

In March 1870, the authorities of the S.A. Republic on its western borders again called upon Molema, who was now permanently at Mafikeng, to pay taxes to their government. Again he refused and was supported by Montshiwa in the formula that the Barolong were independent in no way liable to taxation by the S.A. Republic. "If, said Montshiwa, "there is not soon made an end of this lawless matter, I shall be obliged to hand it over to Her Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner, Sir Philip Wodehouse, with the earnest request to arbitrate between me and my most noble allies. Shortly after this, Montshiwa met Pres M.W. Pretorius in person, and as the question of ownership of the diamond fields between the Hart and Vaal rivers had given urgency to boundaries, they agreed that a conference between a commission of the S.A. Republic and all the chiefs concerned should be convened near Mafikeng with a view to coming to a final settlement.

In July 1870 Montshiwa gave wide publicity to the demands of the S.A. Republic, his repudiation of their authority to tax him, his claim to his country ~~of which wharsofxhaxhaxagainxdefined~~ the limits wherof he again defined.

Shortly after this (Sept) Montshiwa and Pretorius had an interview during the course of which each saw a chance of receiving further proof of his right to the diamondiferous district to which the desire of the world was now turned,

The conference was duly held at Buurmansdrift on the 15th of November 1870. The S.A. Republic was represented by pres. M.W. Pretorius, Comm-Gen Paul Kruger, Hendrik Greef, Jacobus Snyman and five others, while the African chiefs present were Montshiwa, Moroka, ~~that~~ Molema, Izaak Motihabane, Makgobi, Phoi and Matlabe of the Barolong; Moilwa of the Bahurutshe at Marico; Gaseitsiwe of the Bangwaketse at Kanye, and Andries Rey representing Chief David Massow of the Korana at Mamusa, and the Rev J. Ludorf as interpreter, besides about twenty counsellors.

In the conference, Montshiwa claimed for all the Barolong clans the territory bounded on the north by the Molopo R in the whole of its course and also from its source to the source of the Harts R, thence to the source of the Schoonspruit (Khing), and on the east (Kolong) by the Schoonspruit; on the south by the Vaal R down to its confluence with the Harts R and thence by a line between the Barolong and the Batlhaping. On the west by the illimitable Kgalagare desert. Of this domain, Moroka's share was the portion between the Harts R. and the Schoonspruit which he claimed as an inheritance from his forefathers, and was able to point to old ruins and remains of stone kraals as evidences of ~~his~~ their abode.

Montshiwa's claim was honest and quite legitimate inasmuch as it represented what he considered truly to be his right, but he went on and alleged that Hendrik Potgieter had in 1837, after the Emigrant Dutch and Barolong defeat of Mzilikazi, acknowledged the Barolong right to such land by a document, and that again in ~~185~~ October 1853 Jan Viljoen had acknowledged this right and confirmed Potgieter's treaty.

The Rev J. Ludorf, chief Montshiwa's missionary and adviser was undoubtedly responsible for these claims which though they might be true in substance and matter of their admission by Potgieter and subsequently by Viljoen, were ~~never~~ deliberately untrue as concerned their documentary by either Potgieter or Viljoen. It was crooked diplomacy, which ~~acknowledged~~ ~~prevalence~~ Unfortunately the delegates of the S.A. Republic tried to counter by ~~another~~ another and greater crooked move. They produced a treaty alleging that the countries of the Barolong had been ceded to the S.A. Republic by the Portuguese Government, who had bought them 280 years previously from the empire of Monomatapa (half fabulous).

Matlaba stood up to say that Potgieter had handed him the document in question ~~and that he had given it to Moroka for safe keeping~~ in the presence of ~~Gert~~ Paul Kruger's father, Gert Kruger, and also Ludewik Kruger, and that he had in turn given it to Moroka for safe keeping. Moroka followed next to confirm Matlaba's statement, and to add that the document had been destroyed by fire together with his other papers and furniture. ~~The chiefs then rose and after another emphatic repudiation of this alleged treaty, they said that their forefathers never had dealings with the Portuguese.~~ Wherefore the delegates of the S.A. Republic advised the Barolong chiefs to [submit to the jurisdiction of the Republic] dwell peacefully with them, pay taxes and save their lands from the English. The chiefs were unanimous in emphatically repudiating any authority of the Portuguese over their country in recent or remote times. As for dwelling together, Montshiwa said "No one ever spanned in an ox and a donkey under ~~the~~ one yoke."

As the commission of the S.A. Rep and the chiefs could not come to agreement, they agreed to refer their dispute to a court of arbitration.

Portuguese

with  
the Portuguese  
Govt



← There was indeed a treaty under consideration between the A.R. and the Portuguese E. Africa but it was primarily <sup>of a</sup> commercial nature, and <sup>only</sup> defined the <sup>boundary</sup> between the Portuguese <sup>possessions</sup> ~~border~~ where it abuts on the A.R. on the east. ~~the boundary between the Portuguese possessions & the A.R. on the east~~  
the boundary between the Eastern Transvaal & the <sup>rest</sup> ~~rest~~ of the Portuguese <sup>possessions</sup> ~~possessions~~ and it was not ratified until 8 months later (Dec 1871)  
so far as they affected each other.



Accordingly they addressed a letter to Lt-Gen Hay Her Majesty's High Commissioner requesting him to appoint two gentlemen as judges. At the same time, on the 17th Nov, they sent addressed a letter of protest to His Excellency C.P. Barahona e Costa, Governor of Quilimane:

*Carlos Pacheco*

At a meeting held on the 15th and 16th Nov on the Molopo R with a commission of the Transvaal Republic over which His Honour the State President of the said Republic presided, a copy was produced of a treaty entered into between His Majesty the King of Portugal and the South African Republic whereby a new boundary line is laid down between the alleged Portuguese possessions in the interior of South Africa and the Transvaal Republic and which treaty has been made the ground on which His Honour President Pretorius claims a certain portion of our rightful territories, stating and asserting that thereby we had become responsible subjects of his state. Therefore we the ~~undersigned~~ united paramount chiefs of the several Barolong tribes write to your Excellency as the president of the ~~Rex~~ Portuguese Diplomatic Commission in order to record, with all due respect for your high position, for the government which your Excellency represents as well as for the government of the South African Republic - to ~~record~~ record we say our protest and demonstration against any transactions which would involve our liberty and property. Neither we nor our ancestors ever were subjects to the Crown of Portugal nor to the somewhat fabulous 'Empire of Monamatapa' from which it was said that His Majesty the King of Portugal had acquired by purchase a right to the interior of South Africa. We cannot acknowledge any such rights over our persons and lands, and shall lay a formal complaint on this matter with Her Britannic Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa. We remain, sir, most respectfully, Your Excellency's obedient servants:

1. Montshiwa : Paramount Chief of the Tshidi Branch of the Barolong
2. Bakgobi : Chief of the the Maebu Branch of the Barolong
3. Moroka : Paramount Chief of the Seleka Branch of the Barolong
4. Izaak Motlhabane: Chief of the Ratlou Branch of the Barolong
5. Gaseitsiwe : Chief of the Bangwaketse.

To this protest Barahona e Costa replied on the 30th Nov. He took exception to the phrase "fabulous empire of Monamatapa", referred to the essential-~~maximally~~ <sup>secret</sup> nature of treaties and the impropriety of giving publicity to them before their ratification, the necessity of defining boundary lines between the possessions of His Majesty the King of Portugal in South Africa and the Transvaal, and finally repudiated any cession of foreign lands by his government, and took his stand on the rights of nations.

*Warrant making*

*inviolability of the*  
A territorial dispute of the same <sup>nature</sup> had been going on since 1867 between the Griquas of Nicholas Waterboer ~~and~~ on the one side, and the Orange Free State on the other in respect of the wedge of territory between the confluence of the Orange River and the Vaal. In the meantime, (great (1870) diamond finds had been made at Pniel, Bultfontein, Dutoitspan and Dorstfontein within that ~~xx~~ wedge, and thousands of diggers had rushed there, to lay the foundations of Kimberley, try their luck and unwittingly. The Free State maintained that the ground was theirs because it was included within the boundaries of the Orange River Sovereignty as defined by Governor Sir Harry Smith in 1848, and was in undisputed occupation of the Free State burghers since the transfer of the ~~Sovereignty~~ (British) ~~to the Free State~~ (Dutch) country to the them by Sir G. Clerk in 1854. Nicholas Waterboer who was represented by an exceptionally clever and versatile Eur-African attorney by the name of David Arnot, claimed the land on the ground of inheritance from his father Andries Waterboer as well previous recognition of sovereign and proprietary rights in part of that area by the Oranger Free State government. Under these circumstance the claim of ~~the~~ the Free State, the Griquas to the diamond lands, and that of the Transvaal, the Barolong, the Batlhaping, and the Koranas to the adjoining lands were so interwoven as to form one large question.

*on the banks of the Vaal*

The ownership of the territory in dispute between the Orange Free State and the Griquas was still hanging fire when suddenly on the 25th August 1870 ~~and~~ Nicholas Waterboer ceded his claims to Her Majesty the Queen, and requested that he and his people might be received as British subjects. In the following year, this territory was annexed to the British dominions as Griqualand West.

*T*

*at the beginning of 1871 Sir Henry Barkly*

At the beginning of 1871 Sir Henry Barkly the new High Commissioner visited the diamond-fields and there met all the parties claiming the fields - Pres Pretorius, the Chiefs Montshiwa, Moroka, Phoi of the Barolong; Botlhasitse, Jantje, Motlhabane and Mankurwane of the Batlhaping and ~~an~~ Nicholas Waterboer of the Griquas, together with their agents.



All of them having made their statements before His Excellency, he got them to agree ~~to~~ to submit their claims to a court of arbitration. Deeds of submission were accordingly drawn up, and ~~the~~ duly signed by the claimants. The judges of the court were to be Anthony O'Reilly, land-  
drost of Wakkerstroom, on behalf of the S.A. Republic, and John Campbell magistrate of Klipdrift on behalf of all the other claimants, while Lt Governor Robert Keate of Natal was to be final umpire in case of disagreement of the judges.

*also* The arbitration court opened at Bloehof on the 4th April 1871. Montshiwa was there, accompanied by ~~Moroka, Molana~~ his brothers Molana and Rabodietso, and his counsellors Leshomo and Bogatsu, also Moroka of ThabaNcho, Matlaba of Polfontein and his brother Mongala, Isaac Motlhabane of the ~~Madiha~~ Ratlou at Madibogo with Phoi and Mmui and his missionary Joseph Ludorf

before a large crowd drawn by ~~the~~ interest or curiosity. They had come by wagons, cape carts, on horseback and on foot. Pres. Pretorius and state-attorney F. Kelin appeared for the South African Republic; Attorney David Arnot for ~~the Griquas~~ Nicholas Waterboer and his Griquas; Attorney D.C. Grant for the Batlhaping of Mankurwane, Attorney Carl Mathey for Chief Gaseitsiwe of the Bangwaketse and ~~the Barolong~~ Motlhabane of Ba-Maidi. For two months and two weeks the court heard and faithfully recorded the voluminous evidence, oral and documentary, given by an army of witnesses. As was anticipated, the judges disagreed, and the decision had to rest with the final referee - Governor Keate, which he gave on the 17th October 1871. It gave Waterboer the southern parts he claimed in the Orange Free State and Transvaal comprising the diamondiferous lands on both sides of the Vaal at Dutoitspan, DeBeers, Bultfontein and Kimberley in in the geographical Orange Free State. The northern lines went to the Batlhaping and the Barolong, the latter being awarded a line from the source of the Molopo R to the source of the Harts R, thence to the source of the Makwassie spruit, and down Makwassie spruit to the Vaal R. It was but a few days after this award that was published that Sir Henry Barkly annexed Waterboers country as ~~Bark~~ Griqualand West, while his own name was perpetuated in the ~~former~~ town formerly known as Klipdrift.

The Batlhaping living on the northern banks of the Vaal R and at the junction of the Vaal and Harts R were aggrieved at Keate's decision and soon rose in rebellion. The Griquas of Griquatown away to the west were also resentful and rose up in arms. The South African Republic was unhappy, completely repudiated the award, blamed and cashiered its president Pretorius, and settled down to defeat the award by deliberately ignoring it and making it of no avail during subsequent years. Pres Brand of the Orange Free State protested vehemently against the annexation by Britain of territory he claimed against Waterboer. He finally received £90,000 to soothe the bitter memories of the loss of this ~~district~~ 3,500 sq miles of fabulously rich district.

*3* Sir Henry Barkly sent ~~the~~ a copy of the decision to Ludorf at Klipdrift, who at once translated its text into Tswana and sent copies to all ~~Tswana~~ his clients - the Barolong, Batlhaping and Bangwaketse *the* chief Gaseitsiwe with a covering letter urging them to unite. "And now, Chiefs: rulers of the land, I appeal to you. Awake: in words reminiscent of the prophet Isaiah) "Arise and unite soon before your trophy is torn asunder by wolves; Come ye together, make protective laws; stop all breaches and gaps and close your ranks. Safeguard the heritage of Tau your ancestor. Hear ye all Chiefs: Come together and unite."

Governor Keate's decision was welcomed by the Barolong chiefs. ~~The~~ Ludorf and Montshiwa in particular were delirious with joy. The former immediately drew up a manifesto and constitution for The United Barolong and Batlhaping and Bangwaketse "Nation", established a consulate at Klipdrift, constituted himself the commissioner, representative and diplomatic agent of the chiefs and convened a meeting of all the chiefs concerned at Taung.

*issued a proclamation in their name*  
In a letter to D. Arnot, Esq, Agent for the chiefs N. Waterboer and Mankurwane dated Nov 8th from Klipdrift he states: "No one can wish more than myself, that the various sections of the Tswana tribes included in the new line may live in unity and peace, but also to combine in a general confederation against the common enemy, should they think it fit and proper to break through the newly fixed boundary line as I am sorry to say the Transvaalers make it no secret that such is their intention. We have on our side Sechele, and ere long also Mapela behind Makapanspoort besides others whom you know."



→ This was an excerpt the last letter that Neo J. had of ever wrote -  
- He was peace after taken ill and died at Dikgahony on the 13th  
January 1872 - greatly lamented by the chiefs and people of the  
Bakwena of Bafuafu. Moshwene was inconsolable for  
a long time. He said he had lost a man who loved the Bakwena  
+ whose he loved as a brother - a scholar & a counsellor



On the 16th November 1871 Ludorf wrote to Sir Henry Barkly, outlining what he had done. He continued "Awaiting the general meeting of all the native chiefs whose territorial rights fall within the newly defined boundary line, I beg most humbly and gratefully to acknowledge in the name of the Barolong united, Bangwaketse and Batlhaping tribes whom I represent, the material service which Her Majesty's government in South Africa, and more particularly Your Excellency in sanctioning and constituting the Court of Arbitration have rendered to these numerous tribes so long oppressed by their white neighbours - the Dutch Emigrants, and I sincerely hope and pray that Her most gracious Majesty will continue to befriend these orphans in keeping her sovereign and protecting hand over them for the future."

This was among the very last letters that the Rev Joseph Ludorf ever wrote. He was soon after taken seriously ill and died at Dikgatlong on the 13th of January 1872, lamented by the chiefs and people of the Barolong and the Batlhaping. Montshiwa in particular was grieved for and said he had lost a friend who loved the Barolong, and whom he loved as a brother, a man who could be a preacher, a doctor, mechanic, wagon maker and political strategist ~~by turns~~ writer by turns. "An indefatigable worker of indomitable spirit, a talented linguist and many-sided man, the Rev Joseph Ludorf was a lover of the Batswana in general and of the Barolong in particular. He had laboured among them at Thabanchu, at Lotlhakane and in Bechuanaland for more than a quarter of a century, and had identified himself with them and their interests in a manner with which, even in those days of burning missionary zeal, liberal thought and philanthropy and self-sacrifice it is difficult to find a comparison. He threw himself into their struggles with a courage and impetuosity, a disregard for criticism and personal safety which are surprising to contemplate. But his zeal sometimes outran his discretion, often clouded and deflected his judgment, or swayed him from the straight path of absolute impartiality, justice and truth. Apart from Montshiwa, Chief of the Tshidi Barolong, Ludorf was perhaps the man best hated by the citizens of the South African Republic." (S.M. Molema: Chief Moroka p.137)

By the death of Ludorf, Montshiwa was left without an adviser who could read, explain and answer the letters now coming frequently from one or another official of the ~~British Government~~ South African Republic or British government. He invited John Cameron, the son of the Rev James Cameron of Thabanchu to come and be his agent, but although that person accepted the offer, he failed to turn up, and the chief had in the meantime to rely on the good services of the Rev Jonathan Webb, of the Wesleyan Church, who had just been appointed to 1873 labour among the Tshidi Barolong at Mafikeng and Moshaneng.

(1870)

About the time Montshiwa contracted a strange marriage - only comprehensible to the Kalendama. He annexed to his seraglio one Gashole.

Moshogole - a niece of his principal wife Mapang, who was like him a daughter of Tswana.

Mapang was still alive but had only borne one child, a female.

Tswana tradition was that the young wife Gashole - a close blood relative of Mapang's would thus raise seed to Mapang - a Gashole's son would be connected to Mapang.

In Tswana Gashole would be a son of Mapang.

It is more than probable that Mapang herself would encourage this union.

Mapang's 'marriage' or defect. To anticipate the story. Gashole

born the year before Mapang and one daughter. The two males

Mapang's two sons, but Mapang's two sons became chiefs of the Tswana

tribe.

Masiboi 1864

Moshole 1872

Makgob 1868-72

Mositi 1872

Rapulana 1875



Having forced Mathinus Pretorius and his state attorney Klein to resign, the S.A. Republic, by the hand of its acting president Daniel J Erasmus issued a proclamation repudiating the Keate Award on the ground that the Ex-president Pretorius had no authority to sign the deed of submission. The burghers of the Republic were now unanimous in their desire to look for a clever man as their president, one who could competently argue and defend their interest before any European council. They obtained him and on the 1st July 1872, the Rev ~~Francis~~ Thomas Francois Burgers of Hanover, Cape Colony was <sup>sworn</sup> in as President of the S.A. Republic. He was full of ideas, energy and promise. His first duty was to prove this to his electors by neutralising the Keate Award, and thus removing the dominant grievance of the Republic. He prosecuted some research into Barolong history, and discovered that there were several clans - Ratlou, Tshidi, Makgetla, Seleka and Rapulana in that order of seniority, and that the principal chief of the senior ~~clan~~ (Ratlou) clan was Moshete, but that for some reason that individual was not at the head of affairs in his clan, let alone among the clans, but on the contrary he was working as a shepherd for a Dutch farmer - fieldcornet Schalk. He befriended him, released him from his indenture, placed him on his throne, and gave him a staff or sceptre of kingship and got him to cede - as the senior chief of the Barolong - the territorial rights of the Barolong to the S.A. Republic in 1872. To make his case unassailable, President Burgers visited other chiefs of junior status to Moshete to urge them to cede their territorial rights individually and collectively to the S.A. Republic. On the 6th December 1872 he obtained cession of territory from David Massou Riet Taai-bosch chief of the Koranas at <sup>as an insignia</sup> ~~amusa~~ (later known as Schweizer Reneke). On the 1st of July 1873, Moshete, now chief at Khunwana ceded ~~him~~ the Ratlou territory, on the 11th December, Botlhasite senior chief of a section of the Batlhaping, ceded the Batlhaping lands.

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

Pres. Burgers next approached Chief Matlaba of the junior (Rapulana) branch of the Barolong, and succeeded in obtaining a cession. Armed with 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 S.A. Republic, and that, therefore, all Moshete people, including Matlaba and his people are subjects of the S.A. Republic. 1874 In ~~1874~~ Pres. Burgers 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 S.A. Republic authorities, Samuel Melville, <sup>Rep</sup> Commissioner and agent ~~for~~ for Native Affairs (S.A. Rep) Lichtenburg wrote to <sup>20/4/74</sup> Montshiwa at Moshaneng, and to Molema ~~who~~ at Mafikeng - "Machavie (Matlaba) and his people are subjects of the Transvaal. Our government have never yet acknowledged the award of Lt. Keate Gov. Polfontein and the farms near it are on Transvaal territory... Injury to Matlaba or Moshete's people will be regarded as injury to the Transvaal and retaliated... Property captured and people taken from Matlaba must be restored. Matlaba and Moshete's people have come to reside at Polfontein by orders of the President."

By way of reply, High Commissioner Sir Henry Barkly issued a proclamation the same month. "Whereas ... (9) and whereas ever since the Keate Award became known the Government of the S.A. 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 S.A. Republic for the time being has 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 therefore I do hereby proclaim.... that the territorial acquisitions to which the said S.A. Republic lays claim under and by virtue of the alleged cessions made by petty captains and others will not be recognised or respected unless and until the award of the late Robert Keate Esq shall have been first fairly and fully carried into execution."

1 Regardless of this proclamation, Pres. Burgers in the same month



expressed in forcible and forthright language

→ His repudiation of the Award was in a pamphlet, and his grounds were (1) want of authority on the part of the Transvaal Signatories to the deed of Submission (2) want of decision in the deed of Submission itself (3) bias on the part of one of the arbitrators and of the final umpire



This was the commencement of a long and acrimonious correspondence ~~between~~ ~~Montshiwa~~ and 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: Fieldcornet at Rooigrond; C.R. Otto: Landdrost at Zeerust; I.B. Bantjes: Acting Commissioner at Lichtenburg; C.B. Scholtz: Republican, ~~then~~ then British and again Republican Commissioner of Native Affairs at Lichtenburg; Commandant Hendrik Greeff of Lichtenburg; Commandant Piet Cronje of Potchefstroom; S. Swart: S.A. Republic State secretary; Piet Joubert: Commandant General and Acting President of the Republic and Thomas Burgers himself: State President.

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: Lt. Governor of Griqualand West; C.C. Campbell: Magistrate of Barkly West; I.D. Barry: Acting Administrator of Griqualand West; and again to Charles Warren and C.J. Moysey British military commanders in Griqualand West; later to M. Osborne Government Secretary and Theophilus Shepstone: Administrator of Transvaal and still later to Evelyn Wood: Commanding Officer of British Forces in Natal, and Georgw Hudson: British Resident in the Transvaal of the Retrocession period. These letters are in the nature of complaints and report about the citizens of the S.A. Republic on the western border, requests and prayers for assistance and appeals for intervention and annexation.

On the 4th of May 1874, the Chief Montshiwa in council addressed Lt-Governor Richard Southey of Griqualand West:- "The time has now come that the Boers have up their minds to destroy us, and I now do humbly place myself under your care and protection. I wish, great chief, that you would ask the great Queen of England to take me and my people to be her subjects, and to take my country to be hers. 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." A few days later, Montshiwa 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 my territory without the 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 ~~me~~ 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 most gracious majesty in reference to my said position.

Signed Montshiwa (Chief) and Selepe Isaacc Seru, Bathobatho, Molema, Mokwesti, Josiah Motshegare, Cornelius Botlhale, Phetlhu, Masco, Ncapedi, Mococ Motlhwane, Rabodieco and Matthew Molema (Members of the Council).

The only reply to this was a more determined attitude of the white farmers to consolidate their occupation of the disputed territory, and Sam Melville wrote to Montshiwa: "The president has heard that Montshiwa's people are occupying farms belonging to the Boers and other subjects of the S.A. Republic. He lets Montshiwa know that as his government has full concessions from Moshete, Paramount chief of the Barolong, of all his territorial rights, it cannot allow Montshiwa, a petty chief under Moshete to infringe on such rights by deeds of aggression. Montshiwa's people must therefore leave those farms before 9 a.m. on Tuesday next. If not, then Montshiwa will be considered as wishing to provoke hostility and his people will be forcibly driven from those places. If still found on them after the expiration of the said time."



(Milling 1876)

→ Later/being a prisoner, he wrote to Adam. Owen Jones

As always so now I beg to assure your honour of my  
attachment to our Majesty's person and with patience  
await the redemptive time when it may please God to  
accept my oft-proffered allegiance to British Rule & Law.

1896  
84  
1812

1877 1877  
1815 1812  
62 65



**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.

---