

NATIVE LIFE
IN
SOUTH AFRICA

SOME OPINIONS OF THE PRESS ON THE FIRST EDITION

"It is difficult to believe that such barbarities are possible; but Mr. Plaatje gives chapter and verse for every one of his indictments; the Act itself is quoted in extenso; various debates in the Colonial Parliament are given, and arguments for and against the Act furnished by the different speakers. The whole book is really interesting, and will come as a great surprise to many English people who know little of the South African Native as an educated, thinking human being, and will certainly excite sympathy with his present precarious state under colonial laws, which seem to be little inspired by the principles of justice and liberty which British supremacy formerly guaranteed."—*Yorkshire Observer*.

"Whatever may have been the intention of the home Government, in practice this Act has meant the restriction of Natives to their reservations, or to servitude among the white population. Mr. Plaatje states his case clearly and asserts that this movement is reactionary and a false step on the part of the Government to placate the extreme Dutch party in South Africa."—*Glasgow Herald*.

"The author makes an excellent case for the consideration of the Imperial Government. He convincingly proves that the fortunes of the native races should not have been handed over to the Dutch Republicans without adequate safeguards. He gratefully acknowledges the enthusiastic support given to the Natives by the British settlers and appeals for an inquiry. The interest of the book for the Punjabis consists, not in the similarity of the grievances, for we here have no such grievance against the Government, but in showing the way for inviting attention to the injustice involved in excluding a large class of Hindus from agriculture."—*The Tribune, Lahore*.

"It is a serious case, well and ably put, and the evidence embodied in it is very disquieting. Here at any rate is a book which makes the native agitation intelligible and may conceivably have an influence on future events in South Africa—and at home, for by no legal fiction can the Imperial power dissociate itself from responsibility for Native affairs."—*Birmingham Post*.

"The supporters of the Act do not make the principles attractive in explaining them. Mr. J. G. Keyter, Member for Ficksburg, said "they should tell the Native as the Free State told him, that it was white man's country, that he was not going to be allowed to buy land there or hire land there, and that if he wanted to be there he must be in service."—*New Statesman*.

"There is the spice if not the charm of novelty about this book. It is written by a South African native and he holds strong views on some recent public questions. He occasionally expresses himself well and forcibly, and it is all to the good that South African publi-

cists should have the advantage of reading the opinions of a native observer when dealing with legislation affecting his race."—*South Africa*.

"In this well arranged and lucidly written book the author shows from authentic sources how changeable and often unreasonable has been the treatment of the loyal Natives under the South African flag. Mr. Plaatzje is no fire-brand; he writes with moderation, and his book should attract sympathetic attention."—*Booksellers' Record*.

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**NATIVE LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA
BEFORE AND SINCE THE EUROPEAN
WAR AND THE BOER REBELLION.**



THE AUTHOR.

(Photo by WAKEFIELD, Ealing, W.)



MRS. S. T. PLAATJE.

Without whose loyal co-operation this book would never have been written.

(Photo by D. TAYLOR, Mafeking, S.A.)

NATIVE LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA, BEFORE AND SINCE THE EUROPEAN WAR AND THE BOER REBELLION

By

SOL. T. PLAATJE

Editor of *Tsala ea Batho*, Kimberley, S.A.

Author of *Sechuana Proverbs and their European Equivalents*

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TO

MISS HARRIETTE E. COLENZO,

“Nkosazana Matotoba ka So-Bantu,”

Daughter of the late Rt. Rev. J. W. Colenso

(In his life-time Bishop of Natal and “Father of the Zulus.”)

In recognition of her unswerving loyalty to the

policy of her late distinguished father

and unselfish interest in the

welfare of the South

African Natives,

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED.

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