

Letter to Peter on 10th March:

There is a matter I want your views about when your holiday is over. We have been offered a Xosa MS. on circumcision. The purpose of the *antoon* *at* *payi* is to plead with the church to take over this thing and to pay for it - to make it part of the church's business to see that the operation is performed under good auspices, and to give at the same time training in manhood. Bennie sympathises with this view and contends that it is so entrenched a national custom with the Xosa that it will never be eliminated.

What is the custom among your people? Do you as a church doctor perform the operation so as to prevent young fellows going into the heathen schools? What happens to the sons of church members? Any information you can give me will be very welcome.

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