

43 Tavistock Square  
London W.C.1 11/7/30

My Dear Doctor,

=VHR= BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

I am just recovering from a nasty complication in the course of which I had to submit to the extraction of one tooth. Jaanong ke mokhine. I am not well yet. This is really the first letter after my sick ness I have to congratulate you once again on the excellence of your book. I feel sure the world would have lost a capital story-teller had you shirked authorship for I cannot think of anyone who could have set forth these big truths had you not done so. Again I must congratulate you on your patience. I had to wait 11 months fighting Harris who was battling to suppress Native Life in the press and the waiting was unbearable; and I can appreciate your ordeal having to wait three whole years for paper. My only regret is that this book will excite the jealousies of the very Bantu for whose benefit you have laboured thus unselfishly for the book is **B I G**. Other tribes will maliciously belittle your efforts while the 200,000 Barolongas will offer you their lip-loyalty instead of recommending the book to possible buyers.

One of the first I spoke to was Dr Brown a jet black West Indian who seemed lukewarm about it. But Old Dr Scholes was simply bubbling with admiration. But I am sorry for two things. When the book gets to South Africa Joshua Molema will be no more for that deep thinker from whose lips I have often drawn the wisest counsel of my life has been gathered to his fathers before "mine eyes have seen Thy salvation" --the attainments of his nephew.

Secondly, that master mind, F.Z.S. Peregrino, is no more. His tongue has been silenced and his powerful pen is stilled, never to move again. How admirably he would have reviewed it from inside knowledge in the Argus, the Cape Weekly, the Mafeking Mail, the Star and other journals to say nothing of the Native Press, had he lived to read your book. But these are life's disappointments for your book is really a classic. I will give up the South African Government as hopeless if it does not adopt it as a text book; and if it has any defects, well le Modimo ka oti, dibopiso tsa one, batho bangoe/ihotea, igono tse dingoe di mogaba.

God only knows where you raked up these stories; and they are so humorously put that often when I took it up after working tired and late and lie down about mid-night it has kept me roaring with laughter sometimes till the small hours; and I have felt lonely since Mr Cross took it away. By the way I have asked him and Mr Dennet, also Miss Wernor to try and review it in some papers where they can squeeze it in with a hope of an acceptance.

I do not know what arrangements your publisher made with Juta, but it is not customary to set up subagencies in the country without Juta's consent; or else he will claim every commission on every book thus sold in S.A. by other people. Of course that will depend largely on what stipulations, if any, your publisher bound him to.

Privately: Mo barekising ba dibuka ke utloa ekete Mo Iseraele eo go b  
Bo e teng oa fokola, maitseo le sekgoama tsa gagoe di motlhofo. Bo d  
Blammapa bare tiro tsa gagoe ga dia itekanela ko Kapa ba ntse ba  
go go no tila *Stile you are protected & green*

have however been advising every friend both here and in Africa to write, to get their own copies. I think I can do something towards popularising the sales if you could induce your publisher to send me three copies although I would use them to your father than to his. Send them along quickly will you? I have your interests that way

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