

C128/2

Rondebosch, near Cape Town,
6th February 1844.

Dear Sir,

I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in addressing this communication to you. Although of course a stranger to you, yet I may state I am a hearty well-wisher to the cause ably represented by you.

I am given to understand that you have had some correspondence with Miss de Smidt of this place on the subject of the treatment and condition of King Cetshwayo. His cause she has much at heart. While he was a prisoner here she devoted a large portion of her time to the instruction of his wives in matters of domestic use and comfort, which would doubtless have borne good fruit had the States been propitious to the King on his restoration to Zululand. Since that time she has spared no effort in acquiring trustworthy information respecting him and his people, which I have no doubt has been communicated to you.

What I wish principally to represent to you is that this lady, who was brought up in comparative opulence, is now, through no fault of her own, in straitened circumstances. What

makes her Condition worse is that She has 2
wealthy relatives who are supposed to act
generously towards her. The reverse, however, is
the case. She has too good reason to believe
that by undue influence they have come
into possession of property which was intended
to have been left as an inheritance to her; and
a sense of their own injustice makes the object
of it odious in their eyes. Keep from them she
therefore cannot and does not expect. For some
years she enjoyed an annuity of £5. From a
friend in London who had known her here, and
appreciated her sentiments, but this terminated
with the benefactor's death about 2 years ago.

I knew this lady's father many years ago
in Graham's Town where he held a high position
in the Imperial Commissariat Department, and
it grieves me to think that his daughter who
once tasted the sweets of prosperity should
now have to drink the bitter waters of adversity.
Unfortunately my circumstances are such that
I am unable to render her any pecuniary
assistance. She being a fellow-worker in the
same cause with you, and from advancing
years being ill-prepared to engage in the active
duties of life for a maintenance, I have deemed

it proper to represent her case to you, feeling assured that you would interest yourself in the matter, and might possibly secure for her a small annuity through the aid of some of the wealthy and sympathising friends of the Aborigines Protection Society.

Should this appeal be successful, as I earnestly trust it may be, I can confidently say that the donors' bounty will be bestowed on a deserving object, and that the recipients' gratitude will be warm and undying.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your obed^t. Servant
J. Calder

J. Carter
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