

Bloomfield <sup>C126/64</sup>

Oct 8. 1884

F. W. Cleverly Esq. E. Bowdillon

Sir.

I have written to the  
Standard on the general  
principles involved in your  
letter of the 1st. But considering  
the narrow limits of the interests  
connected with this particular  
case, ~~and~~ I have thought it  
best to write to you personally, &  
hope you may make any use  
you like of the letter in the  
interests of truth. In order you  
may be certain of my sincerity  
and my humanity I beg  
<sup>explicitly</sup> you will ask the Rev. George  
Howard White, Clerical Super-



intendant of the Church of  
England Temperance Society who  
has known me for more  
than 25 years -

You say I make a grave  
inaccuracy in speaking of  
Lequire & Samuel as "nominal"  
sons of Mordecai - I do not know  
what else I could call them -  
Lequire never laid claim  
neither anyone I know on his  
part, to being Mordecai's own  
son, he was as you say born  
before Mordecai took his mother  
to wife - & if you have all the  
information you profess you  
must know that there is grave  
doubt as to Samuel's being  
Mordecai's own child - thus I could  
only call them "nominal" & by

Nature custom they were  
both that.

Samuel was never "ousted" from  
his Captaincy because he was  
never in possession. For five  
years before Morsha's death  
Leprince was Resident, & during  
this time Samuel was never  
put forward nor trusted with  
any authority, at the time  
of Morsha's death Leprince was  
in possession, & the President  
as arbitrator gave it to Leprince  
as the one chosen & named  
& trained by Morsha as his  
successor. It was no question  
of rights for with the treaties  
then entered under the  
eyes of polygamy time came

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be no such thing among the  
Natives as we understand  
hereditary rights - as a  
matter of fact there never  
is a change of succession  
without a dispute -

There is no doubt also that  
the President had the elements  
of the two men in his mind -

Samuel as we all know too  
well is weak terribly weak &  
here in his own country terribly  
gives over to drink - a pleasant  
fellow in himself but with  
no moral power as is sadly  
evidenced by the late  
transactions. Sepia as  
the other hand <sup>was</sup> in intelligence  
& ability a head & shoulders

(4)

(5)

it shows only too plainly <sup>C126/61a</sup> (5)  
the line on which Samuel  
worked.

Samuel & his people left  
their stock & goods behind  
by their own act, there would  
have been no objection to their  
remaining after the arbitrator's  
decision their open rebellion,  
my own ~~own~~ boys have heard  
all their friends in the country  
ever since though they are  
staunch Samuelites & there  
never heard that they have  
been hardly treated in any  
way.

Samuel was not received  
by President Brand on his  
return from Grange owing to  
(6)



own excessive impertinence,  
the President is the least  
man to be discourteous to  
anyone black or white, &  
have no doubt myself that  
his visit to England had  
a great deal to do with  
the development of his  
self importance.

Samuel at this time had  
no right to demand any  
assistance from the O.S. he  
had already caused them  
considerable expense & annoyance,  
and has since from them  
an unrequited asylum.  
He was allowed to live  
not more than 8 hours  
from the Barolong border,  
the humane manner is



which he returned to his  
permission, you now know.  
It is a natural law that  
anyone leaving the country  
has to leave some of <sup>his</sup> stock  
behind in the Chiefs'  
hands, this is all Sepiere  
demanded.

You abuse my words,  
when you say I describe  
Sepiere as a "model chief"  
"always leaning to the side of  
my" But this I know  
from personal knowledge  
that Sepiere was a model  
as compared to <sup>any</sup> other chief  
with whom I am acquainted  
and like all brave men he  
was naturally tenderhearted.  
Did I want you to tell you how



5.  
above his fellows; self education  
he was observant and very  
well informed, and he had  
then aptly grasped the  
real position between the  
white and coloured races.  
In this case indeed there  
was no comparison  
between the two ex rulers.  
Among Sepoys here as I  
know only too well all  
the inherent faults of his  
race. —

~~As~~ I am tried to asperse  
President Brand's character  
by some vile insinuations  
with reference to the arbitrator.  
President Brand does not  
require a defence from me but



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when he used to be lying drunk  
before Alvarado's camp & the  
old chief would come out  
with his knife to thrust him  
Spanish has time after time  
quilted the old man & got  
Samuel carried home. as  
how when Samuel & Boyado  
were hidden in a hut after  
their rebellion and Lepuic's  
men wanted to burn them  
out & kill them Lepuic would  
not allow them to do so but  
let them escape in the  
dark. It is a fact that had  
Lepuic had his way no  
life would have been lost. —  
Attempts are being made  
to have naturally be on the  
side of Samuel as a Xtra &



Churchman, I have to  
admit as to personal  
qualities he cannot compare  
to poor old Lepine. —

Sammie is in good hands  
now & his imprisonment will  
do him no harm, I think  
he will very likely get off on  
legal points, though I can  
see no reason myself why as  
a Free State resident he cannot  
be tried for the murder &  
mutilation of a friendly chief,  
especially as our treaty with  
that chief covers the trial of  
Free State <sup>residents</sup> subjects for acts committed  
in his territory by Free State courts.  
The territory was not at all  
independent, no native territory



situated as they were with  
regard to a civilized country  
could be - the Free States  
was naturally answerable  
for the peace & quiet of the  
country.

I can assure you &  
your Society have a  
great deal to answer for  
in the present condition of  
the western world in LA. it  
is very distressing for people  
like myself who have no  
strives to assist, & soften the  
inevitable consequences of  
their interference with their  
European neighbors, & hence  
all our work undone by well  
meaning people too much among

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Who have no personal experience  
or knowledge, & who are only too  
wary to listen to all the stories  
about them of native distress  
& European persecution.

If any Englishman would  
believe their brethren do  
not become wild beasts  
on leaving their native  
shores it would be a step in  
the <sup>right</sup> direction. <sup>Take</sup>

I hope you will accept  
this as it is meant & accept  
my very best wishes for yourself  
& your society in protective  
work, though I do not much like  
what seems to me your present  
work of extermination.

I shall always be pleased to  
correspond with <sup>you</sup> on native  
matters. Yours truly  
(12) G. Bonwiller