

Confidential

Cape town Feb 1st 1884

Dear Mr Chesson,

C 161/200

I was glad to find that the S. A. Committee has again been called into existence. There is real work for them to do, as you & they must have felt.

You will see the great-expression of opinion here at the Cape, in which all nationalities have taken part. The meeting was a most-encouraging one. Leonard's speech was most-enthusiastically received; I do for myself they could not ~~be~~ have been kinder or more encouraging. I take it to be the honest outspoken view of the people whose leaders had been saying the opposite: it was their

protest. I have refused
to identify myself with
any political party here
but am working on my
own lines - those with which
you are so familiar. If we
could get a hold of the
Christian principle of the
Cape Colony on our side
Dutch as well as English
the victory would be ours
to South Africa would be
saved to us. You will
see that I placed the same
curb on my mouth here
as in England. I did not
declaim. I always feel
that that goes without saying
in my case. I want to give
ideas - to widen men's thoughts
about these things. I have
been two only yesterday

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that the House government -
has agreed to Sir H. R's re-
commendation that I get
3 m on the salary in advance
from date of resignation.
And so I am dropped: &
the men who were sent with an
alternative policy do not even
make that policy known here
on their return ^{in England}
but whatever they publish
- they have really upset all
the good I did - given the
power in to the hands of
Tiebert the head of the
Transvaal party, & are
now both ^{of them} in Cape town - Bower
having had a gun pre-
sented at him while
among his own supposed
friends - the followers of
Tiebert - & Rhodes being
openly disgusted with
the whole thing.

Merriman, Hill, Rhodes
Donovan - may be practically
regarded as one. So much
for your private guidance,
as the two first - one at home
have seen to work the "Abori-
gines Oracle" if they think they
can get anything from you.
Scaulier is the only one of them
who seems to me trustworthy.
I think he is an honest-man;
but remember the others are
his lieutenants.

I feel that I could do
good work here in instruct-
ing & guiding public opinion
but the question recurs
how is this to be done? My
wife has been since June
away at Kurruman while
I have been knocking about
in Stillaland & waiting here.

There is a project on
foot for forming a Political
Organization in the Cape

which would completely
ruin Mau Koroane. His
Ex^{ty} backed me up in
this - at least privately; but
now I don't trust a bit -
what he will do under
other influence & pressure.

I am told privately that
when the scheme which landed
me here was ^{first} broached to Sir H.
R. he exclaimed - "But would
that not be very hard on Mack-
enzie?" His natural reluc-
tance was got over - O tell
go back to Mission work! &
to your apprentices Diploma-
tists - styled Boer Agents by the
Chief Mau Koroane - a p-
pearance in my place. The
Colonist Fick, a respectable
man speaking English as well
as Dutch is now in prison
for no other reason but that he asked
as a favour & honour that he
might hoist the flag with his

Colony which without
saying a word about the
Afrikaner Bond may yet
swallow it up. It is only
in embryo at present
& a very small embryo
but it is talked about
& may yet appear.

I have just received a tele-
gram from people at East
London Can I go there to lec-
ture? I suppose I shall
consent. But I feel I
must settle somewhere &
have a home. If I could
be kept without care as to
the wolf at the door I would
willingly give at least
a year to this work here:
the work of instructing & guid-
ing public opinion. I am
to the respectable Dutch
are much pleased with
my

Colonel Fick a respectable
man speaking English as well
as Dutch is now in prison
for no other reason but that he asked
as a favour & honour that he
might hoist the flag with his own

C141/201^a is 2nd and
concluding sheet of C141/200

NB. C141/202 enclosed C159/22-