

## MGQIBELO AND NGUNA

&lt;3.6.1907&gt;

File 65, nbk. 4, pp. 20-5.

20 Talk with Mgqibelo and Nguna.

21 These two went down to see Sigananda about a week before Mankulumana did, and feel quite sure I would have been killed had I gone down.<sup>1</sup> They had an unsatisfactory interview with Sigananda. Mangati gave out that anyone killing a policeman would be like one killing a white man; consequently a white man would never have escaped.<sup>2</sup>

Both want land to live on, say Sigananda's lands, for they have had lengthy service which has never been recognised. Saunders paid them well in cattle for their services, Nguna getting 11 head.<sup>3</sup> Sir T. Shepstone used to appoint tried men over tribes, so as to ensure good behaviour.<sup>4</sup>

22 Cetshwayo had five daughters, one of whom married Maboko.<sup>5</sup> The chief of these, the daughter of the chief wife, who was one of Seketwayo's daughters, is Beyisile.<sup>6</sup> Dinuzulu tried to make her put on the top-knot, but she refused on the ground that she did not belong to him. After a little, a lover of hers put her in the family way. She went away and bore her child. It died. In the meantime Manzolwandhle was given Faku's location.<sup>7</sup> She then went to (him), and is still with him. Two or more of these five have taken to wearing European clothing (*gqoka'd*) - by Dinuzulu's directions.

Mnyaiza (Ndabuko's son) was recently assaulted by some young men. Armstrong told Dinuzulu to try the case.<sup>8</sup> This D. neglected to do. Those who had committed the assault were Mandhlakazi people who have joined the Usutuites. Haiyana and Mahu are heads of these people.<sup>9</sup> The assailants went, and were two days at Dinuzulu's, and then would not stop any longer.<sup>10</sup> To this day the case has not been tried.

There was an assault in which a man's leg was broken. In consequence of this six men are said to have been killed and been buried in the mud (*odakeni*).

23 On his way up from Somkele, the three of Mahu's people who were with Dinuzulu were assaulted by D.'s other followers.<sup>11</sup> D. did not remonstrate. Owing to this, Armstrong reproved him and said he was to give up the government waggons he was travelling in. Dinuzulu refused to give them up. This happened at or near the Mona.<sup>12</sup> This incident is likely to lead to other mischief.

Msenteli ka Zibebu has been put with Mtonga.<sup>13</sup>

Saunders says he wants to go away for a year.

Saunders has in the past called on Dinuzulu to give Manzolwandhle a home to live in. This D. has neglected to do, so S. had him appointed

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chief over Faku's tribe.

24 Mgqibelo and Nguna were present when the Governor interviewed Dinuzulu a couple of weeks ago.<sup>14</sup> The Governor said he had heard D. had six men (rebels) at his kraal. These must be given up before the Governor left or they would be fetched by the Governor's *amanxusa* (troops).<sup>15</sup> He was also told to hand up the guns remaining from the Holkrantz affair.<sup>16</sup>

Dinuzulu asked for someone to be appointed as *his advocate*. The Governor accused him of interfering with other affairs. He denied it. The Governor produced a letter signed by Dinuzulu and addressed to Yonge on Msenteli's behalf.<sup>17</sup> D. admitted having written this, but had forgotten it. He said, at the outset, he had only given evidence once on Msenteli's behalf.

25 Several of the old men of Sigananda's tribe, recently released, have returned to their old tribal lands in spite of the fact that they were directed not to do so. The land, most of it, is still kept open.

The Government, including Saunders, are acting in too timid a manner in regard to Zulu affairs, especially Dinuzulu. The giving of Faku's people to Manzolwandhle was a mistake, for it seems to D. as if the Government is supporting him. Then we find Zulus restored to their old posts instead of their being given to trusted and loyal men. Both Mgqibelo and Nguna are becoming disgusted with the Government service and wish to leave it.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup>Sigananda kaZokufa was chief of the Cube in the Nkandla division and an important rebel leader in the Natal-Zululand disturbances of 1906. Mankulumana kaSomaphunga was principal *induna* to Dinuzulu. In terms of an arrangement between the Natal government and Dinuzulu, Mankulumana was sent on a peace-making mission to the rebels between 24 and 26 April, 1906. See Stuart, Zulu Rebellion, pp. 203, 215.

<sup>2</sup>Mangathi kaGodide of the Ntuli people was one of the principal rebel leaders in the 1906 disturbances. He was a grandson of Dingane's great *induna*, Ndlela kaSompisi. He was also one of Stuart's informants: his evidence appears in volume 2 of the Stuart Archive.

<sup>3</sup>C.R. Saunders was Commissioner for Native Affairs in Zululand.

<sup>4</sup>T. Shepstone was successively Diplomatic Agent to the Native Tribes and Secretary for Native Affairs in Natal between 1845 and 1876.

<sup>5</sup>Mabhoko was chief of the Ntshangase in the Ngotshe division.

<sup>6</sup>Sekethwayo kaNhlaka of the Mdlalose people was one of Cetshwayo's *izinduna*. After the Anglo-Zulu war of 1879, he was one of the thirteen chiefs appointed to rule in Zululand under the Wolseley settlement. According to Stuart's informant, Hoye kaSoxalase, Cetshwayo had six daughters, of whom Bekisile was the fifth (Stuart Archive, vol. 1, p. 171).

<sup>7</sup>Manzolwandle kaCetshwayo was Dinuzulu's brother. The Faku here referred to was probably the Ntombela chief of that name, whose location was in the Nquthu division.

<sup>8</sup>Ndabuko kaMpande was one of Cetshwayo's brothers, and of the same

'house' as Cetshwayo himself. G.W. Armstrong was magistrate at Nongoma.

- <sup>9</sup>After the Anglo-Zulu war, long-standing tensions between Cetshwayo and his cousin, Zibhebhu kaMapitha, developed into open conflict. Umandlakazi was the name applied to all who identified themselves with Zibhebhu's cause, while uSuthu was the name applied to all who identified with the cause of Cetshwayo and his son, Dinuzulu. Statements made by Mangathi kaGodide (Stuart Archive, vol. 2, pp. 210, 212) indicate that Mahu kaTokotoko and Zibhebhu were cousins. Hayiyana kaMapitha was Zibhebhu's brother.
- <sup>10</sup>Between 1898 and 1906 Dinuzulu lived at his oSuthu *umuzi* on the Vuna river to the south-west of Nongoma magistracy. Photographs of the *umuzi* are reproduced in Stuart, Zulu Rebellion, opp. p. 450, and Binns, Dinuzulu, opp. p. 67.
- <sup>11</sup>Somkele was the Zululand railhead at the time of the 1906 disturbances. It lies some fifteen kilometres to the north of the confluence of the White and Black Mfolozi rivers. Dinuzulu used the railhead in the latter part of May 1907, when he travelled by train to Pietermaritzburg and back after being induced to come and meet senior officials of the Natal administration. See Stuart, Zulu Rebellion, pp. 427-8.
- <sup>12</sup>The Mona river intersects the road between Somkele and Nongoma.
- <sup>13</sup>Mthonga kaMpande had been one of Cetshwayo's rivals for the Zulu royal succession. At the time of the 1906 disturbances he was a chief in the Eshowe district.
- <sup>14</sup>The governor was Sir Henry McCallum. He interviewed Dinuzulu during the latter's visit to Pietermaritzburg in May 1907. See Stuart, Zulu Rebellion, pp. 427-8; Binns, Dinuzulu, pp. 232-5.
- <sup>15</sup>One of the pretexts used by the Natal authorities for bringing Dinuzulu to Pietermaritzburg was that he should pay his respects to Governor McCallum before the latter left the colony for a new appointment.
- <sup>16</sup>On 6 May 1902, in the final stages of the Anglo-Boer war, a republican commando suffered very severe losses when it was attacked at Holkrantz (Mtatshana) mountain near Vryheid by a Zulu force under the leadership of the Qulusi chief, Sikobobo. Many of the Boer guns captured on this occasion were reputed to have been taken to oSuthu.
- <sup>17</sup>C.A.S. Yonge, an advocate of the Natal courts, represented the Zululand constituency of Melmoth in the Natal parliament.