewe afgestuur deur Generaal P.A. Cronje, 30 Des. 1880 - April 1881.)

To this letter Montshiwa replied rather curtly on the 4th January 1881.

"My Dear Friend: I have received your letter of the 29th Dec 1880. I want to inform you that I found some of the burghers of the S.A. Republic going about in my country armed, and I was astonished about that because I am not fighting with anyone. But about the work I may say that I cannot force anyone to go and get employment. I do not know who are your enemies, but I consider all the people as your friends. Tell your people not to come to my country with arms. "

About the same time, Montshiwa had frequent differences with Commandants Snyman, Botha and Jan Viljoen of Marico, and Hendrik Greeff of Lichtenburg, not to mention the almost daily squabbles between his people and the residents of Vleyfontein and Rooigrond, the ground which Montshiwa continued to claim as his own, both by inheritance and by virtue of the Keate Award.

On the 17th of January 1881, he wrote to Commandant Hendrik Greeff of Lichtenburg, Sir: I hear from very good authority that you are making ready to begin war with me, this after J. Viljoen repeatedly visiting my station to inform me that the Boers mean peace, and are only making war with the English. I should like to wish to know what I have done and if this news is true."

On the 21st of January General Cronje wrote again : A

"Aan Monchua :, Kapitein der Barolongs, Sehuba : My Friend, I have your letter of the 4th January, and Commandant Viljoen has reported to me that you have made peace with our people of the S.A. Republic, and that you sent a boy as a token of security. I am sending you our Government Gazette and a copy of a Proclamation to keep you informed. Write again and let us know if the English refugees have gone back to their homes. "

Montshiwa answered on the 21st January :

P.A.Cronje: General, Potchefstroom: Sir Your letter of the 18th duly to hand.
J.

With regard to peace repeatedly made by/Viljoen I do not understand, for at the same time Hendrik Greeff and Hans Coetzee are collecting a large armed force this side of Lichtenburg, and on good authority I learned that it was to make war with me. It got so bad that the white people were coming in from all quarters for protection, and last Sunday the Boers living in the district had written orders to trek to the camps in Marico at once, all to be there not later than Monday night. This finished it for now we have not a single white man living between here and Marico, or here and Lichtenburg,. This is the peace Carl Weyers and M. Joubert are to keep. For the papers I thank you. The affair of the little kaffir: I never gave one. It was J. Viljoen's doings. He pointed one and said-"That child must grow up and have children before we should fight against each other. The child is still here."

At this time, Montshiwa was still carrying on correspondence with Col. Moysey who supplied ^{him} with hopeful news of approaching or expected British victory under Sir Pomeroy Colley, and adjured him again and again not to take up arms against the Boers.

Thus wrote Moysey: "On the 7th February 1881 - "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 in their forts. Sir George Colley tried on the 28th January to take more troops up ~~on~~ the ~~hill~~ Berg out of Natal to help the Transvaal, but he only got 900, and the Boers on the hill were too strong, and our troops could not get up. Both sides fought well and 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.

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

I am sorry this war will delay settling the ^{be}land, but perhaps it will ^{be}easier settled afterwards.

If Moshete and Matlaba believe what the Boers say, they will be sorry bye and bye. I do not think Moshete will do much harm, but Machavie (Matlaba()) is so near the Boers, he is perhaps afraid of them. Do not believe all the stories you hear. The Boers spread ^a untruths. "

On the 27th of March Moysey wrote again to tell Montshiwa that peace was declared. Montshiwa had ofcourse ~~may~~ already heard the news with dismay.

farmer - field-cornet Schalk. Burgers sought out Moshete, befriended him, released him from his indenture, and placed him on his 'throne' in 1872, and gave him a staff or sceptre as an insignia of kingship, and then urged him to cede - as the senior chief of all the Barolong clans - all the territorial rights of the Barolong to the South African Republic. To make his case unassailable, President Burgers visited other Barolong chiefs of junior status to Moshete and others to urge them to cede their territorial rights individually and collectively to the South African Republic. On the 6th of December, 1872, he thus obtained cession of territory from David Mosweu Reit Taaibosch, chief of the Koranas at Mamusa (later known as Schweizer-Reneke).

In April 1873 Burgers visited Montshiwa who was still living at Moshaneng in the country of the Bangwaketse. He tried to prevail upon him to repudiate the Keate Award and to agree to a new boundary line between his Barolong and the South African Republic as he said Montshiwa could neither remove nor govern the Dutch-Afrikaners within the Keate line. The chief refused Burgers' overtures outright, and reported the event to Richard Southey, Lieutenant Governor of Griqualand West, and Sir Henry Barkly the High Commissioner.

President Burgers next approached chief Matlaba of the junior (Rapulana) branch of the Barolong, and succeeded in obtaining from him a cession. Armed with David Mosweu's Moshete's and Matlaba's deeds of cession, Burgers now issued a proclamation on the 11th of March 1874 that all the territorial rights of the Barolong are now by cession from the Paramount chief Moshete the territorial rights of the South African Republic, and that, therefore, all Moshete's people, including Matlaba and his people are subjects of the South African Republic.

A few days earlier on the 10th August, Montshiwa had addressed a dignified protest to President Burgers:- "I Montshiwa, chief of the Tshidi branch of the Barolong, hereby make known to your honour:

1. That it has come to my knowledge that Your Honour purposes locating at the fountain Bodibe(Polfontein) and Poosedumane (Vleyfontein) certain Barolong and others not belonging to the Tshidi branch of which I am chief.
2. That no one save myself and my government possesses any right to alienate any portion of my country which is the special inheritance of the Tshidi Barolong.
3. I protest formally against all acts and things that have already been done or may be in contemplation to be done, or which may hereafter be done, whereby any attempts may have been made or may be contemplated or may hereafter be made to alienate or dispose of any portion of territory without

consent.....

consent or concurrence of me Montshiwa or my government.

4. That I have on behalf of the Tshidi and other Barolong residing in my territory and subject to me, petitioned Her most gracious majesty, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to be pleased to accept into her allegiance, me the said Montshiwa, and my people, and to declare me and my people to be British subjects and our territory to be British territory, and further that I continue to be in communication with the representatives of Her gracious majesty in reference to my said position.

Signed Montshiwa(chief) and Selere, Isaac Seru, Bathobatho, Molema, Mokgweetsi, Josiah Motshegare, Cornelius Botlhale, Phetlhu, Maeco, Ncapedi, Mococe, Motlhwane, Rabodietso and Matthew Molema (Members of the Council).

President Burgers' interviews and discussions with the chiefs had the effect of dividing them into two opposite camps according as he succeeded or failed to persuade them to throw in their lot with him and the South African Republic. The pro-Burgers chiefs - Moshete, Matlaba and Mosweu allied themselves together against the anti-Burger chiefs - Montshiwa and Mankurwane who also banded together against the former. The members of each group and especially the pro-Burger group, felt that the Keate line had encroached upon them, and were determined to indemnify themselves. In consequence of this mutual jealousy, there ^{followed} ~~were~~ unending disputes, raids, bickerings and reprisals leading to frightful disorder in the western Transvaal border.

to Pres. Burgers' proclamation and to Montshuwa's petition
By way of reply, High Commissioner Sir Henry Barkly issued a Proclamation in the following month. "Whereas.....(9) and ^{the} whereas ever since the Keate Award became known the Government of South African Republic has endeavoured to evade its effects by repudiating the acts of their president and by entering into agreement with individual members or petty captains of tribes for the cession of rights and territories which those individuals have no power to cede; (10) and whereas under cover of such agreements or alleged agreements the President of the South African Republic for the time being had published a proclamation announcing that the territorial rights of the Koranna, Barolong and Batlhaping Tribes have been ceded to, and have now become the rights of the said republic

Now...../

Now therefore, I do hereby proclaim..... that the territorial acquisitions to which the said South African Republic lays claim under and by virtue of the alleged cessions made by petty captains and others will not be recognised unless and until the award of the late Robert Keate Esq shall have been first fairly and fully carried into execution."

Regardless of this Proclamation, President Burgers in the same month, April 1874, moved Matlaba's people into localities claimed and occupied by Montshiwa's people at Polfontein. Montshiwa, of course immediately fell upon Matlaba, tied up his son and other people, and captured several of his cattle, horses, sheep, goats and wagons. This coming to the ears of the South African Republic authorities, Samuel Melville, the Commissioner and agent for Native Affairs (South African Republic) Lichtenburg wrote (on 30th April 1874) to Montshiwa at Moshaneng, and to Molema at Mafikeng - "Machavie(matlaba) and his people are subjects of the Transvaal. Our Government has never yet acknowledged the reward of Lieutenant Governor Keate. Polfontein and the farms near it are on Transvaal territory..... Injuries to Matlaba or Moshete's people will be regarded as injuries to the Transvaal and retaliated.....Property captured and people taken from Matlaba must be restored by orders of the President."

This was the commencement of a long and at times acrimonious correspondence about conflicting territorial claims, spoliations and reprisals between Montshiwa and his people on the one side , and the South African Republic and its officials and subjects on the other - Samuel Melville: Republican Agent of Native Affairs at Lichtenburg; I.B. Roode: Field-cornet at Rooigrond; C.R. Otto: Landrost at Zeerust; I.B. Bantjes: Acting Commissioner at Lichtenburg C.B. Scholtz: Republican, then British and again Republican Commissioner of Native Affairs at Lichtenburg; Commandant Hendrik Greeff of Lichtenburg; Commandant Piet Cronje of Potchefstroom; S. Swart: South African Republic State Secretary; Piet Joubert: Commandant General and Acting President of the Republic and Thomas Burgers himself; State President of the South African Republic.

Necessarily at the same time, Montshiwa carried on an equally large correspondence with the officers of the British government - Owen Lanyon Administrator of Griqualand West; Richard Southey: Lieutenant Governor of Griqualand West; C.C. Campbell: Magistrate of Barkly West; I.D. Barry: Acting Administrator of Griqualand West, and again with Charles Warren and C.J. Moysey British Military commanders in Griqualand West; later he exchanged letters with M. Osborne Government Secretary and Theophilus Shepstone: Administrator of Transvaal and still later with Evelyn Wood: Cammanding Officer of British Forces in Natal, and George Hudson: British Resident in the Transvaal of the Retrocession period.

These...letters.../

At this time, Dr Livingstone, who^y was labouring among the Bakwena was away in Cape Town, and his house at Kolobeng, a few miles away was broken into, his furniture and library destroyed. It has never been determined who the culprits were. Livingstone and the Bakwena blamed the Boers, who in turn blame the Bakwena. The episode attained worldwide publicity. Scholtz captured immense booty in cattle, horses and goats, and also 48 guns, besides taking 250 women and children as prisoners. Some of these ~~were~~ were afterwards ~~released~~ redeemed by their relatives, some released, some escaped and the balance were distributed among the farmers as 'apprentices'.

wrote

On his return to Klein Marico Scholtz ~~saw~~ sent Montshiwa yet another note; "You are hereby summoned before the Council of War to appear within 5 days to answer for your disobedience to my orders." The chief sent his brother Molema, his cousin Bodumela Moshoele and his missionary Joseph Ludorf to hear what Scholtz had to say, but the irate Scholtz would not see them. ~~xxxxxxMontshiwa in person xxxxx~~ wanted for he knew Montshiwa's letters had been written with ~~under~~ the prison of the missionary's pen. It was Montshiwa in person he wanted, and if he did not report in the time given the cannon would roar upon him." Again Scholtz showed great forbearance, but somehow, Montshiwa seemed to think he had burnt the bridges and decided to put as much distance between himself and Scholtz.

Hearing that a commando was marching upon ~~them~~ them, Montshiwa and about 18,000 of his tribe left Lotlhakane and fled westward to join Gontse and the Ratlou clan at Setlagole, 45 miles away.

During their short stay at Setlagole, it is admitted that bands of the Barolong young men under Mokoto Monchosi of the Ratlou clan, Segae Motlhamme, Tswadibe and Tlhomedie of the Makgetla clan, as well as some men of the Bahurutse clan under their young scion Lencwe made a determined foray on Boer farms in the Marico, Magaliesburg and Rustenburg districts and took hundreds of cattle. The spoor of these herds was traced and ~~the catties themselves found among the Barolong at Setlagole~~ information from passersby confirmed the suspicion that they had been driven to Setlagole. Quickly, a commando was called up and led by Comm-Gen Andries Pretorius himself with the rising Commandant Paul Kruger as his adjutant and Commandant Schutte as his adjuncts. When the commando reached Setlagole, it Montshiwa and his tribe, knowing aware of its approach had retired to Mosite 20 miles further west, and thither the commando followed them up. In the meantime the Ratlou clan recently under Gontse, (Gontse now deceased during 1852) also evacuated Setlagole under Letsapa, and went to seek asylum under the Batlhaping of Mahura at Taung.

At Mosite Montshiwa at last made a stand and gave battle, in which he lost ~~several men~~ several men, killed and taken prisoner. Some casualties were inflicted on the Boers also. Comm-Gen Pretorius, who was well known to the Barolong had been seen riding a white horse. He now suddenly disappeared from the battle field and the Barolong thought that he was slain. In fact the man was in failing health when the commando left Magaliesburg and now became so seriously ill that he could no longer direct operations, and like his great rival Hendrik Potgieter ~~xxxxxx~~ retired from the battle expedition against the Bapedi of Sekwati in August (1852) he had been forced to retire from the field.

The Boer commando bivouacked that night a short distance from the field of battle. In the morning, when the commandant desired to make a truce with Montshiwa, it was found that he had fled. Montshiwa concluded from this that the Boers would renew their attack the next morning, and being short of ammunition, he decided to retire further west during the night.

On leaving Mosite, Montshiwa and his clan went to Morokweng to live with a Ratlou clan whose chief was Maiketso. There they stopped just long enough to plant ~~xxxxxx~~ reap the corn they had sown on their arrival that is, from January to August 1853. About this time, Pretorius died.

Leaving Morokweng at the end of August or early in September Montshiwa with his clan travelled up along the valley of the Molopo R until they came to Dikhukhung, a few miles below Phitshane. Here he was met by Senthufi, chief of the Bangwaketse, who brought a message from Comm-Gen Andries Pretorius expressing a desire for the renewal of the friendship between the Emigrant Boers and the Barolong of Montshiwa on the basis of a peace treaty, and guaranteeing the safe conduct of the chief and any counsellors he might choose to bring with him to the place of meeting at Marico.

Taking with him about 20 men, therefore, the chief proceeded to the appointed venue - Mathebex in the Marico district, and was there met by Commandant Jan Viljoen and Jakobus Snyman, who gave him a friendly welcome.

Without waste of time, Viljoen introduced the subject of the meeting as "Vredensbesluit tusschen

De Vertegenwoordigers der Z.A.Republiek op de eene zyde

en

Het Opperhoofdeder Barolong op de andere

Na den oorlog welke gewoonlyk den naam "Het Blinde Commando" Voert, en welke vredensbesluit plaats vond te Mathebe op den 14de dag van Oktober 1853.

Comd J. Viljoen eene byeenkomst gehouden hebbende te Kanye met Sinthuho kapitein der Bangwaketsi, stuurde eene bootschap aan Montsioa dat hy doch ook komen mogte om een eeuwig duurende vrede met de Regering der Z.A. Republiek te sluiten "

Ten gevolger er van reisde Montsioa naar Mathebe, de woonplaats van kapitein Moilwa, Comd J. Viljoen kwaam met vier burghers .

Comd J. Viljoen vraagde Montsioa naar het nieuws , Montsioa ~~antwoorde~~ antwoorde " Ik heb geen nieuws - Gy hebt my geroepen, ik kom dus het nieuws van U Ed te horen"

Comd J. Viljoen-"Het is waar, ik heb U Ed geroepen. Ons nieuwe hoofd M.W Pretorius heeft my gestuuren om namens de Z.A. Republiek vrede te vraagen van U Ed ~~en~~ en van alle andere volkstammen , want de oorlog heeft geen t'huis, de oorlog heeft geen slaap, de oorlog heeft geen kind, de oorlog heeft geen schaaap, nog oost.

De President wenscht dus vrede dat ~~ieder~~ ieder een van ons onbevrest op zyn woonplaats moge terug keeren, en hy verlangt om een groote nooit eindigende vrede te maken, zoodat de kinderen welke nee zullen geboren worden mogen opwassen en weder kinders voort brengen en op voegen en de vrede nog bestaat , dar waneer de naturellen de blanken, of de blanken de naturellen ontmoeten, zy zich wederzydig als vrienden mogen groeten. Dit is het nieuws met welken my President Pretorius tot U Ed gestuur heeft."

After this interesting introduction, the representatives came to de Hoofdvraag / D.W.S De Grond. - *the reason of the purpose of the meeting*

Comd J. Viljoen) Uwe grongebied zal het uwe blyven zoo als te vooren daar het hoofd der eerste Emigranten Comd Hendrik Potgieter en zyne opvolgers aan U Ed ten volle toegezekerd werd, het grondgebied der blankes zal hun eigendom bleiven, zoo veer als dus veer bewoont was. President Pretorius zal bleid weezen als doch maar de grenslyn zoo kan staan bleiven tusschen ons en de Barolong.

Both Commandant Viljoen and Chief Montshiwa made an oath before the witnesses and signed the treaty as

De contrakeerende partygen,

After which the following also signed or attached their marks as witnesses Jakobus Snyman, Capt Moilwa en al zyn volk, Molema, Pule, Motlale, Rabodieco, William Marumo, Bodumele, Jan Mahura and Hans Setlali.

This is the Peace Treaty referred to by Theal in his History of S.A 1834-1854 p. 525. One reads ^{it is} with feelings of its unreality, and apparently so did Montshiwa as we shall soon see .

When he left Dikhukhung ~~to~~ to comply with Commandant Viljoens invitation, he had given instructions to his uncle Mokgweetsi to conduct the clan to ^{Segeng} Segeng, and thence to Selokolela in the Bangwaketse country by agreement with the Bangwaketse chief Senthufi. Thither he followed the tribe, but first directed his brothers ~~Motshegare~~ and Selere, Motshegare and Molema and his uncle Moshoele to ~~return to~~ go and occupy the old tribal site at Lotlakanewhich they had abandoned at the beginning of the previous year.

Montshiwa then followed up the tribe to Segeng, where a halt was made to raise ~~from~~ melons and millet during the sowing and reaping season (1853-1854) ~~After~~ After the reaping, the march was continued to Selokolela, where something like a settlement was made (Sept 1854 to August 1859) for five years .

Here at Segeng resided Gaseitsiwe, the rightful Bangwaketse chief who was struggling to regain his rights of chieftain-ship from Senthufi, and between whom and the latter the Bangwaketse tribe was divided, Senthufi having however the larger ~~part~~ portion. Now Gaseitsiwe's mother ~~belonged~~ (Mojankunyana) was of the Tshidi Barolong, and was in fact Montshiwa's aunt. Gaseitsiwe and Montshiwa were therefore cousins, and had in fact lived together at Khunwana and Phitshane during the troubled days of Manthatisi invasions, and what is ~~still~~ further important is that they were of about the same age; they belonged to the same regiment or age group. Spiritually therefore, Montshiwa and his tribe were at home among the Bangwaketse of Gaseitsiwe.

Under these circumstance, therefore, Montshiwa could not view with indifference the ~~dispossession of Gaseitsiwe~~ usurpation of Gaseitsiwe's rights by Senthufi, and so immediately set ~~about~~ to work to bring about his recognition. In 1855, he ~~was~~ visited Sechele at his new village Dithubarubeng with the express purpose of proposing a combine against Senthufi. As Sechele did not act, Montshiwa gave military support to Gaseitsiwe, and the combined force attacked Senthufi at Male, ~~and~~ defeated him, and secured Gaseitsiwe in the undisputed chieftainship of the Bangwaketse.

After staying between two and three years at Segeng,, the tribe of Montshiwa moved futher north to Selokolela, where they spent about four years. ~~From here they were compelled to move, by the scarcity of surface water, and in 1859 the clan was on the march again.~~ About this time, lung disease broke out among cattle in epidemic form, and the Barolong ~~who~~ who were just about to feel the ground beneath their feet stumbled again into the ditch of poverty. *a short story here by Selere, Molema, and Molema, or*

Signing of the ~~in 1857~~ Four years had now passed since the ~~unbusinesslike~~ treaty between Montshiwa and Viljoen, and besides ~~occasional~~ visits ~~to the~~ of Molema or other subchiefs to the tribal ruins of Lotlhakane and the Barolong posts there, Montshiwa had not made any attempt to re-occupy the country ~~that~~ which that Treaty ~~gave him~~ ~~right~~ recognised his claim to and gave him the right to occupy. *Molema his permanent*

with a following of Now, however, in 1857, he sent his brothers ~~to~~ to make their stations there - Molema ~~at~~ at the rocky parts of the Molopo about fifteen miles below its source, the place which he called 'Mafikeng'; Saane on the Molopo ~~R~~ about twelve miles below Mafikeng at a spot called Ga-Modimola; Seru ~~ten or twelve miles on the north bank of the Mafikeng at a place called~~ 'Dishwaing'; Selere ~~eight miles to the south of Mafikeng adjacent to~~ the ~~Barolong~~ old site, evacuated in 1852; and Cupaneng Marumo ~~to the old ruins of Khunwana, whence the Tawana was driven by Mzilikazi in 1832.~~ *occupied*

at Dithakane of Lotlhakane The Molopo was a noble stream at that time, and its valleys swarmed with ~~all~~ different species of animals - lions, buffaloes, rhinoceroses, hippopotami, leopards, zebras, gnus, ~~by~~ wolves, hyenas and all manner of antelope (Big Game Shooting: Clive Phillipps-Woolley, Vol I p.40) It was therefore a hunters' paradise, and was frequented by ~~the~~ parties of Boer hunters from the South African Republic besides being a favourite place of call ~~of~~ English big game hunters as they passed northwards to Bechuanaland along the Hunters' of Missionary Road.

Molema was not long at ~~Mafikeng~~ Mafikeng before he was alarmed by frequency of these hunting expeditions of the Boer farmers on the western frontier of the South African Republic by their movements with their cattle ~~across the line~~ stipulated by the ~~Treaty of 1851~~ Dec 1851, and still more by their erecting houses in ever increasing number on the Barolong side of that line, so recently confirmed by Comm Jan Viljoen in unambiguous terms. *He* therefore sent an urgent message to Montshiwa that his country was shrinking as a result of European encroachment.

In 1859, Montshiwa moved from Selokolela further north-west into the country of the Bangwaketse, and made his settlement at Moshaneng, a place 15 miles to the west of Kanye. It is a beautiful locality with an abundance of surface water. *at this time* other

As a result of Molema's warnings, ~~he~~ sent his brothers to hold the key positions in the Barolong country as delimited by the 1851 Treaty. Saane was to occupy a place ~~on the Molopo~~ called Modimola twelve miles below Mafikeng, Seru was directed to build his village ~~ten miles to the east~~ on the northern bank of the Molopo about twelve miles ~~to the east~~ of Mafikeng, at a place called Dishwaing; Selere about eight miles to the south of ~~Mafikeng~~ Mafikeng and adjacent to the old site, evacuated in 1852, (the place afterwards known as Dithakong,) and Cupaneng Marumo to the old ruins of Khunwana, whence Tawana was driven by Mzilikazi in 1832. *T* Montshiwa had not long ensconced himself at far off Moshaneng, in fancied security, away from the disconcerting noises of commands and the strident demands for labour, ("wrapped in eternal silence and far from enemies") when to his utter dismay a new "sinister" force, a new "enemy" declared itself. (The new enemy was not physical, nor did it approach from without the gates and walls. It was a spiritual enemy.) It was a spiritual awakening right among the people. It was the rise of Christianity in Montshiwa's clan. It caused the chieftain much worry, because it challenged the religion and tradition upon which much of Montshiwa's authority rested. It brought about a division of loyalties in his tribe.

During the sojourn of the Barolong at Thaba Ncho (1834-1841) some Barolong, including Montshiwa's people, had been converted to Christianity. Their number was small, but like a smoking flax they had persisted, and like insidious germs, they had infected others in the

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