

(113/18a)

On the death of my father Mowka, three years ago, Sepinaw & John Cameron called me and some of my Stepbrothers and Uncle together, to sign a document for Supremacy, as he stated he received a letter from President Brand, wishing to see Sepinaw in preference to me Samuel Mowka, and that after signing the document, he would call on the next man to do the same. I replied at once I do not understand such treatment as I am the only son and heir and in my own rights nobody is above me in my father's country. Although pressed by Sepinaw to sign the paper, my friends all objected and wanted that all the Baralongs of Naba-nahu and in the Honsucal should be called together to decide the point, but Sepinaw objected. After an elapse of two days I wrote to President Brand and the following Chiefs Setzie, Mc Shocte, Mictoba and acquainted them of my father's death, but by the connivance of Arthur Cameron the postmaster of Naba-nahu my letters were intercepted and given to Sepinaw. I went immediately to Sepinaw to get my letters back, but he refused and declined to give a reason. Thereupon Sepinaw wrote to President Brand and a meeting was called together, and I wrote to my people in Baralong to meet me there; when Sepinaw saw a large number of my adherents together, he tried to disperse them by men who were in his pay, and failing to do so, he commenced to shoot them, but without effect, but fearing the loss of some of my people, I interfused and Sepinaw sent two policemen to Mr Brand, thereupon Mr Brand sent his messenger Mr. Raff to me advising me not to fight as many of Sepinaw's friends were laying in ambush, ready to fight, and that the Cree

State would probably attack me also, as Sepmare had invited President Brand to come and decide the case. I replied that the president should send an independent officer, who was willing to listen to the wishes of my people and not the president, as he may be prejudiced against me by the letters and messages he had received from Sepmare, but he would not listen to me, as Sepmare had requested him to come to Shaba-nohu and I should consent also. for the sake of peace I at last agreed, but with this understanding, as my case was a native affair, and did not come under the control of white people. I should on my part call several of my chiefs from Basuta land and the Transvaal, but the president and Sepmare refused, eventually the president would allow that my friends should select somebody to judge my case, but as I had no dispute with Sepmare, I told him all the Baralongs should be called together and give their advice, but Sepmare declined and wanted the case to be decided by the president. I told Mr Brand as Sepmare is not a descendant of the Baralongs he is afraid, at which he took offence and told me I must give permission for him to arbitrate, and told me if he finds anybody of my people buying arms and attack each other, he would shoot me; at last feeling worried and crushed I gave my consent, but sent some messengers to the chiefs in the Transvaal to be present at the meeting, but on their arrival they found already that Sepmare had been before me and told them if they dare to come that the Boers would lay in ambush along the Vaal river, and would be killed, consequently they were afraid to come and send letters, but the president would not receive evidence by letters; only

five chiefs came, namely Melaba, Impeletoy, Mettabane,  
Seiphamo and Maltobore, but the president refused to  
hear them, but when I looked round the meeting which  
was held in a tent, I observed an Advocate or ad-  
vicer of Sepinore named Mr. Matthy, a member  
of the Volks-Raad, I pointed out to the president  
why this Whitemore is allowed to be there, as it is  
only a native affair, but the president replied that  
he was only an ordinary man and was allowed  
to stop and gave his advice. The night before the  
decision Sepinore gave to president Brand all  
the monies, which he fraudulently obtained during  
my father's illness and after his death to Mr. Brand,  
and told the president that if I should become  
Chief I would hand my country over to England.  
The next day president Brand gave judgement  
in Sepinore's favor, and it was done in such a  
hurry, that he ordered his conveyance to be held  
ready for fear of interruption. But I refused to ac-  
cept such a judgement as I considered Sepinore  
not my Chief to my Chieftaincy; he was only an  
Assistant to my father, and all my people called  
out, "no! no! Sepinore is not our Chief, he will  
kill us," but the president would not listen and  
before departing he told me to keep quiet and ad-  
vise my people to go away in peace, and soon after  
some Volunteers were sent from Blomfontein to Shaba-  
nchie, under disguise that they were going to  
Macera. During that week a child of my  
people died and the parents informed the Rev. John  
Daniels a Wesleyan minister of the event, and as  
soon as Mr Daniels received the report, he communi-  
cated at once with Sepinore and told him it is  
a fortunate thing, as he can take in Custody all

these Headmen at the funeral who are against him,  
and when the body was carried to the grave and the  
minister was still praying, some volunteers came  
and took to prison some of my head men, namely  
Hezekiah, Mokalaka, Johannes and Thomas.  
Performed the president of the affair, but took no  
notice of it, but I was informed afterwards that it  
was done by the advice of the Rev. Mr. Daniels.  
The same evening the same white men attacked an  
other of my villages and killed three men and wound-  
ed three, I informed again the president with similar  
success, and early the next morning they attacked  
me and killed thirteen besides the three above  
mentioned - and wounded many. I fled at once  
to Bloemfontein and ask the president why he  
did send those volunteers to my territory to kill  
my people, but he denied any knowledge of the  
affair. - During the time I was at Bloemfontein  
Sepinane expelled from my country all the Basalongs  
and confiscated all their goods. When I told the  
president of these he said Sepinane must give back  
all the people's goods, because he acts against my  
commands and when I asked how shall my people  
live, when they are to be scattered all over the  
Dreestate, he replied that I could hire a farm  
about 8 days from the town of Delffontein, belong-  
ing to Mr. E. Cox. I was there two years wait-  
ing and asking to have my case reheard, but  
was always put off and asked to wait. Thence  
I moved to a farm near Modderivier, of Mr.  
H. J. Henegar and engaged an advocate at  
Bloemfontein named J. J. de Villiers, who brought  
my case before the Volksraad, who declared by  
me the chief by the overwhelmed testimony of the

native chief and further declared that if any thing could be pointed out against me, I should be properly punished, but not be deprived of my rightful title and possessions, and the Volksraad further more promised to tie me and my people back to Shaba-Neha. On my proceeding thither, the president was communitated with by Sepmare, asking him to assist him as I was coming with many followers to fight him; the president at once sent some agents to find out the cause, but seeing there was no sign of any hostilities on my part, they told Sepmare that I was not coming to fight, but establish myself with my people at Shaba-Neha, and were accompanied by three members of the Volksraad named: J. J. Blignaut, C. VanderWatts and M. Steyn. Sepmare told these Gentlemen that I and my followers deceived them, that it was my intention to kill him and disturb the whole country, that I buy ammunition and arms from private sources, go back and tell the president and the Volksraad of the same and he would pay for their troubles. As Sepmare commanded these gentlemen to tell Mr Debrand of the case, the president sent directly two men to me, Mr Dapperfus and Mr S. Steyn and stated whereas the president has been informed that my motives were of a wicked character and wished to be personally informed of my intention, they declared that they have nothing seen which has the slightest resemblance of war and vile report, that with their own eyes have seen nothing to cause fear, but unfortunately they believed different at Bloemfontein and sent an other man named Koois Dince a Field Cornet, who informed me that I

must move away and that any delay would en-  
danger my life and was not allowed to go to Sha-  
ba-noko; after him an other man came Mr J J Winter  
all to the same effect. A week after I heard some  
Volunteers arrived at Shaba-noko from Wepener  
threatening to come by night to kill me, the com-  
mander being Mr J Roff. Thereupon I fled down-  
ly and came to appeal to St. M. Government and  
my friends to get their support and interest in my troubles  
and to assist me to regain that position in my Coun-  
try to which I am entitled to as my father's only  
son and rightful heir. When I think the friendship  
my father enjoyed from the English Government during  
the time - as an independent Chief - of Major Warren,  
General Smith, General Cathcart, Sir George Pray  
and Sir Philip Woodhouse, I sincerely hope the same  
feeling will be extended to

Your obedient and faithful servant

Samuel L. Moroka

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