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Ungwamans Road

Sep 27- 1858

I have the honor to inform your Excellency that I have obtained, on behalf of the Mapootaland and Zululand (a registered British Company) concessions from the independent Zululand Chief Ungwamans and Meston, whose territories lie north of the M. River & therefore outside British Zululand for railway canal & harbor.

One object of the Company for which I am acting is as I have already informed it is to act by a of State for the Colonies, to facilitate the extension of British trade in S. A. by establishing a route to the Gold Fields and interior which shall, for cheapness of carriage possess equal if not superior advantages to those now held by Delagoa Bay.

The Company will therefore receive the support of the Chambers of Commerce of London & Lancashire who are fully alive to the benefits which such a route would confer on the woolen and cotton trades of Great Britain. To obtain these concessions for my Company I and my party have reached the territories of these chiefs at considerable personal risk owing to the disturbed and excited state of the country. but I have learnt what I feel sure will cause both surprise and regret to your Ex^{ty}.

It appears that after the Zululand terminating with the battle of Mthandeni, these chiefs proposed their submission to Mr John Durnan. They assure me that they have not since borne arms against the British Gov^t yet a few days ago the Zululand chief Mthepu accompanied by six other warriors and several hundred disarmed

Kafirs

2
Kafirs made a raid upon their outlying Kraals, burnt some of the bomboes and murdered under circumstances of great atrocity such as burning alive, many women and children of the Ugwamau's people carried off some of the latter into captivity and cleared the country as far as they penetrated of cattle and money.

The chief has expressed to me their surprise that England who professes such regard for the lives of women & children should sanction such atrocities as those perpetrated by a chief whose only power is derived from the support he receives from Great Britain.

By my advice they now offer through me their submissions to the British Gov. I have been able to persuade them to this by assuring them in the name of my country that English justice will demand restitution to be made them of:

- I. The children carried away into captivity
- II The cattle raided
- III The money stolen.

In support of the statement made by these chiefs I may add that what I have myself seen fully confirms it, such as deserted & ruined Kraals Ugwamau hiding with the residue of his women and cattle in the dense bush in such a spot fear that it was some time before we could persuade them through messengers to present himself to me —

I feel sure that your Ex^{cy} will be only too ready to redeem the pledge which I have given these people in the name of England that justice will be accorded to them at the same time I would respectfully bring to your Ex^{cy} knowledge the bad effect which the raids have on the natives outside British Zululand. Before we entered the territory of Ugwamau we were informed of this raid by the

