

Ndabeni Location,  
P. O. Maitland,  
CAPE TOWN.

3rd May 1917.

SIR THOMAS SMART, M.L.A.

House of Assembly,  
CAPE TOWN.

Sir,

We, the undersigned, are mere echoes of the great voice of the Native population throughout the length and breadth of this Sub-Continent. Primarily, Sir, we would desire to call your attention to the fact that the Natives of this country, at least the thinking element of them, are all aware of this ignoble, unjust, inhuman, and degrading Bill. For who could know it better than those who are the targets of its pernicious sting.

True, enough that God's hand works mysteriously, for even beyond this mist of incongruous conceptions of justice and human rights. There may be something which may compel something inate from the Native.

We all know fully well that the design of the Bill is not for the welfare of the Native, as often suggested by some in the House. On the other hand we believe that it springs from very selfish motives.

The watchword of some of the legislators in South Africa is - survival of the most fit and the extinction of the weaker. Then, how does such thinking and acting differ from that of the German Kultur? None whatever. The world to-day is being baptized in the flowing streams of human blood. Why? To establish democratic ideals and crush out the tyranny of absolutism and autocracy. And yet, how inconsistent, some of those very men who fight for democracy against tyranny want to produce tyranny in South Africa.



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Next Sir, we purpose to draw your attention and that of the Party you represent and lead, to the fact that we have not been blind to the positions and stands taken by various members of the House while this question was debated.

We particularly noted with appreciation keen, your statesmanlike attitude against the Bill, thus favouring the cause of justice and extrication of the oppressed from unrighteousness. Sir, our mission is a singular one, and it is to thank you and your colleagues - the Unionists - and other friends who stood for right. We are indeed indebted to you for your unswerving, yes indomitable courage shown in the fight for right against wrong. Right knows no defeat, in the end wrong must succumb.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Samuel Sabata Chairman  
 James M. Molebalsa Secretary  
 Tom M. Zini  
 R. M. Junzi  
 T. R. Kwatcha

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**Collection Number: A979**

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***PUBLISHER:***

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

*Location:- Johannesburg*

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