35

On the 25th of November, Botlhasitse Gasebone and his two sons and broth brother were captured by Mankurwane as they emerged from axeaxe their hiding in a cave near Taung and were handed to Warren. About the wame time Luka Janye was captured by Montshiwa and Christopher ethell at Kan Kanye among the Bangwaketse people . These leaders were all taken to K.m. berley for trial, sentenced and imprisoned till May 1880.

In December 1878 Col Charles Warren was appointed Special Commissiner for Criqualand West, to settle land disputes between African tribes and Europeans. In January 1879 he succeeded Col.W Owen Lanyon as Administrator of Griqualand West. He visited several Tswana chiefs in southern bechuanaland to ascertain their how far they were disposed to place themselves under British protection, and he received petitions from all to be taken under British rule. Morwe, chief of the Batlharo, Mankurwane chief of the Batlhaping, Motlhabane, chief of the Ba-Maidi, David Taaibosch Mossou chief of the Kotannas, Bonokwane chief of the Ratlou Branch of the Barolong at Morokweng all expressed their desire to be appeared. More than all ong at Morokweng all expressed their desire to be annexed. More than all these Montshiwa had long and consistently longed for British protection and he at once addressed a petition to Sharles Warren:
"I Montshiwa, Tshidi of the Tshidi branch of the Barolong tribe having he heard that the British Government is about to take the nations of the arolong, Batlhaping, Batlharo, Korana etc under its rule state that I am the first of the Ratawana Bechuanas who has spoken about the country.

on the first of the Kakkwara Bechuanas who has spoken about the country.
On the 4th of May 1874 I wrote to His Excellency R. Southey, LieutenantGovernor of Griqualand West as follows:
"The time has now come that the Boers have made up their minds to
destroy us, and I now do humbly place myself under your care and protect
-ion. I wish Great Chief that you would ask the great Queen of England to
take and my people to be her's. I trust in you, and because the Boers
are doing their work so quickly, I pray Great Chief, that you will send
me your agent to take over my country as soon as possible."

I ought to get all my country according to Keate's Line. I have been in
many troubles and waiting to get my right from you-the English. I shall

many troubles and waiting to get my right from you-the English. I shall be glad if you leave me to rule my people. My people obey my commands.
The Boers tried to get my country and I appealed to the Queen at that xi time. I called all the chiefs together at Blochof to speak about the

country.

do hereby and most humbly again request "er Majesty the Queen to take me, my people and my lands under her sway, and my desire is that the waters named Vleffontein, Polfontein and Bultfontein, and the ground on the Molopo adjoining Vleyfontein may be alotted to me and my people on the Molopo adjoining Vleyfontein may be alotted to me and my people together with arable and grazing lands etc, which have been most unrighteously claimed and taken from us, and that land and water be allowed to my people for our flocks and herds and for purposes of agriculture at the other places wherever the people may be located, and further that my people shall enjoy the rights, as now existing, to the hunting ground belonging to us in the Kgalagare, and to respectfully request that justice be done us by Matlaba, Hans Coetzee and others for their unlawful siezure of cattle and appropriation of rown our lands and corn etc."

Warren was strongly of opinion that if left to themselves, the Batswana tribes would soon be dispossessed by of their lands by the Boers, He therefore made a strong recommendation to the High Commissioner Sir Bartle Frere that "all those lands within the limits of the Molopo from the Frere that "all those lands within the limits of the Molopo from the Kgalagare Desert on the west to Lichtenburg on the east including the district of Bloemhof as delimited by Lt-Governor Keates in 1871, should be proclaimed # British territory and annexed to Griqualand West. Warren detailed his proposal to the High Commissioner and the whole scheme was forwarded to the Secretary of State for consideration

detailed his proposal to the High Commissioner and the whole scheme was forwarded to the Secretary of State for consideration.

About this time (1878 and 1879) Chief Montshiwa made the acquiantamee of an active and capable young Englishman of good birth and education, Christopher Bethell by name, who was axlightenant in the Intelligence Department of Charles Warren's Field Force and also a relation of Warren himself, and whom he stationed at Montshiwa's village of Schuba in that capacity from 1878 to 1879. After the demobilisation of Warren's Field force, Bethell remained in Montshiwa's country to hunt and trade. During that time he won Montshiwa's full confidence and became his principal confidential adviser, while the Chief had, at the same time another ipal confidential adviser, while the Chief had, at the same time another European gentleman Henry Frazer as his agent and secretary. In 1882 Bethell married a Barolong spinster- Rx Tepo Boabile by name, according to Christian rites, and now completely identified himself with the ship

Barolong at this dangerous time of inter-racial conflict

The rapid succession of these infortunate exceled ficked Mentalines to rapide the find of the gulestreen of Bell was alleged in post and the outbreak of the Tourspeel was of inalghanten of mose with the background the second to the second th and his Bartleson to the hunder of forgetter they -> and a proclamation embodying it was actually drafted depolosist france les les les forties because firstly the secretains depolosist france les places interesed responsabilities depolosist france les proposes à a about finance la propose de proposes à la propose de Warren soon (DEC 1879) lest his first as Administrator to but account of illners Middly Receases of the disaster to British acrees at Isand Locare (22 nd James 1879) and fowellites because his houte trest was recalled (14 beg 1880) The rapid summedies of the grains of Bedinands were and enter unto

B5thell's position was made even more dangerous by his being directed by Warren on the 1st of July 1879 "to try and make such arrangements as would enable Montshiwa to sow his corn in them lands in dispute" we which meant trying to displace the Boer farmers from the lands they were deliberately digging themselves into at Vleyfontein, Rooigond and Polfontein.

The Annexation of the South Sfrican Republic was deeply resented by the byrgers of that state, and after protesting against it by discussions, declarations, demonstrations and deputations, by mass meetings, memorials, supplications, petitions and passive resistance, by boycotts, refusal to pay taxes, non-cooperations and more deputations to the Colonial office in London, they declared their independence in December 1880, threw down the gauntlet and besieged the English at Fretoria, Potchefstroom, Rustenburg, Marabastad, Lydenburg, marthinus-Wesselstroom and Standerton, and after a brif and sharp campaign in white of a few engagements in each of which they defeated the British, they finally everwhelmed them at the Majuba Mountain on the 20nd of Februany 1881, and killed their commanding efficer Sir George Colley. This practically brought the Transvael War of Independence to the end.

When this war broke out, many British subjects in the Western Trandvael had taken refuge in Montshiwa's country, and we've welcomed by

the chief, always partial to the British, OnxthexithxofxMarsky Sir Theophilus Shepstone waxxxncceedsaxxyxfol had been called to London by the Secretary of State, and was succeeded on the 4th of March 1879 by Col Owen Lanyon as Administrator of the Transvaal. Shepstone was not loved more, but Lanyon was loved much les

by the Transvaal burghers.

As soon as the war broke out, Montshiwa wrote to Col. Charles
Moysey (31st 1880) Kimberley and taxtaxthexti to ask for a permit to
purchase firearms "as not only my safety but that of the English subjects who live with me, and who have fled to me depends on my getting
some ammunition. I shall also be glad to hear from you what I am to do
Id am ready to help the Government if they wish it, but must at least

help myself

At the same time he wrote to the Civil Commissioner, Kimberley "I write to ask you to help me. The Boers in the Transvaak are fightin agaisnt the English, and have also invaded my country and commandeered from my people. They have been't to ask me to give up an Englishman who lives with me, and as I will not, they are going to fight against me also. Further all the loyal people have come to me for protection whice they need against the Boers and I have helped them. I have many people and do not fear the Boers at all, but now I have no ammunition, so I a and do not fear the Boers at all, but now I have no ammunition, so I a am writing to you to ask you to sign the permit when I shall either be able to help the Government or defend myssis country.

The rebels have taken Lichtenburg and Zeerust here, and are only waiting for some more men to attack me. I have written to Col.Moysey, who, if he is in Kimberley, will be able to assure you of my loyalty. 200 lbs Gunpowder, 100,000 Large & 500,000 Small P. Caps 10,000 W.R. Paper & 8000 Winchester

2,000 Sneider & 1,000 M.H. 1,000
Please give permit for them, as I get no ammunition, and cannot protect my country and my friends. I have also opened my country to all an ect my country and my friends. I have also opened my country to all an

troops that may come, and I shall help them as much as I can. "
Col. Moysey answered to convey Goughsif George Colleys thanks to Montshiwa for his loyalty to the British Government, as well as for his offers of help; 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 armunition, as the Board would hear of it be right to give him so much ammunition, as the Boers would hear of it and make trouble, but the Governoer was willing to give him a little to shew him that he appreciated (Monthhiwa's friendship, and so that he could defend his posts; Adjured him to be quiet, and faithful and to defend the loyalists. Ann Thanks him again for his goodwill and to annualist the English, and assured him they will not forget him.

A fanxing short time after the outbreak of the war Montshiwa convened a large meeting of the Molopo chiefs at his village of Sehuba. There

grature were present Moshete from Khunwana, Bonokwane from Morokweng, Makgobi dan from Phitshane, and Matlaba from Bodibe (Polfontein) each of them with a large following of lesser chiefs and commoners. Montshiwa proposed unity and a common policy to with regard to the war raging in the Tran -vaal and atal between the South African Republic and the British Gov ernment. He favoured | lending assistance to the British.

There was no agreement between the chiefs. Moshete and Matlaba said they were children ixxxxxxxxxx of the Transvaal, that is to say allow of vassals of the South African Republic, while Bonokwane and Makgobi said they elected to remain neutral . A man, Mogotsi of the Rapulana clan of the Barolong declaimed vehemently against Montshiwa in this meeting, accusing him of ambition and greed for power, and excessive love for everything English. applauda Boarby his men of his Rapulana class and Mogotsi's views were shared by the authorities of the Transvaal; and

The later they had been keeping an eye on Montshiwa for many years now and now redoubled their vigilance.

On the 29th of Decemebr- a fortnight after the otherak of the war, Gen. Piet Cronje, Commandant of Potchefstroom wrote to Motshiwa - "Monchua: Take notice that as soon as you, or any of your people are found armed fighting against the burghers of the South African Republic, which Government is again restored, and wherefoof Paul Kruger, Marthins Pretorius and Piet Joubert form the government; or lend assistance to our enemies-the English Government, whom we have nearly work-ed out everywhere, we will consider you and your people as our enemies and trest 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 friend that is if you ramank remain peacable, 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 knam your people well.
(B.V.26. Briewe afgesturr duur Generaal P.A.Cronje 30 Des \*\*\* 1880
- April 1881). To this letter Montshiwa replied, rather curtly on the

4th January 1881:
"My dear riend: 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 any one. 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 peopleas your frinds. Tell your people not to come to my country with and Hendik Greeff of Lichterelius

About the same time, Montshiwa had frequent disputes with Commandants Snyman, Botha and Jan Viljoen of "arico, not to mention the nearly daily squabbles between his people and the residents of Vleyfontein and Rooigrond, the ground which Montshiwa continued to claim as his,

both by inheritance and by virtue of the Keate Award.

On the 21st of January, General Cronje wrote again to Montshiwa:

"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 Proclamat—
ion to keep you informed. Write again and let us know if the (English)
refugees have gone back to their homes."

refugees have gone back to their homes.

Montshiwa answerd on the 21st of January: P.A. Cronje: General, Potchefstroom. Sir, Your letter of the 18th duly to hand. With regard to peace repeatedly mad by J. Viljoen I do not understand for at the same time Hendrik Greeff and Hans Coetzee are college. ecting 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 peoplew 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 leter 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 peace Carl Weyers and M. Joubert are to keep.

For the newspaper I thank you. The affairs of the little kaffir I never gave one. It was J. Viljoens doings. He pointed out one and said that child must grow up and have children before we should fight again

each other. The child is still here ..."

Montshiwa was still in correspondence with Lieut-Col C. Moysey, who supplied him with hopeful news of approaching British victory under Sir George P. Colley, and adjured him not to take up arms against the Boers On the 27th of March wrote again to tell Montshiwa that peace was declared, monthwa had ofcourse already heard the news with dismay.

The war had been a brief and sharp campaign of few enagagements in each of which the British were defeated, and finally overwhelmed by the Boers at the Majuba hill on the 27th of February 1881, and the

commanding British officer Sir George Colley killed .

In the 17th of families 1881, he woods to brush and send Houtely

Greeff of field being:

"Sir, I heave from Nerry good an thoroto, that you are making
weakly to degin war with the Theo affect I Nelpein

repeatedly visiting my station to inform nut that the
Brets mean power and are only making war with

the buglish.

I should wish to know what he rebels are doing, and our soldiers

willed 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 to on the 28th January to take more troops up the
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 Indis arrive

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

I am sorry this war will delay settleing the land, but perhaps it will be

easier settled afterwards.

If Moshete and Matlaba beleive what the Boers say, they will be sorry bye and bye. I do not think Moshete will do much harm, but Machabie (Matlaba)

Do not beleive all the stories you hear. The Boers spread untruths. "

is so near the Boers, he is perhaps afraid of them.

near the Transvaal homer.border.

to be our friends.

38

The settlement of the peace terms was entrusted to the Royal Commission consisting of Sir Herchles Ribinson 9High Commissioner, Sir Tenry de Villiers-Chief Justice of the ape, and Sir Henry Wood - British Commander in chief who succeeded Sir George Colley.

The Commissione sat first at New Castle from the 29th of April until the 31st of May 1881, and then at Pretoria from the 13th of June until the 3rd of August when it produced a Treaty of eace known as the Pretoria Convention, one of the strangest, most evasive, most self-contradictory documents in the history of peace treaties. One reading it one is left with the impression that the Commissioners were not very serious, that they were in haste to get the matter finished even if it meant example making vital concessions to their lage enemies especially where African interests were concerned.

From the outset, it was impotent to to bring about peace or improve the relations between the blacks and the whites on the Western border, and confusion and violence still reigned within the territories in dispute even while the Commission was still sitting Indeedxnaxane

Maxthexistax Acreport of tyn these disturbances reached the Commission at New astle, and they sent Col. E Buller and Comm-Gen Piet Joubert

After the Eoyal Commission had concluded its work and had the Pretoria Convention signed, African chiefs found to their dismay that little if any cognisance had been taken of them and their difficulties. Montshiwa in particular was disillusioned and embittered. He had entrusted his case to the British. His faith in them had been unbounded. He had been demonstrative in his British sympathies and had openly fiefied the authorities of the Transvaal, and now where was he? The British had left him completely in the lurch. He was now at the mercy of his enemies.

Asxths The African chiefs concerned had followed the deliberations of the Royal Commission with keen interest, and had actually gone will in person to the places of its meeting with a hope of being asked to give evidence in matters at issue.

When the Commission completed its work at Pretria on the 3th of August, these people were called together to hear how they had been disposed of . There were many chiefs and about \$00 300 others present. Sir Hercules Robinson addressed them from the clouds, informed them that the Transvaal had been kandadxkakk annexed four years previously to the British dominions by mistake, and that the British Government "with that sense of justice which befits a great and powerful nation and given orders that the country shoulf be given back to the Boers upon certain conditions in which the interest of the natives had not been overlooked. There was to be a British Resident, but if they required protection they were to look to the government of the country-that is the restored Republican government. There was to be no slavery just as provided by the Sand River Convention. There was to be peace, goodwill and harmony. Though they were handed back to the Transvaal, England would not forget them WNixon J. The Complete Story of the Transvaal p.272).

The Africans were speechless. They could not beleive their ears. Robinson no sooner finished his speech than he hurriedly went away. Minor Government officials then came on the scene to explain the remarkable harangue and then some chiefs were allowed to speak. They said they had been xxxxxx deceived and sold by England.

The news that the British were giving the Transvaal back to the Boers was received by Montshiwa with \*\*Extent\*\* consternation. Alle wrote to Henrique Shepstone, Secretary for Native Affairs in Pretoria and to Sir Evelyn Wood to tell them how all the Aficans are grieved, and that it will involve them again in troubles, "for however much the present Beer leaders may desire present have peace and dot the right, those who should obey them will try and break their orders."

by the hand of his son bealepile to tell the Royal Commission how much all the tribes on the western border (of the Transvaal) are grieved that the Government is going to give back the ixed Transvaal to the Boers, and how it will involve all of them in troubles again. He is also going to inquire when the old case about my country is to be settled the line which Governor Keate decided to long ago and which the Boers would not agree to."

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Among its between of reference which concerns us was
the determination of a boundary him in the terrelosis

- Known as the Keake award."

elly whore a rican interests were conscined. enty made at them interests pere concepted.

From the outset, it was impotent to so bring about sense or improve relations between the bidake and the whites on the destain torder, a confusion and violence ettil relyned with dealer territorius in discrete over while the Comministion was still citting transformance.

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There the Boys Commission has senciaded its work and had the fretoria convention signed, African calefa found to their dismay that likely likely in any cognissnes into seen taken of them and their difficulties. Nontaking in particular was distillusioned and cabittered, he had onthrusted in a case to the artitles. This that the them and were uncounted. He had been amongstative in his artitles and supportates and the first seldich and now where were he artitles artitles of the irenavaal, and now where were he artitles artitles of the artitles.

all to manage bely in the lured . To was now at the mercy of his

the African enters concerned that followed the deliberations the Acyal Constants interest, and in Atta Report Street on the places of its repting atta to the places of its repting atta to the cities of its repting attack.

When the Commission said the collection at Pretrit on the Saidant to hear how they had plot and appears, these seconds were easy shield and about \$100 cents in they had plot amoned of. There were many chiefs and about \$100 cents in the context of the from the clouds, informed the cat the transversion andressed them from the clouds, informed the cat the creation of the context of the cat the cat the context of the cat the context of the cat th

The Africans were speechless. They could not beleive their cars, Mobinson no secher Minished Wis speech than he hurriedly went and the lover ment officials then came on the scene to explain

The wrote in the same strain"To Sir Evelyn Wood and other Members of the Royal Commission:
My Friends: I am sending my son Kebalepile to you. He will tell you that we are all very grieved that the English Government are going to give the Transvaal back to the Boers ;:... and troubles will soon begin again. For however much the present Boer leaders may desire to have peace and do right, we know from long experience that those who should obey them will try and break their orders .... You must not give the land back taxthexx goers until the Boers can make a strong government ... My son will also ask you when you will settle the case about my land. ... I am sending my son first ... but request that you send for me when this case I would have come to you now, myself, but as I do not know where I may find you, and as I am an old man. I send my son first but request that you send for me when my my case is to be decided."

their insulting language had milled and grilled in his mind all thes weeks and he Montshiwa had never forgotten or forgiven the insolence of the Rapulana clan at the meeting he had called in December, and was determined to chastise them. Early in February 1881, therefore, he gave notice to Matuba, a brother of Matlaba a his representative at othakane (Rietfontein) koxmorexwithxalixhixxRapulanaxpeoplexrromxthatxlocality six miles to the south-west of Montshiwa's village of Sehuba, to move with all his Rapulana people from that locality . Montshiwa averred that Lotlhakane was his and that they were intruders, or at any rate undesirable tennants who were contemptuously and seditiously undermining his authority by being in friendly alliance with his enemies, the South African Republic. So far from quitting, Motuba, (on instructions from Matlaba) brought more people from Bodibe (Polfontein) to Lotlhakane, and both Matlaba at Bodibe, and Moshete at Khunwana made preparations for war.

Urgen on, rather than deterred by these military preparations, Montshiwa also mobilised. He sought and obtained help from Chief Ikalafeng of the ahurutshe at Likokana, and from Exxxi Chief Gaseitsiwe of the Bangwake at Kanye. Early on the morning of the 2nd of May he attacked Lotthakane and utterly routed the Rapulana clan, killing 73 men including three sons of Matlaba and also/Mogotsi, whosaxinsuitingxianguagaxhad Acquire miliadxandxgrilladxinxhisxmi the provocative his reflect Montshiwa then committed Lotlhakane to the flames and sacked it. His sualties were 11 men killed and 27 wounded. His purpose was to force Matlaba people from Lothakane because he said that was his country and they were disloyal. e succeeded for a time in driving them to their chief town of Bodibe, which by the way he also claimed. had privately Matlaba at once reported this matter to Commandant Hendrik Greeff of Lichtenburg, who in turn brought it to the notice of the higher authorities of the South African Republic who held Matlaba in high esteem. General Cronje no sooner received the report of the incident that he left recan a commando of 300 men to help Matlaba and punish Montshiwa, but when he reached the Molopo hostilities had ceased temporarily. when he reached the Molopo, hostilities had ceased temporarily.

A report of these disturbances reached the Royal Commission at New astle, and Comm-Gen Piet Joubert and Col E Buller were sent to inquire ? into the sources of the dispute and to restore order Thanksputation They interviewed Montshiwa about the 21st of May and directed him to allow all Matlaba's people to return to Lotlhakane, and all the farmers whom which he had driven them on the border. Joubert pressed these directions and waived off all objections Montshiwa tried to offer.

Montshiwa was very indignant at this treatment and on the 28th May
he sent a protest to the Royal Commission that one member of the
commission pressed upon him in a manner that showed prejudice, "and
I now send this protest against any such orders before the final settlement of my line. Further I must bring to the notice of the Royal Commission that Mr C. ethell whom I brought to the meeting on purpose to watch my interests was not allowed to speak, explain or ask questions, while it was notorious that any Boer present, of whom there were many, was allowed to make what propositions and remarks he wished ..... Although I am perfectly willing to submit my whole case to unprejudiced persons ... Imust and do hereby enter my protest against any Boer sitting on a commsion that may hear the case respecting my line. The quarrel is between myself and my people on the one hand, and the Boer Government and people on the other hand, and I would submit that any commission that has to settle this case should either be composed to exclude both claimants or to include both . The quarrels was of course que to the dispute about the boundary line not so much between the chiefs or their tribes themselves, as between the chiefs of British sympathies and the Tranvaal burghers. In other words the Transvaal burghers and Covernment in the name of their allies Moshete, Matlaba and Massour sought to recover all the land taken from them by the Keate line, while Monthhiwa and Mankurwane, whose still hankered after the Keate line resisted the encroachment. The fight was not for supremacy or for hstatus, because each chief was totally inde-1 38 pendent of the othersi irpespective of their hereditary position by (In SERTERBER August and September) Col C. Moysey by direction of the Royal Commission came to mark off the western boundary of the Tran svaal as ammended by the Reval Commission, whereby a considerable part of the Emmatry territory a APRO to the Barolong by the Keate Award was taken and included in the Transvaal.

The Boers are still verybitter against me and are inciting Matlaba and Moshete to attack me, promising to send them help in men. Matlaba's people are all in arms. I have remained still for four months, waiting gor the Government(to act), but now I am obliged to attack them. Matlaba is living in my country having been placed there by the Boers and Moshete hate me because I hold to the English Government and because I received and proted many English people and loyal Boers against insurgets. I trust that we shall not be forgotten in the settlement of the country and that the leate Award will be handed back to its rightful owners the Bechmanas. The latter sent two regiments of about 2000 men) under Sekgatihanye and leater sent two regiments of about 2000 men) under Sekgatihanye and Sensational storics were oveculated that Houtslawes people had committed atracions brustalities and revolling barbanities buch as untilating and Currency the sources proved all their to be unformeded. gen I foutest would not possibly have settered into this mission without propulies, and his coming had he settled months with doubts and a feeling that he would not necessary question.

40 In marking the line from Ramatlabama to Buurmansdrift, thence to Rooigrond, thence to Lotlhakane, thence to Mareetsane and thence to Madiboro
Col C. Moysey was accompanied by Montshiwa's counsellors, who constantly
brought to his notice the encroachment of the max new Convention line
into their territory. Beyond Maribogo, Moshete's men also went with
M ysey and protesting to the new line of beacons, their contention bein
that the line should be placed more westward. The same attitude was taken by Masson when the boundary was laid down in they big district

taken by Massou when the boundary was laid down in thex his district at Mamusa . In the end the line pleased satisfied no one. It angered Montshiwa againxtxhix EritishxalliesxandxMatlabaxxMoshetexand and "ank-

urwane against their British allies, and provoked Moshete, Matlaba and Massou against their Transvaal suzerains.

On the 13th October \$1881) Montshiwa addressed a leter to Mr. George Hudson, British Resident at Pretoria complaining that the Transvaal Rom Boers were inciting Matlaba and Moshete to attack him, while at the same time allowing these chiefs to use the Transvaal as a base of operations "I write to tell you that my neighbour Moshete has declared war again -st me. I do not complain against that; it is well, but what I desire to represent to you is that the Boers have allowed him to take his owen and cattle across the line into the Transvaal where I may not foll owen and cattle across the line into the Transvaal where I may not foll ow them, moreober Moshete himself and his commandos cross and recross t the Transvaal line and come out from that State to attack me. Should this be so ? and should the Boers not prevent him ?I know that they would at once attack me if I follow him we in pursuit over the line for they seek a quarrel with me. I wish therefore that you would represent these things to His Excellency the Governor at Cape Town and to the Boer leaders, and explain to the latter the danger they are incur-

ring of provoking a war with all the Bechuana tribes, by allowing Moshe te to attack me from the Transvaal. Let them send him quite out of the Transvaal or else keep him quite within its boundaries..."

This letter had hardly been sent off when by way of answer or reprisal for Montshiwa's assault of Lotlhakane in May, Moshete and Matlaba attacked him at his principal village of Sehuba on the 17th October.

Montshiwa, however, repelled the attack easily. But a fortnight later Nov Moshete and Matlaba made a second and more determined assault. This time they were assisted openly by some Transvaal burghers. They approached and penetrated the village from the south-east, and forced its inmaki habitahts to fly in the north-west direction towards Mafikeng. Montshiwa however, with his old guards took his stand in a high stone enclosure and successfuly defied the assailants until his fleeing men were rallied and led back taxrelievexhim not only to relieve him but to drive off the enemy. In his anxiety to complete the victory, Montshiwa second younger brother - Selere- exposed himself unduly by riding far in advance of his regiment in pursuit of the retiring as enemy, and was shot dead by a wounded Griqua in the enemy's ranks. Montshiwa's men surrounded him and literally but him to to pieces. Among the Montshiwa men killed were Mothoko Thwane, Mahube and Tsico Madibane. Montshiwa men killed were Mothoko Thwane, Mahube and Tsico Madibane. Montshiwa men killed were Mothoko Thwane, Mahube and Tsico Madibane. Montshiwa men killed were Mothoko Thwane, Mahube and Tsico Madibane. Montshiwa there was now quietness for three weeks, the ominous lull before the storm, and then in November hostilities were resumed. 600 men of Moshet and Mataaba openly assisted by 300 men Transvaal burghers with three ships guns attacked Schuba village in the early morning. This was the sharpest battle of the campaign, and heavy casualties were inflicted on both sides. At this time, Molema, the founder of Mafikeng was taken seriously ill. He sent for Montshiwa and beseeched him to remove the abandon ill. He sent for Montshiwa and beseeched him to removexto abandon Sehuba and make Mafikeng his headquarters, showed him that the place wi with ADE a perennial stream (Molopo) running through it, thickly wooded and with outcroppings of immense boulders and masses of rock ( as its name Mafika indicates) along the valley was better suited for settlement of a large tribe such as Montshiwa's was, and also for defence than the open plain and waterless plain of Sehuba. It had been whisphered in to Manthi Montshiwa's ear that Molema intended to secede and found an

independent tribe, and this invitation gratified him and reassured him of Molema's unswerving loyalty to him except in spiritual matters.

Montshiwa found it prudent to heed Molema's advice, and immediately (Jee) terminade preparations to evacuate Sehuba and move to Mafeking, six miles north-west, which hitherto had been an outpost or sub-station under the governorship of Molema, and was in fact known as Molema station. Mafike Mafikeng now became the principal town of Montshiwa and the Tshidi Bar-

olong and acquired a great and growing importance.

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## Silas T MOLEMA and Solomon T PLAATJE Papers

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