November 20, 1890.] IMVO ZABANTSUNDU (NATIVE OPINION). 3

Ibala Labadlali

Oko beke kwavakala ukuba u Mr. P. M. Bowden, i wicket keeper eyayibalulekile ye English Team ka Major Wharton, ubhubhile, nya kuvuviswa umhlambi kukuva ukuba incwadi efike ivela ku Hon. C. Coventry iti akunyaniso ukuba mbhubhile u Mr. Bowden.

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U T. M. M. (Grahamstown) unendawo angazivisisiyo mayelana nemidlalo emikulu emiselwe ukufa kwenyanga ezayo ookutwasa kwelandelayo yona. Uti:— Ndifuna ukuva kulo mnyadala webhola ukuba kunganina i Romani eli Jisale ukuba asiliboni emapepeni ako, nokuba ndenziwa kukoyika sinina lona, nokuba lishiwya ngabamemi sinina? Ukuba lisele ngokwalo kulo mnyadala, ndingati mna ligwala, kuba ngeke leva kona. Indoda asinto yoyikayo. Ukuba lishiywe ngabamemi boni’le kuba intliziyo ye Romani isebuhlungu ngomnyadala ska 1886, owawuse Qonce. Ndikolwa ukuba nalo kulonyaka belinga lingawushiya umnyadala kwenye i club. "Nokuba belideliwe ngslingashiywanga I ngelitunyelwe isicelo laza alavuma ngokwalo, ukuze sibe nokuti i Romani loyikile. 2. Ndifuna ukuva ukuba yintonina lento i Uitenhage ikupa i club -ezimbini, nokuba iseyinteto kodwa na kanti ezinye indawo azivunywa nje? Mandipele ndicela ezinye izimvo ikulento.

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Ngolwesi-Tatu 5 Nov., kwakudibene i “ Pirates ” C.C. (i club epambili kwezabamhlope apa e Qonce) ne “ Native "Tournament XT.” Kwaqalwa ngo 12 noon yi N. T. XL I wickets zokuqala zabamba kakuhle, amanani ahamba ngoluhlobo: 1 for 33, 8 for 103, yahlanganisa 112. Zangena i Pirates, kubehle kwakubi emzini wama Yerebe, 1 for 6, 2 for 10, .5 for 43. Laqala apo i boli le fielding u Simpson owenze 39 uyekwe katatu engekenzi nto kuyapi no Gerardi le 24 yake uyifumene emveni kokusindiswa. Uku­ba le team iya emnyadaleni ne fielding enje, mayiqiniseke ukuba iyakunyhadwa kakade. Sicinga ukuba ne bowling ifumane yamana ukovuywa ngapandle kwe mfaneleko.

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Liselininzi ixesha lokuba esisipako silungiswe yile team. Siyakolwa kangako ziseko i match ezisaya kudlalwa pambi kokuba kuyiwe e Bhai ezomana izimelela kuzo. Esi sona soku fildisha ngenxa yaso sodwa kungalunga nokuba le team imana ukudlala ne Scratch matches ukuze iqelane nokunqanda ibhola nokubaleka pakati kwe wickets. I skora : “ Native C. Tournament Team ” : Genge c and b Burnard 16, Bali b do 15, Fisher c Grinsell b Burnard 0, Ngcumbe b do 11, Sidaiya b Sutton 15, Seti b W. Simpson 26, Bopi c and b W. Simpson 1, Xiniwe b Simpson 13, T. Zondani b do 0, N. Zondani not out 4, Mantsayi b Simpson 0, Extras 8, Total, 112. “Pirates C. C”: Burnard c Sidaiya b T. Zondani 4, Sutton b do 4, Burns b Bopi 1, T. Simpson b Zondani 10, Grinsell c Bali b Zondani 4, Gerardi b Genge 24, W. Simpson not out 39, Rushton b Bali 7, Fox c Zondani b Ngcumbe 0, Brady c Zondani 4, Crozier b Bali 4, Extra 14, Total 115.

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Ngamangeno esibini lapela ixesha kunye nokupela kwe N. C. T. XI yenze 53, yaba iyatinjwa impi yomnyadala 3 runs ikumangeno okuqala.

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Kum’bhaleli wase Tinara, sibona uku­ba i Tinara ne Rini livumeleue ukudlala i i Tennis e Bhai kwange holiday ezo, nokuba kunqweneleka ukuba nezinye indawo zitumele abadiali ngati inokupu lapuleka lendawo ivela kwabase Bhai.

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Abadiali be cricket abamhlope bavumelane ukuba ne tournament e Qonce nge bolide ze Kresmesi.

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Ethiopian C.C. vs. Wide Awake C.C. —Nge 8 November odluleyo kwaqnbisana ezi club zingentla emhlabeni we Tiyopiya. Yatyiwa i wedding cake nge 22 runs.—*Ethiopian C.C.,* J Mpindwa b M Konza 4, J Katyana run out 0, - Rev. Gawler b Konza 20, D Kadi c Nquka b Konza 21, K Tshona b Kinana 16, S Lwana b Konza 5, Andrew Ross b do 0, W Tywayi b Kinana 0, S Maqanda b do 0, A Mazantsana not out 2, R Christian b Konza 0, Extras 11, Total 79.— *Wide Awake C.C.,* M Konza b Christian 0, E Dassa b do 3. C Nquka c Ross b do 1, M Yobo c Kadi b Tywayi 0, C M Habana b Christian 16, T Senga b do 13, Z Vazie not out 5, A Vaayboom c Ross b Christ aan 0, J Venn c Gawler b do 2, W Kinana st Lwana b do 0, T Magada b do 0, Extras 7, Total 47.

Ofike Kwikulu Leminyaka.—U Mr. .Jacobus Potgieter lixego lase Modder-fontein ngase Philipstown, elazalwa ngo December 1, 1781, kumandla waseTinara; ngokoke iminyaka ilikulu linaminyaka mibini. Unyana walo omkulu uminyaka 88 ngoku ; omnci 48. Akuxelwa bu- ntsatantsata banto ngetuba lobobudala bayo indoda leyo.

Native Opinion,

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20. 1890

The proposal to appoint Location inspectors. Inspectors in the King- willamstown division, and generally enforce vigorously Act No. 37 of 1884 entitled, the Native Locations Act, has claimed special attention from the country during the past week. This has been occasioned by the agitation raised against it by the natives—some think by Native Opinion, as for example the two leading Port Elizabeth newspapers ; but in such matters this journal never pretends to do more than portray the feelings of the people

in respect of a particular act of the Government, with a view to enable it to meet it in the best way they can. It is the only way—Govern­ment being out of touch with Native feeling—of enabling the authorities to arrive at the wishes and feelings of these people; and who would deny that the successful and satisfactory Government of a people depends upon such know­ledge of their feelings and wants?

During the past week the matter at issue has been placed before the public in a manageable form. The views of those who favour the en­forcement of the Act among the large Native population of Kingwilliamstown, have found expression in the *Eastern Proc Ince Herald* (Port Elizabeth), and the *Port Elizabeth Telegraph,* not to parti­cularise the minor organs in the country; and as their opinions are, in the main, of the same tenor, it will be convenient for purposes of argument to deal with the article in the *E. P. Herald* which appears to us to be the more exhaustive of the tw7o, on the axiom that the greater includes the less Then, again, there is the Government view, as given in the telegram of the Acting-Premier, presumably Mr. Sauer, in reply to a message from the Native Conference held at Pirie. The Government view may be dealt with in a word or two. It assumes that the system works well elsewhere because there has been no agitation against it. This is surely setting a premium on agitation ; and no doubt the Natives will take the hint But whenever opportunities presented themselves to our people to speak they have invariably mentioned the hardships needlessly imposed on them by this particular measure; and the present Attorney-General would bear us out when we say that at meetings he had with the Victoria East and Peddie Natives during the time he sat in Parlia­ment for that constituency, no opportunity was lost to represent the grievance of the Natives on the score of these appointments. Turning up the files of Native Opinion we find that at Mr. Innes’ meeting with the Peddie Natives on April 3, 1886, one of the leading Native Chiefs, an old man John Maxwayana Njokweni said, “ that their disarmament and ‘’the Location Inspectors were “ an intimation to them that Government was driving them away. “He challenged any man there to “ stand up and show wherein the “ utility of the Inspectors consisted. “ They do no good, they have come “ to oppress them. When a cow “ calves you have to carry the calf “ to the Inspectors the same day “ for .Registration, for failing that “you will ‘be eaten up.’ They “ are as bad as brandy. Send them “away. It is a light thing for “ them to strike a baldheaded man. “ Let them go.” We confess we are not aware that Mr. Innes in­formed the people of his own faith in the measure then. The Government says it is a measure of protection. But the natives in the petition to the Gover­nor published elsewhere in these columns show that, if anything, the protection is infinitismal, while the harrying of the people seems to be the sole and only object of the measure. Lastly, the Acting Premier regrets that “ this agitation “ has been raised in the King- “williamstown district against “ measures of police before any “ trial has been made of them, and “ without any definite grievance “ which could call for redress.” From this it is evident the Govern­ment has forgotten that the measure was tried in Kingwilliamstown, and on being found wanting, on the people’s own showing it was withdrawn by the good Govern­ment of Sir Thomas Scanlen’s. It should be borne in mind, more­over, that the Natives, do not object to measures of police, as such. What they naturally cannot relish is the abominable system of *espionage* practised under cover of measures of police. If the Government are sincere in the inferential promise

that they would readily deal with a definite grievance found in the working of the measure, will they now have the courage to show it seeing that the natives here do speak from a knowledge of the previous trial of the measure among them. They can do so by honestly dealing with the definite complaints set forth in the petition of the Natives to His Excellency the Governor. Otherwise the implied promise will be regarded by the people as only a convenient subter­fuge for refusing to withdraw from a false position once assumed. Such an attitude hardly consorts with the dignity of a Government conscious of its power.

COMING now to the newspaper. It is a pity that, while the Inspectors. *Herald* prefaces its article with a generous acknowledgement of our friendly disposition towards Mr. Faure hitherto, it should fail to appreciate the gravity of the circumstances which must have compelled us with pain to take up our present stand towards the Government in this matter. As there are two sides to almost every question, our contem­porary might well have paused to to learn the Native view of the matter, before proceeding to charge Native Opinion as the mouthpiece of lawless and dishonest Natives, and to extol measures of police supervision concerning which there exists no differences between its views and those held by ourselves. The *Herald’s* imaginary Location Inspectors,

Who, as a rule, are men of judgment and tact, who understand the Natives, and who do their work without creating ill-feeling do not correspond in any way with those whom the Natives dread. They are thus illustrated from those which the *E. P. Herald* writer knows at Port Elisabeth :

The Natives at Port Elizabeth do not object to the inspectors, with the exception of course of those natives who indulge in lawless habits. The law-abiding and better class native in fact welcomes the inspector, for his visits are a protection to the native himself against the more unrully occupants of the location. The people of London do not object to the presence of the policeman. The pickpockets naturally object, but *Imvo* would hardly, we persume, recommend a system of legislation specially devised to meet the wishes of the pickpocket. In the location, no doubt?, the drunken, thieving, native objects to be inspected, a-d the cattle thief in hiding would be equally well satisfied with the absence of an inspector while the professional loafer would also prefer to be undisturbed. To the rest we should imagine the inspector would prove a boon, a strong friend to the law abiding, and a bitter enemy to the lawless.

Against such officers we take the opportunity to say Natives have no objection. Indeed, we are not aware that any complaint has been preferred by the Kingwilliamstown Natives against the offices held by Mr. R, J. Dick, Mr. J. G. Ferity and Mr. C. A. King in this divi­sion ; and they answer exactly to the description of the officers \he *Herald* would like to see appointed among the Natives in these parts. But when our contemporary ventures beyond what it actually knows it falls into grievous errors For example we are told “ These “ Inspectors exist elsewhere and we “ do not find that their presence “ acts as an irritant upon the “Native mind.” The mistake into which our critic has fallen is the common one of taking as gospel truth the opinions of the Inspectors themselves about themselves, or those of their friends. These opinions, based as they are upon two hundred and fifty solid gold reasons per annum, as to the satis­factory and non-irritating effect of the system, are diametrically against the views of the Natives. We con­tend the Native view of the matter has never been consulted, and nobody seems to care to consult it ; and yet it would very much assist the smooth course of Government if this essential factor—the native view of matters—were not elimi­nated in solving the Native problem.

But in the present case we grieve to say Mr. Faure has positively refused even to hear what the natives had to say; and thus sat upon the safety-valve. Such treatment has never been extended to a red-handed criminal in the dock ; and we scarcely expected it from, of all others, the present Ministry.

But what are the duties of Loca­tion Inspectors as these officers are known in these parts, seeing that we have rejected the description given by the *Herald.* Section 13, Act No. 37 of 1884, provides for the registration of natives’ stock, and section 14 constitutes under a penalty of £2 or a months’ impri­sonment every inhabitant an in­former against his neighbour. Under section 15 notice is to be given by every inhabitant “ with­out any request to do so,” of any- stock which may come into his possession under the above penalty, and as cows calve and sheep lamb, the person has to keep the Inspector posted up. The Inspector has to seize unreported stock and deal with it as if it were stolen. Now, we trust the *Herald* will see that to work these provisions as they stand would unsettle a community in the hands of the best disposed of officers, inasmuch as it would take all the time of the native stock- owner to be informing the In­spector as to events taking place among his and his neighbours’ flocks, and that under a heavy penalty ! For what, however, is all this daily worry? For as things stand no stock can enter a Location without a proper pass under the Cattle Removal Act from a Gov­ernment officer. Under these provisions Natives have had to suffer much persecution at the hands of Inspectors and their friends. The 21st and 22nd Sections make branding (for which the farmers themselves are not prepared) compulsory in such a manner as the In­spector may require, and £2 or a month is the penalty. All stock without the Inspector’s brand is to be seized and dealt with as stolen. These sections prescribe the main duties of Inspectors ; and we confidently put it to the *Herald* and other fair-minded Colonists, whether, placing themselves in the position of the Natives, they would relish such Draconian provisions. It must be remembered besides that the cattle to the Natives are like the Bank-book to the, Euro­pean, and anything that touches the Native’s cattle affects him on a tender spot. It cannot be said these regulations deal with stock­thefts as is shown in the petition of the Natives. So we do not despair that on the *Herald* learning the real ground of our opposition its attitude of criticism o? our line of action will be changed for that of advocacy.

Notes of Current Events.

Hon. C. W. Hutton, M.L.A., has been visiting his constituents in Fort Beaufort. At Adelaide he met with a cordial re­ception, a vote of confidence being una­nimously passed in him. Mr. Hutton is a conscientious member who is ready at all times fearlessly to state his convictions regardless of the consequences; and is one of the extremely few members of Parliament to whom our people may depend for the ventilation of the Native view of matters, no matter whether such view commend itself to the powers that be or not. Our friends in the Fort Beau­fort district are fortunate in having such a representative.

In the course of his speech at Fort Beaufort Mr. Hutton made the following significant observation in respect of the present Government: “ It was a difficult thing for him to tell how the new Government would turn out—his opinion at the time not having been fully formed. The Ministry has had no opportunity of placing before the country any political Programme.” Mr. Hutton as a sup­porter of the Ministry resident in Cape­town would have been supposed to know something about what is passing in the inner circles of the party, and his ignorance of their policy can only be due to the absence of any definite course. If, however, their policy is to develop itself on the line of their action in foisting against the wishes of the Natives Location Inspectors’ appointments, where they hid been previously withdrawn by Sir Thomas Scanlen’s Government, then the outlook is not encouraging from the point of view of those who are for a straight forward and, just course of government.

The Natives and Inspectors.

A conference of Native delegates and others from the Native centres in the Kingwilliamstown district, exceeding 100, sat at Pirie on Thursday last to con­sider what steps to take in view of the proposal to revive the appointments o Location Inspectors, which were cam celled in 1882. Mr. William C. Mtoba, of

Rode, was in the chair. After a warm discussion, canvassing the motives of this step, and setting forth the hardships imposed on those who came under the Act previous to the annulling of the ap­pointments, it was unanimously resolved to petition the Government against the enforcement of the measure. The peti­tion to cover, as far as possible, the views of the delegates. A committee was elected to carry out the wishes of the people.

A telegram was sent to the Acting Pre­mier on the following day, embodying, briefly, the views of the meeting. "To it the following reply was received :— *from Acting Premier, to Wm. Cebani*

*Mtoba, Chairman Native Conference.*

“ I have received the telegram on the question of Location Inspectors. The Legislature, in sanctioning these appoint­ments, wished to have a uniform appli­cation of the law, which elsewhere works well; and, if properly applied in King­williamstown, will be so much for the protection of law-abiding Natives as of anyone else. It is a matter of regret that this agitation has been raised in the Kingwilliamstown district against mea­sures of police before any trial has been made of them, and without any definite grievance which could call for redress.”

To this the following reply was sent:— *From Mtoba, Chairman Native Confer­ence, to Acting Premier, Capetown.*

“ Thanks telegram. Would submit, in reply, appointments never acknowledged by Natives to work well. Have had practical experience of them before with­drawal by Scanlen Government in 1882, and Natives speak from knowledge. Cir­cumstances this division differ from others, as we have here a Special Magistrate and Clerks-in-Charge, who have satisfac­torily supervised Natives. Would repeat Secretary’s humble request to be allowed opportunity to state Native case before application law. Do not object to increase police. It is law-abiding Natives who regret needless harassing. Petition posted.”

We give below the petition that has been sent to His Excellency the Gover­nor

To His Excellency Sir Henry Brougham Loch, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., Governor and High Commissioner, &c„ &c., &c.

May it please your Excellency,

The Petition of the Aboriginal inhabit­ants of Kingwilliamstown, which they have, at a Conference of over 100 Dele­gates from the various native centres, held at Pirie, decided upon addressing to your Excellency on the subject of the re-appointment of Location Inspectors in this division,

Humbly showeth:

1. That your Petitioners gathered, from the proceedings of the Kingwilliamstown Farmers’ Association that the Under Secretary for Native Affairs had sent an intimation to the effect that the Location Inspectors were about to be re-appointed over the Natives of this division. It was a matter of surprise to them that the first and only information on a matter entirely affecting them should be given to the farmers ; and they, as those above whom the Inspectors are to be appointed passed by.

1. . Your Petitioners presume that this may be due to prior letters on the subject from that body, a fact which shows that Farmers wanted Inspectors for squatters on farms now under no supervision whatever. Your Petitioners express no opinion as to whether such Inspectors are required or not. But Natives on what may be termed Tribal Locations are startled to learn that Government is making arrangements to extend the system to them.
2. That as for your Petitioners they are already under a system of supervision by the Special Native Magistrate, the Head­men under him, and their policemen. The machinery they thus supplied has worked very satisfactorily, as the con­dition of stock thefts, comparatively, and crime at Locations, testified to by the Cape Police Returns shows; and your Petitioners would have thought that if anything went wrong it would not be through the fault of such a system, but of individuals or the insufficiency of the police supporting it. If the system in vogue, which, it would appear has not satisfied the Government, but which we submit has worked wonders in maintaining law and order in our midst, has failed, we cannot conceive how a solitary Inspector, not possessing the confidence of the community, is to make things better.
3. That your Petitioners have had practical experience of the operation of the system, and they know the re­appointment of Inspectors means misely and unrest for the Natives.
4. That when the Inspectors were first appointed, eight or nine years ago, a great outcry was raised by the Natives, owing to the worry they caused your petitioners; and on due representations being made to the Government they were withdrawn to the intense joy of the Natives.
5. That the natives cannot comprehend their re-appointment now, after the satisfactory decision of the matter arrived at then ; and what serves more to confuse them is their failure to understand what circumstances have arisen to warrant the extreme step involving the breach of what they deemed a sacred engagement then concluded which led to the with­drawal of these officers on their repre­sentations.
6. That the so-called Location Inspec­tors brought with them various things which harassed your Petitioners, un­necessarily as they believe:

(a) The branding of the cattle was made distasteful by the manner they in­troduced it, bringing a strange iron- brand and applying it to Natives’ cattle without even asking permission of their owner. They turned this into an engine of oppression. More­over, it transpired that Natives’ cattle alone were to be branded and not those of Europeans, and the measure thus caused suspicion and alarm. It never was made clear to your Excellency’s Petitioners what , purpose the branding was to serve, since thieves are not known to keep stolen cattle for breeding purposes, but either sell or slaughter them.