

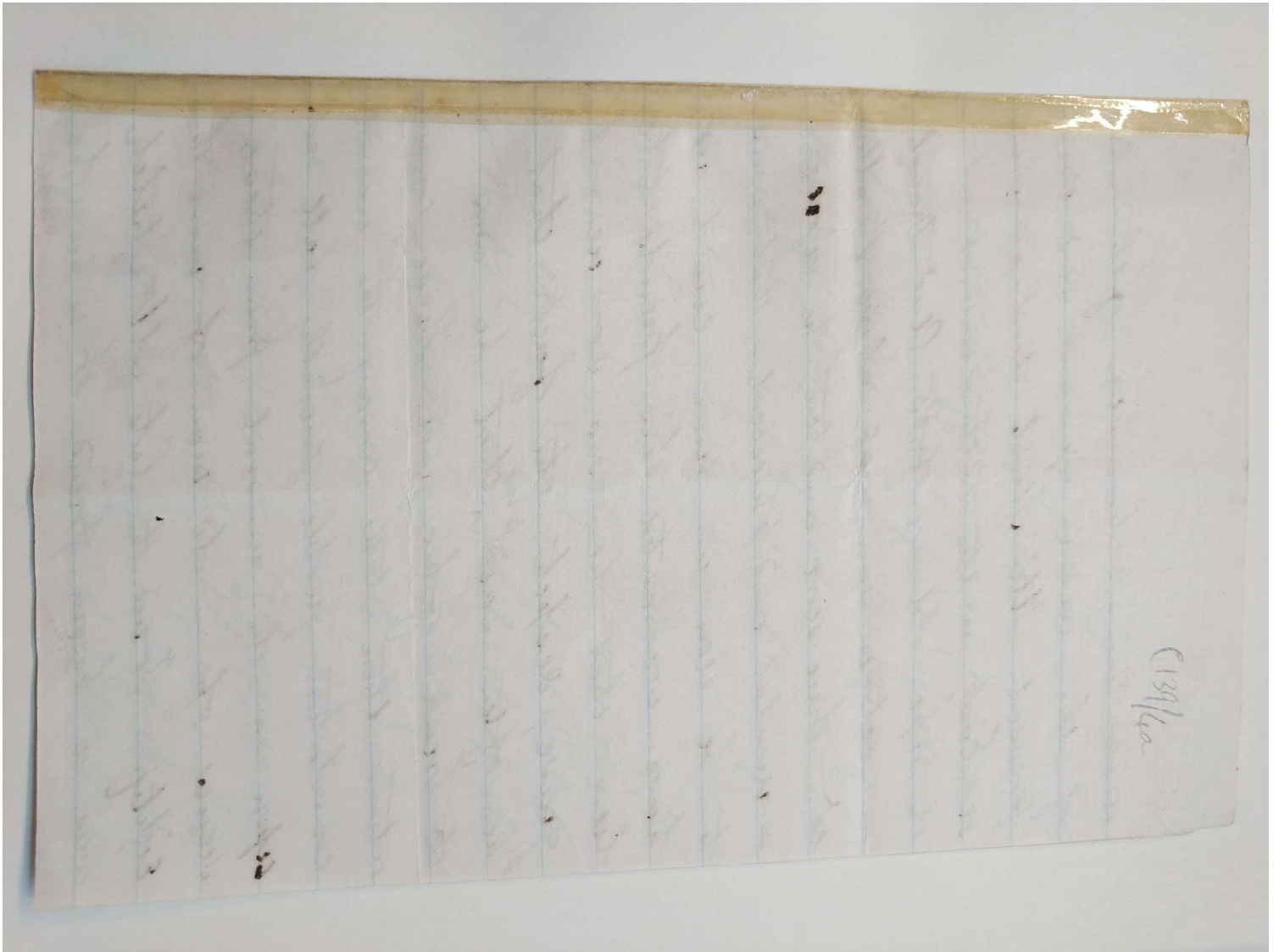
My dear Mr. Cheever,
 Dorcedale, Alice,
 24 Oct, 1882.
 C 139/4
 I am, while copying on my
 work here, preparing for the Cape
 University Matriculation Examin-
 ation, which is to take place in
 June next. It is this work and
 the heavy preparation then that has
 come between me and my corres-
 pondence with you in the affairs
 for

Pressure of time
 and work are the excuses I
 have to bring forward for the
 silence that has prevailed since
 the beginning of the year, and
 am afraid this state of things
 will last for some time to come.

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for which the A.P.S. exacts Spect.
tect. No doubt, when the Exam.
is over, I may be more regular
than at present. Let us hope I
go up backed up by your
moral support. The Cape Univ. Mat.
is much stiffer than the tests that
pass under that name in England
— at least so say all University
men from that country, and those state
of things has occasioned many
an acrimonious controversy
between the public and the body
which manages Univ. matters.

I believe, as I know nobody
else who would do it, it falls to
my lot to break upon you the
sad news of the demise of Captain
Ed. Stutch, our mutual friend, and



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never tiring champion of the interests of the weak, ignorant and oppressed. Mr. Stretch died at Somerset East, on the 12th current, at the ripe old age of 85. And though an octogenarian, and above the allowed three score and ten, the vigour - mental and physical - that was to be seen in him could not have warranted his friends to believe that he was so near his grave, despite the fact that he often said ^{to me} that he was on the brink of his grave. These considerations then take away the usual consolation people generally fall back upon on the removal from these scenes of an old man of more than eighty. To me the late Mr. Stretch was a bosom friend. It is he who

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interest stirred up in me the perhaps
dormant talent of taking an
intelligent & my lights - interest
in matters affecting my fellow-
aborigines in this part of the
globe. He it was who set my
steps in the way of making use
of that wonderful machinery for
alleviating abuse, oppression, inhumanity
corruption in Colonial Governments
- ~~or~~ machinery by the use of which
the worthy and venerable Bishop
of Natal and other philanthropists,
sincerely called in this Colony, negro
philists, have been able to achieve
what would otherwise be impossibilities.
- I mean, Sir, the Aborigines Pro-
tection Society. Probably in the Cape
I am the ^{black} ~~only~~ correspondent of the Society
and had it not been for Mr Stretch
nobody

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nobody would have been the only ^{active} correspondent. Our deplored friend will be remembered as a "thorough-going" lover of the black people of South Africa, and, as every lover of his species must be, was interested in the good work of the A.P.S. in other Colonies. Loaded as he was with the infirmities of old-age, he never put down his pen, nor allowed his tongue to rest in the self-imposed, ^{in a study} yet, ^{think} less task of championing the natives. He has now gone to Him Whose precepts and ~~example~~ he was striving to observe through good & evil report. My copy of the Aborigines Friend reached me three days ago, and I was very much struck with the mortality of the crowned heads of the Society. The names of

Samuel Gurney, John Mackenzie
are very familiar to me in
connection with the cause of
humanity. To these we have to add
that of Charles Lumsden Stretch, who could
be equalled but not surpassed in
his sincerity in the glorious cause
of upholding the weak and oppressed.

Another event that I regard
as very calamitous is the resignation
of General Gordon from the commanding
of the Colonial Forces, consequent
upon what most people take to be
a lamentable blunder committed by
Mr. Scamden's Ministry. I need hardly
say, I have been a most ardent
supporter of that Ministry. I supported
them because they had, in their
past advocacy of the true interests of the

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the country, exhibited a foresight and common-sense that is painfully wanting in the party of gentlemen who are ranged against them. But how they managed to be at cross purposes with Gordon Pasha, an eminent soldier actuated ^{in everything} by the most benevolent motives, passes the comprehension of every body - friend or foe of the Scanlon Cabinet - but the Cape Argus, which, while very rabid in its animadversions on the Pasha, would have itself recognized as performing the laudable work of throwing oil on the troubled waters, by asking the Colonists to suspend their judgement till the publication of the papers pertinent on the controversy. Judging from columns and columns of solid matter on General Gordon, we might rightly say

say we are suffering from a Gordon
mania. And no wonder, when it is
remembered that the General came out
here in the knowledge and with the
concurrence of the Imperial Govern-
ment to solve for us the Native
Question which has perplexed many
a statesman and irretrievably in-
jured many a reputation. It is
believed, and I also believe, that Genl.
Gordon, as in the other parts of the
World, would merely have touched
the Cinderella with his magic
wand, and down would the Native
Question have come. This belief is
to a very great extent borne out
by the proposals he had already
made to the Government, which, be-
it said to their everlasting shame
were treated with incurious contempt.

I herewith

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herewith send you a cutting from a Colonial journal, which has an article generally accepted to be the General's side of the question. With his usual straight-forwardness the Pasha took the country into his confidence, and it is not likely any statement published by the Government on its side of the question will materially affect his. We natives regard the General's severance of his connection with the colony as a baleful misfortune, and we think most persons who know General Gordon's antecedents will sympathize with this view.

Another matter that has engaged the attention of the colony is a little squabble between the Farmers of Carthcart (Kaffrania) and the Government about-

about a plot of ground that the
Government had decided upon loca-
ting some ^{new} natives on, and the farmers
dissented urging that the natives
were thieves, resolved, in their meet-
ing, to resist the Govt., if necessary
the bayonet. The Govt. took up the
gambit, and said they wd. maintain
the natives there till some thing
more definite against these people
was brought forward. On the day the
farmers had intended to clear the natives
with rifles, Govt. very properly sent
a force to protect them, on seeing whom
the farmers beat a precipitate re-
treat & we hear no more about the
matter now. Excuse the lengthy letter.

With very sincere wishes for your well-
fare, Believe me, my dear Mr. Sherson, Yours
very faithfully
J. Tongo-Jabavu