

(Copy.)

Francis Plani, St. Helena.

Oct. 15. 1896.

To His Honor, Sir M. Charles, R.A. K.C. M.G.

Her Majesty's Resident Commissioner.

Ushoor, Zululand.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform Your Honor that after receiving my full approval of coming to assist & stay with the Zulu Chiefs, I landed on the 14th day of July last, & on the next day I was called by Mr. W. J. Madden, the Zulu Guardian, who stated that I was not to interfere with the Guardian's work of the Zulus, but merely do what is my own work — teaching & writing letters for the Chiefs in Zulu, & forward the same to the Guardian for transmission to the Commissioner at St. Helena. I was also told that as I was not prisoner, my letters will go free & separately as well as safely in returning to me, & that I will buy my own stamps for my own letters. But of

For the above explanations, I must inform Your Honor that I found my private letter from Miss H. E. C. in England brought to me after detained it for about the whole week & officially read & opened without my knowledge, the case I never have known of before. Suppose Miss C. was so disloyal as the Gov^t may seem to think (which I am sorry to say) it was so abused on the part of the Gov^t to have a very bad suspicion against a lady who has all along done her utmost righteousness towards both English & Zulu nations, with her best power, after her father's death, since from the time of the Zulu war, that is 17 years, - although it is expected that Miss C. could never send through me a dangerous & mischievous message to Z. Chiefs, an act which cannot be done by any respected person. If not so, why was my letter opened then? I am informed that it was the intention of the Gov^t of Natal to explain my letters, which I am quite pained of. The following was my letter to the Gov^t of S. H.

Francis Plani, 5th Oct. 1896.

To H. E. the Gov^r of St. H. - the Castle.

Sir - I beg to inform Y. E. that I merely rec^d (for the first time) Miss C's letter of the last mail from England, & was so shocking to find it quite open after seven days detention.

(2) I may as well explain to Y. E. that at my first arrival into this Island I was told not to interfere with the Guardian's work of the Zulus, but just keep on writing all what is necessary for them & forward it to the Guardian for translation, & that my own letters will go for & back because I am not pri^zed; & for this reason therefore I had always bought stamps & posted my own letters. But I understood that my letter referred to was opened for purpose of getting English translation from Zulus.

(3) I feel very much hurt & disgraced

as I have been told another thing & that
the other (which is being done without
being informed of), that I might say I never
heard of such a deed being done to
any of H. M.'s subjects in all my life
time till this date.

(4.) I may also inform Y. E. that this
is the first time I ever rec^d this bad
treatment. The English Gov^t is Christian
one, & is always expected to treat every
one with justice. And I thought this was
forbidden by all English laws - to ex-
plore one's heart without proper reason
except when one was found dead sudden-
ly. And for this cause, I pray Y. E. to
advise me what to do to escape
this trouble. I am, Sir, Y. E. &c.
Mazema Magwaza.

Oct. 6th I took in the above letter person.

ally to H. E., who kindly told me that it was the Natal Gov^t intention that my letters should be opened, & advised me to write to the Gov^t of Natal on the subject.

Should Natal Gov^t think good & make its mind to do all justice towards me as well as its other bodies in accordance to all civilised & Christian rules set apart for our use, I pray Your Honor let my letters be not opened without my leave.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your Honor's most obedient Servant

(Signed) Magema Magwaza.

Copy made from Mapua's own copy sent to
Miss Lumsden, Oct. 1896. — A. W.
Nov. 23. 1896.