

P.S. many thanks
for the Xmas card,
just received. S.


3 Norfolk Villas,
Musgrave Road
Durban.
30th Dec. 1905.

Dear Dr. Haddon,
I told you before you
left S. Africa that I managed
to get the egg-shells we saw
at Mashumi's kraal. I packed
them up but the box was
not dispatched at once. I
kept it back as I was afraid

it might go astray unless you were present to receive it. And what after all is there in it, a few old and dirty shells and a few spare grass sticks! These shells were preserved, in the way you saw, because it was felt the doing so would "strengthen" the chickens hatched from them and prevent them from dying as young as is so often the case. I hear the

superstition is not an old one, having sprung up probably within the last 20 or 30 years. Two lots of shells are being sent, both from Mashumi's, but from separate huts or 'houses'. The grass is what we know as tambookie or, as Lulus call it, isigunga (the letter g here being sounded as a click).

I am looking out for the small whip with a

piece of wood attached to the
end of the string e.g. 
you wrote about and
will send one to you.

This is a boy's plaything called
by some Natives imvingco
(where the c is a click).

I hope that you had, on
the whole, a pleasant time
in South Africa. I am afraid
every Department of the Great
Association to which you
belong

belong found as very backward in Science. Still one sometimes sees signs of progress and I feel sure should the Association pay us another visit, say 5 or 10 years hence, it will find things very different to what they were a few months ago.

I shall be writing you shortly on the subject of our conversation. I am preparing a memorandum, dealing fully with each point.

With kind regards,
I am, yours sincerely, J. Stuart.