

ment taking over and administering as a Crown Colony all the native territories beyond the Cape Colony, as the anomaly of their administration by a Government responsible to a Parliament in which they have no representation is productive of mischief, and the Colony is, moreover at present unable to protect them from possible filibustering expeditions."

June: While the Royal Engineers of the Warren Expedition were stationed at Mafikeng in 1885, Sir Charles Warren offered to help Montshiwa to erect a new ~~cap~~ chapel for his Wesleyan (Methodist) subjects as the one erected by Molema in 1870 had been wrecked during the Barolong-Boer war of 1881-1884. Three Barolong regiments were called out - the Magodu, the Mapetu and the Matihaselwa and ordered to make and burn bricks and provide other unskilled work labour, while the Royal Engineers under Col. Durnford undertook to do the masonry and other skilled work,

Vry soon the ground was cleared, plans drawn up, and the foundation of a cruciform building laid.

The formal laying of three foundation and memorial stones was performed on the 17th of June 1885. One at the head of the building is inscribed "Sir Charles Warren K.C.M.G", while of the two at the foot of the building one is inscribed "Montshiwa - Chief of the Barolong," and the other "Chiefs of the Barolong." Felicitous speeches were made on the occasion of the laying of these stones by Sir Charles Warren, the Chief Montshiwa, Rev. Owen Watkins, superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Missions in the Transvaal, and by the Rev John Mackenzie. The collection totalled £256:16/- In a short time a solid structure

which stands to this day after 76 years without a crack in its massive walls 23 inches thick and 12 feet high was erected. The Methodist Church Synod provided the building material. The chapel was opened for divine worship on Saturday the 5th of December 1885 before a vast assembly which marched in a procession headed by the Administrator of Bechuanaland Sir Sidney Shippard from Molema's chapel, while the Rev George Weavind, the new Wesleyan Superintendent came specially from Potchefstroom to supervise the ceremony, and was ably assisted by the Rev Robert Appelbe, the resident ~~missionary~~ missionary.

It was another day of rejoicing, and the tribe made it a festival. In the words of the Leviticus "It was an holy convocation unto them, a solemn assembly and they did no servile work therein." At least 1,000 of them packed the large and lofty building whilst a vast crowd assembled outside. "As this vast congregation rose and sang, as the Barolong can sing the volume of sound was overwhelming, and tears of joy bedewed many a face. They had been for years hunted like wild beasts, and now they were met in a church of their own such as the most sanguine had never expected. How would Molema have rejoiced to be with them that day. If spirits are allowed to visit the scene of their earthly labours, his was hovering near." (**Whiteside: History of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of S.A p.433**)

In Sir Charles Warren's force at Mafikeng was a balloon corps with three balloons and all necessary equipment. These were days long before the era of aerial navigation as we know it. The ^{trial} ascent that was made then at Mafikeng was the first in Africa, and the ballonists offered to take Montshiwa up:

One day the Engineers who were possessed of a balloon
Sent old Chief Montshiwa up, a captive, towards the moon:
And it was a spirit-stirring sound to hear his women swear
As they saw their lord and master floating gaily through the air

For it is the usual belief in Montshiwa's town
That when a chieftain dies, he takes a lengthy journey down;
While a missionary murmured, as he gazed up in the sky,
"How strange that soldiers are the first to waft my flock on high."

~~In the middle of July~~ and General Warren initiated him into the ways of modern civilisation by taking him up in a balloon - the first and last native chief, I fancy, who has ever had that experience (**Ralph Williams: How I became a Governor p.126**)

July:
On the 14th of July (1885) Sir Charles Warren left Mafeking to attend to questions of land in Vryburg. At this time there was much talk of Bechuanaland being annexed to the Cape, and it was known that Stellaland had petitioned against such annexation, preferring to remain directly under Imperial control. This was also Montshiwa's feeling, and he accordingly addressed the Imperial Government praying it to retain direct control of his country. *Paradoxically enough no one except the Transvaal, seemed to want Bechuanaland - the Cape ministers and Sir Hercules Robinson.*

[Faint, mostly illegible text from the reverse side of the page, appearing as bleed-through.]

done and

7 It is doubtful whether or not Montshiwa accepted the offer. Mackenzie, who was present does not say so, as he certainly would have put it beyond doubt on record. He mentions the ascent of Major Elsdale in command of the Balloon corps, followed by that of Warren, and then of other officers one after another, while "the chief Montshiwa leaning on his staff, stood apart from his people, his eye following the balloon, but himself wrapt in thought" and afterwards expressing his admiration of the English and his wonder at the event to Mackenzie.

~~xviii~~ Watkin Williams, the biographer of Warren follows Mackenzie and merely mentions that the "Chief Montshiwa, 80 years old, and his stalwart son took a most keen interest in all the proceedings". It is true that in two stanzas of an epic ballad quoted by him, Montshiwa is represented as having ascended

3 On the other hand Ralph Williams, who was attached to Sir Charles Warren's staff, was later to be British Agent at Pretoria (1887-1890) and still later to be Resident Commissioner for Bechuanaland Protectorate and stationed at Mafeking (1901-1904) was present, and states specifically that Montshiwa went up and "General Warren initiated him into the ways of modern civilisation by taking him up in a balloon - the first and last native chief I fancy, who has ever had that experience"

[Faint, mostly illegible text at the bottom of the page.]

On the 13th of August Col. F. Stanley, Colonial Secretary in the Salisbury Conservative Government which had succeeded Gladstones Liberal Ministry in office sent a dispatch to Sir Charles Warren withdrawing his military force from Bechuanaland, to be substituted by a force of mounted police, while at the same time acknowledging the zeal and ability with which he had discharged his important duties, and conveying the high appreciation of Her Majesty's Government.

After a triumphant progress through the cities and larger towns of ~~South~~ Af the Cape Colony, ~~Warren~~ ~~sailed~~ ~~from~~ ~~Cape~~ ~~Town~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~24th~~ ~~of~~ ~~September~~ ~~from~~ ~~which~~ ~~he~~ ~~received~~ ~~addresses~~ ~~of~~ ~~welcome~~ ~~and~~ ~~enthusiastic~~ ~~exhortations~~, Sir Charles Warren sailed from Cape Town on the 24th September Kimberley, Cradock, Grahamstown, and Port Elizabeth at which he was hailed with thunderous acclamations of joy, and feted in a succession of public receptions, banquets torchlight processions, and inundated with congratulations and addresses, he sailed from Cape Town amidst unforgettable scenes of enthusiastic goodwill and cyclonic applause, on the 24th of September.

Since March (1885) Sir Charles Warren had been urging upon the British Government the necessity of speedily instituting a Land Commission to effect land settlement in the recently disturbed territory of Bechuanaland, and the suggestion had been welcomed by the Secretary of State. In August, therefore steps were taken to form a Land Commission to inquire into the validity of land titles in Stellaland and Bechuanaland, to investigate the many claims of Europeans to land in African (Bechuana) territories, to define, allocate and beacon off sufficient lands for the present and future requirements of the Bechuana for their towns, grazing their stock as well as for agricultural purposes, and to make all such lands for the Bechuana inalienable.

The Land Commission under the presidency of Sir Sidney Shippard commenced its duties soon after the departure of Sir Charles Warren for England. It sat at Mafikeng from the 15th of January to the 10th of February 1886, then at Vryburg from the 15th to the 25th of February, and at Taung from the 1st till the 21st of March, and then finally again at Mafikeng from the 1st till the ~~21st~~ ~~of~~ ~~March~~ 11th till the 21st of May. When the Commission commenced its work, there were already many Europeans squatters in close proximity to the eastern outskirts of the Barolong town a matter which fell within the Commission's terms of reference. But Sir Hercules Robinson before the item came up for consideration, Sir Hercules Robinson visited Mafikeng on November (1885) and gave his approval to the planting of the European township within a mile of the Barolong village. A fort had been established by Warren on the north-eastern side and close to the Barolong town, and possibly, this fact influenced the High Commissioner, and afterwards the Land Commission in deciding to permit the planting of the European township ~~so close to the African village~~ later known as Mafeking, so close to the African village of Mafikeng, a step that was opposed by the Chief Montshiwa, who wanted the European township to be built at Rooigond - 10 miles to the east of his town. He was supported in his protests by his missionaries - the Revs. Robert Appelbe, and Owen Watkins, Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions in the Transvaal. Receiving no ~~xxx~~ satisfaction Montshiwa addressed ^(10th May) his protest to the Secretary of State, mentioning in his letter the demoralisation that would ensue among his people by reason of the canteens, & the carrying on of the police with Bechuana women, as well as the losses to tribe as a result of the way the police horses were let loose on Barolong ~~cornfields~~ cornfields. The Secretary of State was, however made to believe that the European township was two miles away from Montshiwa's town, and no steps were taken. Sir Hercules Robinson was in London at the time and, probably by an error of judgment on his part)

Another matter referred to the Land Commission was the granting of freehold or individual titles to ground occupied and improved by some of Montshiwa's people. Unfortunately, the High Commissioner in referring this question to the Land Commission prejudged it by informing them that he was "personally unfavourable to allowing natives to hold land on individual tenure," (C.4929.2) a pronouncement worthy to have been redeemed from the minutes ~~expressed~~ of The Transvaal Land Laws relating to "Natives". Agreeably to this ~~view~~ dictum, Administrator Shippard refused to grant or recognise any individual title to land however much improved, and so unchanged and primitive has land occupancy remained in Bechuanaland during 76 years of change, progress and evolution of the Bechuana in keeping with ~~xxx~~ changing economic conditions.

The Land Commission recommended that "Native Reserves" belong to natives, and be distinct from Government or Crown lands from which Africans can be removed at the pleasure of the Government, and that they be inalienable *that they be made inalienable*

That the so-called Native Reserves were made inalienable is of course no answer or reason why within that block of territory individual titles should not have been made available for Africans desiring them. It is of an imagined that Native Reserves are lands set apart, or grants made and guaranteed in perpetuity to tribes, or in other words "permanent appropriation of lands for the use of and occupation of the naive population, so that such grant shall be placed beyond the recall by Government or people." In actual fact, however, a Native Reserve as constituted only meant that the ~~State reserves land~~ State reserves land for blacks, and undertakes, for the time being, not to make grants in the delimited area, and not to allow Europeans to purchase farms in it. Legally, the land does not cease to belong to the State. It continues to be Government land unless and until, or except those parts of it in which, individual titles are acquired by grant or purchase from the State. If this is right, then it follows that the security of tenure ^{by} Africans in their reserves is chimerical, that it has always been imaginary inasmuch as it has always been understood by implication that the Government, through its parliament, or by proclamation can dispossess them of their reserve, and resume it, ostensibly for public purposes with the consent of both houses of Parliament, but in practice at the discretion of the Governor General ~~or~~ which meant the Department or Minister in charge of "Native affairs".

The granting of individual tenure

It is interesting to note that Sir Theophilus Shepstone "Diplomatic Agent to the Native Tribes", "father of the Native and of Native Policy, while professing to favour to African yet circumscribed it with such onerous conditions as almost to make it impossible, so that it can ~~be virtually~~ ~~denied~~ confidently said he virtually denied it to them. That tenuous security has, in latter years been further watered down, or even annulled by recent Acts of Parliament, such as the Natives Land Act (1913), Native Administration Act (1927), Natives Land and Trust Act Natives' Urban Areas Act (1923), Natives' Resettlement Act (1955) among others, singly or collectively.

Now individual ownership of landed property confers and inspires pride and dignity. It is a motive force of industry, progress and responsibility. It is an agency of civilisation. Denial of it has opposite effects and problems like afforestation and land conservation are made more difficult ~~by~~ in tribal reserves by its denial.

Recognising the overwhelming advantages of individual tenure, however, the Commission recommended that "this should be steadily kept in view by the Government, with the distinct object of taking advantage of every favouring opportunity- at the request of the people or from other encouraging circumstances- to establish that system, so that at the earliest practicable period, the native custom should be superseded by the better system of holding under individual right and separate title-deed". (C. 4889: 12).

Finally the Land Commission recommended that the Chiefs Montshiwa and Mankurwane should each receive a pension of £300 per annum from the ~~re~~ revenues of the country in consideration of revenue they might have lost by their countries becoming British protectorates. In the case of Montshiwa they added a rider that they took into account the establishment of a European township so close to his town, and the necessity of appropriating some land for the town commonage European, and last but not least "the unwavering loyalty and devotion of the Chief Montshiwa for many years to the British Crown."

SEPT: In the 1885 session of the Cape Parliament, there was further debate on Bechuanaland. Annexation to the Cape Colony was urged by a few, but strenuously opposed by the majority as liable to bring collision with the Transvaal Government, also because the Cape was not strong enough to maintain peace and order there, and finally because the inhabitants of Bechuanaland themselves- the chiefs as well as the people- had several times unanimously expressed their wish to remain ~~and direct~~ directly under the Imperial Government. (Hofmeyr J.H. Hofmeyr p 272)

1. Since the 30th of March, all Bechuanaland, from the northern border of Griqualand on the south to the 22nd parallel of South latitude on the north was known as Bechuanaland Protectorate // Now when the motion for annexation was defeated, the High Commissioner divided the large expanse of country into north and south by the Ramatlabama tributary of the Molopo River. On the 30th of September, the souther portion was proclaimed British soil and constituted into a Crown Colony as British Bechuanaland, while the northern portion retained its caption as Bechuanaland Protectorate.

1887 Matabeleland Intrigue

1887: Between the years 1887 and 1894 there was feverish activity among the Europeans - the British and the Dutch of South Africa - to extend their influence northward beyond Bechuanaland Protectorate. The great rivals at empire building, Rhodes and Kruger were dreaming dreams and seeing ~~territorial~~ visions of extending their respective territories northwards and annexing African lands.

Kruger had every reason to look northward. He had tried to get hold of the land of Montshiwa and Mankurwane which the Transvaal, not without reason regarded as their rightful legacy by virtue of Hendrik Potgieter's conquests of the usurping Mzilikazi. The London Convention had however definitely wrenched them from his grasp. ^{Now} Again, owing to the ambition of Rhodes, those countries had been constituted into the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland. Again by Article IV of the London Convention, the Transvaal was debarred from extending its frontiers either to the east (Swaziland) or to the west (Bechuanaland) without British ~~sanction~~ sanction, (and some people still argued that the Suzerainty was abolished). The south was not mentioned, because that was the Orange Free State. The north was also not mentioned. It was African territory of Matebeleland, and therefore legitimate territory to rape. Kruger therefore turned his eyes northwards and in 1887, entered into a defensive and offensive alliance with Lobengula, king of the Matebele. The treaty was negotiated by Piet Grobler, and when Rhodes heard about it from Ralph Williams, the British Agent in Pretoria (B. Williams: ~~Exit Cecil Rhodes p.117~~) he was greatly perturbed because he was himself scheming to form just such an alliance with Lobengula, with the ultimate view to annexation exactly like Kruger. Rhodes immediately inspired his pliant tools - High Commissioner Robinson and Assistant Commissioner Sidney Shippard to neutralise Piet Grobler's treaty and diplomacy. The Rev John Smith Moffat, son of the venerable missionary Dr Robert Moffat, trusted friend of Lobengula's father-Mzilikazi was selected and agreed to do the sordid job of cajolery and deceit, and he succeeded beyond his sanguine hopes in getting Lobengula to put his mark (February 1888) on a paper purporting to be ~~something else~~ a letter, but which turned out to be something else - a treaty. Moffat had no sooner succeeded in thus inveigling Lobengula than he gleefully rubbed his hands and excitedly wired to his master "the ominous words - "The days of the Matebele are numbered" which show the depth and deliberateness of the treachery. To him, Lobengula ^{could} also appropriately have addressed the rebuke he administered to the Rev Charles Helm, who later advised and witnessed the ~~concession~~ Lobengula's concession to Rhodes and Rudd." "You call yourself a man of God, but you are no better than a trader" and he might have added "Traitor". *while Grobler was*

was to
he
Lobengula
Lobengula
Martin Henry
speech-leading

Matters now moved quickly and in July 1888 ~~proceeding~~ proceeding from Bulawayo to Pretoria was stopped by Khama's emissary - Mokhutshwane - as he traversed a strip of land claimed at the same time by Lobengula and Khama (between Shashe and Motloutse (Macloutsie) rivers). The Transvaal naturally suspected that this was at the instigation of Rhodes and his henchmen Shippard and Moffat. There was a fracas and Grobler was shot in the leg and died of sepsis in the wound a ~~few days~~ ^{fortnight} after. With Grobler died the Transvaal treaty of Defensive and offensive alliance with Lobengula, and ~~with~~ the death of both, the Moffat treaty with Lobengula flourished unopposed. It was ~~shortly after~~ in the self-same month (July 1888) that C.D. Rudd, a partner of Rhodes obtained an exclusive concession of all mining rights in Matebeleland from Lobengula in return for a consideration of a pension of £100 per month, 1,000 rifles, and a commensurate supply (100,000 rounds) of ammunition and an armed steamer to ply the Zambesi - a very questionable transaction which let in Rhodes for much adverse criticism both in South Africa and in England. *the indomitable* *and received permission from*

In April 1889 Rhodes made proposals to the British Government for the formation of a company to develop Bechuanaland Protectorate and Matebeleland by extending the railway and telegraph systems northward, encouraging ~~immigration~~ immigration and colonisation, promoting trade and commerce, developing and working mineral concessions in the regions immediately to the north of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland. *It is the last phase that concerns Montshiwa*

The Rev John Mackenzie, Rhodes' redoubtable antagonist was at this time in England. With prophetic instinct and true missionary zeal he opposed Rhodes' schemes as calculated to bring suffering and injustice to the Matebele. He was supported by the Aborigines Protection Society, The London Chamber of Commerce, the African (Parliamentary) Committee, and by many influential ~~and~~ organisations and people including Joseph Chamberlain.

→ Moffat asked me to enter into a treaty, which I refused. Moffat
 however said that I must at all events answer that I refused
 it. Then he read a letter to me which I recognized to be
 the Commissioners that I did not wish to enter into any
 treaty. These are the words of Lobenzula and this is the
 letter he signed which was in fact the treaty itself with the
 preface and the 'whereas' instead giving prominence to
 the hateful word 'treaty' instead, and emphasis being
 put on Lobenzula agreeing not to ~~correspond~~ or lend
 himself orcede or sell any part ^{his country or any}
 part of it to any foreign state or power. (Green A: Rhodes goes North) p 69
 Moffat represented to Lobenzula that the proposed treaty was a fraud
 but in effect the Moffat Treaty does not differ materially
 or in purpose from the ~~which Moffat sold Lobenzula~~
 It is equally fraudulent. ~~was a fraud.~~
 In the nature of things all treaties between civilized nations and
 primitive tribes, at the instance of the former are inequitable
 and must be regarded as fraudulent because the civilized treaty
 hunter knows perfectly well that the
 illiterate can never understand the true import of the terms
 used, nor the value of the lands or assets negotiated upon

1889:

In spite of all opposition, however, Rhodes, the king of diamonds, the man of destiny and indomitable will obtained his Charter in October 1889 and ~~the British South African~~ his child- the British South African Company became a realised ideal. British filibustering in Central Africa was now fully licensed and the days of the Matebele and marauding Matebele were numbered. The fact is often conveniently overlooked that whatever territorial advantages later accrued to the British Government, the founding of the British South African Company was primarily a commercial concern in pursuit of yellow gold, and launched by naked coercion and chicanery.

1890 :

The next thing was for Rhodes to find settlers for his Chartered territory, and in May 1890, some 184 young men, full of the spirit of adventure were gathered at Mafeking. They included all trades and professions - butchers, bakers, bankers, builders, doctors, engineers, farmers, lawyers, tailors, miners, good men and bad men. After a march of twenty days they reached Macloutsie where they were joined by 500 British South African Company police, and, of all people in the world by 200 Bangwato of Khama under his half brother Raditladi, to act as scouts and road makers. After an the 27th of June, after three weeks recuperation and more preparation the pioneer column, as it is called, with its 90 wagons and complete army equipment pushed on under the guidance of the famous hunter and veldmaster Frederick C. Selous, and on the 11th September, reached a point which was to be Salisbury *in a boggy plain* *ten miles short of its destination*

abuse as necessary/long/ heavy filibustering/ fraud/ singing/ lie/ (Rhodes) Rhodes goes North (p. 118) *British South African* *will accept the settlement*

1890: About this time (November 1890) Rhodes recently become Prime Minister of the Cape Colony, and at the acme of his power and prestige paid a visit to the Chief Montshiwa at Mafikeng, and then passed on to the land of his dreams.

Now, all these movements and activities were not without meaning to even the prosaic Batswana people and their chiefs who had themselves been hustled by similar movements of Europeans, and Montshiwa repeatedly said, in unconscious quotation of the Rev Mr Moffat that 'the days of the Matebele were numbered'. The Matebele, his enemies and objects of his utter detestation of yesterday (1832) were today (1890-3) victims of like him and objects of his sincere commiseration. *Impoverishment*

In July (189) the whole of Bechuanaland protectorate, from the Molopo to the Zambesi was placed under the jurisdiction of the Governor or Administrator of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland, though claiming pending its transfer to the Chartered Company as being included within the territories defined by the Charter.

1893: There had been an uneasy calm in Matebeleland since the arrival of the Pioneer column. The Europeans, conscious of their intrusion/ready far to meet a surprise attack by the Matebele any day, and the Matebele, taken unaware by the celerity of the European settlement/brooding, resentful and biding their time to ~~wreak~~ wreak vengeance on the intruders. Finally in July 1893, what men who know human nature had confidently prophesied would happen, came to pass- a clash between the Matebele and their unwelcome guests- the British pioneers. Lobengula who had been so flattered, petted, pampered and caressed before, and to whose court so many journeys had been made to humbly crave his royal favour was now called a problem and danger; it was necessary and expedient to solve and liquidate him. A suitable pretext was therefore found for attacking him and mopping up his Matebele. Lobengula's worst ~~fears~~ fears were now confirmed. England and her consciencless sons had stolen a march upon him and ~~swallowed~~ swallowed him up as the chamelion does the fly. *(Lobengula's own simile)* *carefully*

Lobengula had obviously not read the New Testament- to wit Luke XLV/31 ; ~~xxxix~~ Going to make war against another king, he had not sat down first and consulted whether he be able with ten thousand to meet the king that cometh against him with twenty thousand.

He was hustled, harassed, harried. He committed his villages to the flames. He fled northwards as 600 blood-thirsty British freebooters, and 400 servile African ~~auxiliaries~~ auxiliaries, all fully armed with rifles and maxims, field pieces and the most modern lethal weapons ~~pursued~~ pursued him marched from Mashonaland to Bulawayo, smashed up 5,000 Matebele warriors on the Shangani and Imbembesi Rivers, occupied Bulawayo on the 4th of ~~December~~ November 1893, and then pursued them as men pursue a wolf or some loathsome beast to destroy it.

Lobengula's preference for the British to the Boers had advantaged him absolutely nothing. He was swallowed up all the same, and Rhodes', Rudd's, Shippard's and Moffat's stomachs were not a whit better perhaps than might have been Kruger's and Grobier's. It is certain they digested him at least as thoroughly; and on the 23rd of January 1894 two short months after he was robbed of his country, Lobengula died like *in physical pain and mental anguish*

(p. 118) *British South African* *will accept the settlement*

But his biggest mistake had been procrastination. Instead of striking while the Bechuana and Bechuana Police force was being increased, instead of falling upon the ^{scattered} long line of the pioneer column at Shashi & Umshabetsi Rivers, he had waited, against the advice of his indunas, and now it was too late. His chances of success were reduced considerably.

In 1889 Sir Hercules Robinson took office as High Commissioner. In a speech he made on the 27th April he made a speech which greatly pleased the Colonials by its denunciation of the Imperial factor in colonial matters and the amateur meddling of irresponsible and ill-advised people of England which converts many a colonial from an Imperialist into a republican. (Cited Hofmeyr: Jan Hofmeyr, p 386.)

Mokgwabe Mafang of Kibalefelo

2. The two years 1890 and 1891 brought much domestic grief to Mankwena. First on the 11th June 1890 he lost his uncle Mokgwabe Shabeta who was also his chief adviser. In fact the ~~unwieldy~~ ruler of the Tshudi Barolong. Mankwena ^{had} never taken a step or decided an issue without direct consultations at night with this counsellor whom he regarded as the repository of Tswana lore. He was in fact the unwieldy ruler of the Tshudi Barolong. In January 1891 Mafang - Mankwena's principal queen died. She was Mankwena's half sister - being a daughter of Jantane by another house - the house ~~from~~ which produced Seetshela ^{Mokgwase} among others.

The great memorial of her death was the torrential rains that fell for ten days from the day of her funeral. As the Barolong said, the heavens wept and deluged the earth with their tears. Mafang was quickly followed by Kibalefelo who died in April 1891. He was Mankwena's oldest son and heir upon whom he doted and upon whom the administration of the tribe had already devolved for several years. Born in 1850 he was richly endowed by nature with lovable and rare qualities, fine physique, commanding station, finely chiselled features, natural shrewdness and bravery in the field. He was every inch a prince. After a brief illness he died in May 1891.

a hunted animal almost alone in the bush south of the Zambesi, and the very name of his country was changed. Matebeleland became Rhodesia, very much like ~~Mamusa~~ the village of Mamusa near Vryburg ^{had} become Schweizer-Reneke when its chief ~~Mosweu~~ Mosweu who had been adulated ~~by his fawning~~ and fawned by his white volunteers ceased to be productive, and became a 'problem', and was conveniently put out. ~~These historical parallels were not thought known to the Bechuana tribes.~~
 The powerful Matebele had eaten up the Bechuana tribes. They had then eaten up the Mashona nation, now they themselves were eaten up by the more powerful English tribe. Such is the irony of fate.

" How do men live on earth ?

~~As fish live in the sea, the big ones eat the small ones.~~

Is it the fulfilment of the law that those who live by the sword will die by the sword ? Or again is it perhaps is the "visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation ?"
 " He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity ;
 He that killeth with the sword shall be killed with the sword."

Lobengula's preference for the British to the Boers had availed him nothing at all, absolutely nothing. He was swallowed up all the same, and Rhodes', Rudd's, Shippard's and Moffat's stomachs were not a whit better perhaps than might have been Kruger's and Robler's. It is certain they digested him at least as thoroughly. Even as he had digested others.

Son: How do fish live in the sea ?
 Father: Why, As men do on land -
 The big ones eat the small ones.

Now all these events and historical parallels were known to the Bechuana tribes and their chiefs, and they all read the signs of the times into them. ~~May~~ Khama, Sebele, Lencwe ~~and~~ Bathoen and Montshiwa all knew that the sin for which Lobengula had to make propitiation with his life and blood was his possession of of a desirable country and its possession of the curse of gold. To obtain that, no intrigue was too ignominious, no lie too base and no murder too foul to perpetrate. Might not the Bechuana chiefs conceivably the next to be ~~satanic~~ duped and then eaten up? It was significant that in May 1894 an agreement between the British Government and the Chartered Company defined the territories falling under the jurisdiction of the latter as "those parts of South Africa bounded by British Bechuanaland, the German Protectorate, the Rivers Chobe and Zambesi, the Portuguese possessions and the South Africa Republic, in short all all Bechuanaland from the Molopo and its Ramatlabama tributary on the south, to the Zambesi on the north.

There was one man in South Africa who was opposed to all this trafficking African territories and who was totally immune to Rhodes' magnetism, and that was Sir Henry Loch, who had succeeded Sir Hercules Robinson in 1889 as High Commissioner. He expressed himself in no ambiguous terms as soon as he discovered the ^{proposed} subtle transfer of Bechuanaland to the Chartered Co but as if fate was playing into Rhodes hands, not only did Loch's term of office come to an end by effluxion of time, but what is still more more, Robinson Sir Hercules Robinson, Rhodes' special wax and putty-came back to South Africa as High Commissioner again. This in the long run proved to be a misfortune for South Africa and a tragedy for Rhodes himself, for if Hercules Robinson had not come back, there might have been ~~no~~ Jameson Raid and no Boer War, and much of the ~~bitterness~~ inter-racial bitterness that characterises South African life might never have come into existence.

Aug: In August, the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland was annexed to the Cape Colony, and the Chartered Company at once demanded to take over the administration of Bechuanaland, ^{Protectorate} as defined in the Charter, and plainly promised by the British Government. Provisions were now made for the transfer of the ~~country~~ Protectorate, its lands, its tribes, & its chiefs like so much baggage, to the Chartered Company.

The news was alarming to the chiefs and people. To be handed over lock, stock and barrel to the Chartered Company which had just luridly displayed its temper by smashing up the powerful Matebele tribe of Lobengula and ruthlessly disposing of that monarch himself :
 Was it for this they had asked for British protection, to be sold and handed over like tobacco without being consulted as to their feelings ?

3
2
1
but what allowed a still more remarkable conspiracy of fortuitous events, Rhodes' of the fact the transfer of Bechuanaland to the British in 1894
deliberate
70p. 41
June 1895
①
Aug:

hook knife if, bread & butter bargain

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.
