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MR ANTEL

ANTELY MR

A 73/54a-c

In a conversation with a Mr. Antel, a man of about 60, a few minutes ago, I elicited the following: That he was living at Nonoti in the ^{LOWER} Zululana ^{DIVISION} as Capt. Walmesley's Clerk at the time of the battle between Mbuyazi and Cetchwayo (Nondakasuka, 1856). He was for 5 years Walmesley's Clerk and remained with him till his death. He assisted D. B. Scott, the executor, in regard to Walmesley's affairs, especially in regard to a large number of cattle (20 head, with increase 12 = 32) previously received by Walmesley under the following circumstances: Prior to the battle referred to, John Dunn came as a boy to Capt. Walmesley and was taken care of by him. (Dunn was a regular white kaffir and used as a boy to go about in native dress) When the battle was coming on Walmesley directed Dunn to cross the river and to take part in it with a number of W.S. trained, armed men (armed with guns). Dunn complied. Walmesley himself remained on the Natal side of the river (Pearson's Drift) and made bullets for the force he had sent across. Mbuyazi was beaten. After Cetchwayo's army had gone off, Walmesley crossed over and as he was being rowed back by one of his Hottentot servants, he saw a very young kaffir (Zulu) baby, about one year old, clinging to the reeds and in the water. ^{The river was in flood at the time.} The baby was a little girl. Walmesley directed the Hottentot to take the child into the boat, the Hottentot, at first demurred, asking what could be the use of ^{rescuing} ~~rescuing~~ such rubbish, ^{and suggested its being allowed to drown.} Walmesley insisted and furthermore ordered the Hottentot to ~~wrap~~ take off his coat and wrap the child in it, which the man did. It was seen that the child had a wound ^(gash) in its arm (left) as well as in the thigh (left). ^{Walmesley having no children of his own, he practically adopted it.} ^(in memory of her perilous predicament) Walmesley ^{saved the girl's life &} called her by the name of Nomanzi. He and Mr. Walmesley then took great care in the bringing up of the little girl. She was taught everything in the house; she could play the piano, cook and, though treated as a menial to some extent, she wore European clothing and was treated exactly as a European and lived in and with the Walmesleys. She was in every way thoroughly educated. Now Capt. Walmesley was subject to epileptic fits. One ^{after many years past 1856,} morning, fearing another attack was coming on, he went ^{to} or stayed in his house. Mr. Antel, the Clerk, was at the office. When at the office, the native Induna, Walmesley's Induna, a Zulu, came in and stood for some time without saying anything. His name ^{was} ~~was~~ Sifile or Sofile. Antel then asked what he wanted. He said there was something on his mind which he wanted to tell Capt. Walmesley about, but he was afraid to do so. Antel asked once more what it was. He said, "I like Nomanzi and Nomanzi likes me." Antel was much surprised, because the Induna was a raw Zulu, but when Antel told Capt. Walmesley, the latter was very much more surprised. He stamped and stormed. Then for two days he

considered what should be done. He and Mrs Walmsley questioned
Nomanzi. They asked her if she liked Sifile; she said yes, she wanted
to marry him. But will you go and live at Sifile's like ordinary Zulu women in spite
of all your careful bringing up, discard your dress, and forget the new manners and customs
you have learnt? I ~~do not~~ do not mind having to do this, she said. Since you say
this, then you like Sifile and no longer care for us. I like you, all of you, but I like Sifile
too, replied the girl. Sifile offered to pay 15 head of cattle as lobola for Nomanzi, a number
well in excess of what was ordinarily claimed. After the two days' consideration, Capt. Walmsley
came to Antel and said he had decided ~~with the agreement~~ that the girl was to be married off
at once to Sifile. The marriage was to take place forthwith. Moreover, he demanded of Sifile
20 head of cattle as Nomanzi's lobola. The ~~high~~ increased number was intended by Walmsley
to show Sifile what a high value he ~~had~~ placed on Nomanzi. He knew it was the custom
among Natives that the greater the number of cattle that were ^{as lobola} given, the greater ^{the} respect
that would afterwards be paid to the woman. Within 3 weeks Sifile brought the 20 head
and the marriage between Nomanzi and Sifile was ^{duly} consummated. [Some years afterwards
Capt. Walmsley died. He left a will 15 years old which ^{of course} did not refer to the cattle (increase)
received by him from Sifile, but Antel says he was plainly told by Walmsley that the
whole of the cattle received by him and their increase were Nomanzi's property. When
Scott was winding up the estate, Antel told him about this, to which matter the ~~old~~ Dingley
was also a witness, and although Mrs Walmsley remonstrated, yet Scott felt bound by
what Antel said and the whole 32 head of cattle were accordingly handed over to Nomanzi,
much to Sifile's delight. Antel fancies Sifile and Nomanzi are both still alive &
live near where Capt. Walmsley had his office. Antel told me this story as showing how
impossible it was ~~to~~ so civilize a person as to cause him or her to forget their nationality.
I do not think Antel could have been Walmsley's Clerk at the time of the battle of
Mondakusuka, for he said he was clerk only for 5 years and remained at Nonoti ^{a further} 2 years
after Walmsley's death. 12.7.1900 Vol. 73, pp. 54B-C

12.7.00. I saw Mr. Antel again this morning. He says that he was not with Walmsley at the
time of the battle of Mondakusuka but about 17 or 18 years afterwards. Nomanzi, for instance,
was about 20 years old when she married, & this occurred when Antel was with Walmsley. The
preceding incidents were told him by Walmsley. He was with ~~the~~ ^{WALMSLEY} in 1873, just before the coronation
of Cetshwayo, when Dunn came to ask for a permit to convey 500 guns into Zululand. Antel
went on to say that many years ago, perhaps 40-42, Walmsley, Cockburn and Harry Milner,
the last named of Durban, went to Zululand on a hunting trip. They crossed ^(THE) Tugela and pitched
their camp near the banks of the Matakulu. Whilst there Walmsley drew the attention of the
others to the fact that he had seen going about in that locality a boy (white) and apparently

an European, dressed exactly like a Kaffir (Zulu). Harry Milner examined the boy and said at once his name was John or Jack Dunn, and that he had been missing for several years, no one knowing what had become of him. Upon hearing Milner say he was absolutely certain it was J. Dunn, ^{of Durban,} Walmsley decided to catch him. (Walmsley was always catching something or somebody). After a little trouble, Dunn, having tried somewhat to resist, was duly caught. Walmsley then said to him in English, for Dunn had not forgotten his mother tongue, that he would have to do one of two things; (a) consent to live ^{at Nonoti} with Walmsley ^{where he would} and be properly cared for, or (b) be sent straight back to Durban. Dunn chose the former alternative. He afterwards lived about 6 years with Walmsley who educated him in every way. ^{N.P.} Walmsley had a "windfall" about this time of £80,000 which Dunn helped him to spend. ^{N.P.} He got many Hottentots to come and work for him; he had some 80 ^(?) horses and made Dunn thoroughly drill & train these men. Dunn always looked on Walmsley as his benefactor and was thankful for having been reclaimed by him. ^{N.P.} Antel knew Dunn well. I believe Dunn died ^{late} in 1893 or early in 1894; he was aged about 56 when he died. I know he had a Hottentot mistress who was his chief wife. I notice by referring to The Natal Civil Service List, 1897, under heading "Services of Officers - Shepstone, J. W." that Mr. Shepstone was ^(appointed) Government Agent, Nonoti, and Justice of the Peace, 30th August, 1852, ~~and~~ resigned June, 1853. Mr. Antel says Walmsley was appointed at Nonoti about 6 months after Mr. Shepstone left. Walmsley ^{Mr. Antel says} bought a farm at Nonoti called "Chantilly", also, I think, one named "Sans Souci". The office was off the ^{main} main road, more on the coast, but on a road leading from New Guelderland. Mr. A. says a Dr. Pierce was one of the first white people to go to Zululand. I know there are Pierces, Tookeys, Lielinks &c living near Dunn's place at Inyezane, ^(the) close to Matikulu river, and Green lives at Ngoye. Some of these have married J. Dunn's daughters, ~~was~~ a number being very good-looking.

^{9.11.00}
The following is a copy of the account ^(in full) given p. 399. Col. Office List, 1885 of Sir J. S.'s services: -
Shepstone, Sir Theophilus, K.C.M.S. (1876), (C.M.G. 1869). - Head-quarter interpreter of the Kafir language at the Cape, Jan. 8, 1835, and served on the staff of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, governor and commander-in-chief during the Kafir war of 1835; clerk to the agent-general for native tribes on the frontiers of the Cape Colony, 1836; sent to accompany the first military expedition from the Cape to Natal, 1838; created justice of the peace; returned to the Cape Colony in 1839; resident diplomatic agent to the Hlambe tribes, and superintendent of Fingoes at Fort Peddie, in the frontiers of Cape Colony, 1839; diplomatic agent to and over the tribes inhabiting the colony of Natal, 1845; appointed to direct the administration of justice among the natives in that colony, according to native law, 1849; carried out a scheme for the taxation of the native population in the colony; appointed judicial assessor, Natal, under ordinance No. 1, 1855; was captain-in-chief of