

Letter dated 17 May 1897

Archive: Killie Campbell Africana Library, Durban.  
Letter reference: FUZE, Magera Magwaza Papers, KCM 90/13/1/5.  
Letter date: 17 May 1897  
From: Magera Magwaza. Francis Plain, St Helena.  
To: Miss A. Werner. 15 Sutherland Road, Tenbridge Wells.  
Other details: Hand-written, in English  
Transcriber's note(s): The letter that Magera Magwaza asks Werner to forward to Miss Colenso is not part of this collection.  
Letter contents: Magera Magwaza informs Werner that he was discharged from hospital on 4 May 1897 and that his foot is crooked because it was not properly straightened at the hospital. He confirms what he already told Werner in previous correspondence, that the speaking spirits in the bush, she queried about, could not be of Zulu kings because their graves were known where they were located. He tells Werner that the exiles were still not sure when they would be repatriated. He promises Werner that he will send to her, King Mpande's izibongo.

OFFENSIVE WORDS/TERMS: Nil

Francis Plain  
St Helena  
May 17<sup>th</sup> 1897

Miss A. Werner  
15 Sutherland Road  
Tenbridge Wells

Dear Nkosazana

I come [came] out of the hospital on the 4<sup>th</sup> inst., after trying to walk on crotchets. I can now walk a little without crotchets but the ankles still stiff and swells, though not much at present, and I trust that after two weeks' time I will be able to walk much than this. However, I can tell you that at the hospital they failed placed [to place] the foot in its proper place and so the leg stands crooked a little; thus why I think it takes much time ^to^ be getting better.

I think you understood what I wrote in my last letter to you about the Zulu kings' speaking spirits in the bush, that it cannot be Zulu kings as Senzangakhona son of Jama, son of Ndaba, son of Punga, son of Mageba ~~is~~ all buried at their old land Mahlabatini together, Tshaka's grave is in Natal, and Dingane's at Lebombo, and Mpande's at Mahlabatini, Cetshwayo's ~~is~~ at Nkandhla mount or Forest. I will enquire into [seems a word is missing here] as soon as am getting better.

I was very sorry I failed writing down King Mpande's izibongo as the others, but hoping to do so afterwards and send you the same.

We do not know when we will be said that we should leave St Helena, because everyone is longing for home. But I do not think it will be long at present particularly for the Queen's Jubilee.

You will please forward the enclose[d] to Miss Colenso

Yours Truly  
Magemagwaza

LEGEND:

^ ^ insertion

[ ] notes/words by transcriber, not part of correspondence

TRANSCRIBER:

Sizakele Gumede for FHYA, 2022.

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