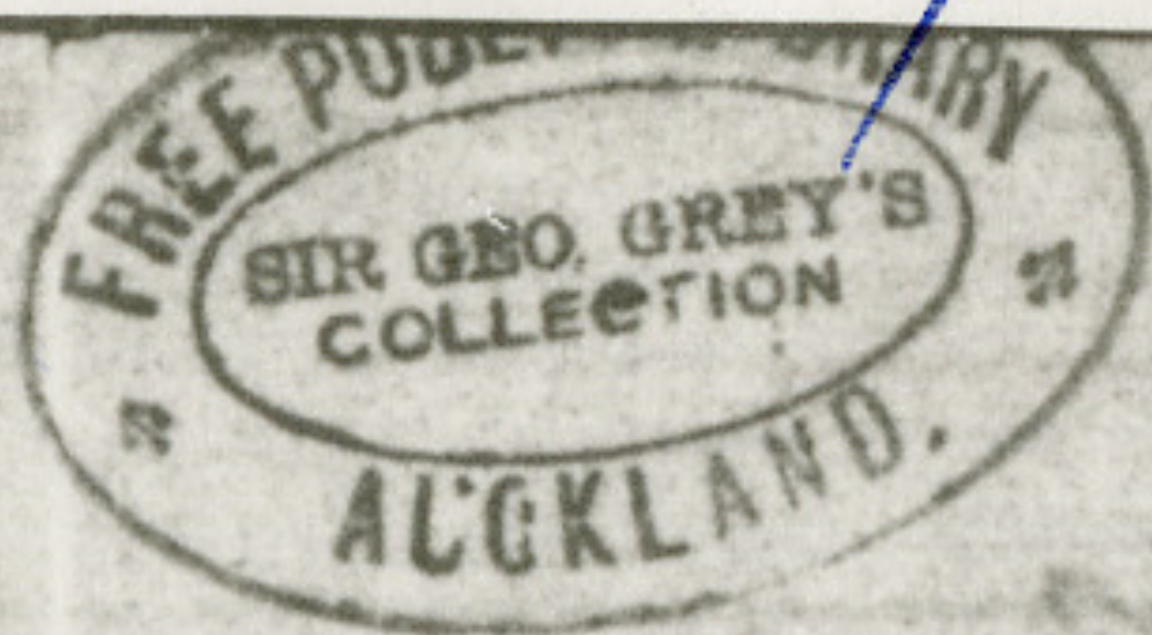




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Mowbray,
Cape Town.

21 April 1873

My Dear Mr George,
Enclosed I send you
the prefatory letter to
my Bushman Report,
which I had hoped long
before this to have
seen printed; but the
printers' hands are so
full that I cannot
yet send ^{to} do anything,
now that our Parlia-
mentary Session has
begun. I am making
an earnest struggle
as

as far as my very limited strength allows me, to get as much as possible saved of the folklore of the Natives. I am hammering at the Missionaries, occasionally with good success; I am bombarding the Governments here, in Australia and North America, not quite without result, but I see I must go on pecking

them. In South Australia Mr Musgrave has promised to do something; and the Victorian Government has expressed itself willing, &c. I cannot get our Government to do more than help me with the expenses of my Bushman Researches. I am afraid I shall have to appeal to friends of folklore in England for means to enable me to reward Missionaries &c for collecting Native folklore.

to Mr. More, before the
 fearful strides of civil-
 ization due to our
 diamonds and gold, are
 doing away with all
 native originality.
 They are spending
 here fifty thousand
 pounds upon a House
 of Parliament, and
 cannot spare a
 single thousand for
 such an object which
 does not brook delay.
 But yet I will not
 give up the matter,
 and fortunately I can
 get

get a little done here
 and there by people
 who take an interest
 in the matter. I am now
 mainly occupied with
 working at a continua-
 tion of my Comparative
 Grammar. Yet the
 Bushman is not neglected,
 although for the present
 the task of collecting
 it to Mr. More is left to
 my sister-in-law, Mrs
 L. C. Lloyd. At present
 we have only one
 Bushman, but expect
 another, our old Bush-
 man

man narrator, the best
 we have had. - I read
 in the papers glowing
 descriptions of your
 island abode, and I
 hear faint reports of
 your political doings,
 which have our hearty
 sympathy, if they
 conclude to your personal
 satisfaction. I wonder
 how you look now upon
 this Colony? - Personally
 I am living a very quiet
 life. I have four or five little

little girls, as I can wish
 for, each with a strong
 individuality of her own;
 and three of my wife's
 sisters are staying with
 us. I have had lately
 a very heavy personal
 loss in the death of
 my mother, which took
 place on the 13 February
 last at Bonn. She was
 the centre of our widely
 dispersed family, and
 one the like of which
 you rarely see. - Our
 neighbour Sir Thomas
 Musclar keeps on as well
 as

as ever, although 82 or
 83 years old, and not
 quite so strong as he
 used to be. Livingstone's
 calculations are his
 main occupation. Never
 any Governor, here was
 as much to him as
 you were; and his heart
 warms when he speaks
 of you. Your work regard-
 ing the Natives is at
 last taken up by Sir
 Garnet Wolseley in Natal.
 With our kindest regards
 believe me
 yours affectionately
 W. H. J. Bleek