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Cape Town, 22 April 1872

19. My Dear Sir George, [1871]

At last I have an opportunity for sending you the books after which you must have been waiting a long time.

The paddle steamer "MacLaud" C. Shuterfield Commander, is the first direct opportunity which I have since I heard of your departure for New Zealand. This steamer will take the case as far as Sydney, and thence the Captain who resides at Sydney, will forward it on to you. In case it should not reach you you will no doubt easily find the address of the Captain.

Besides the eighteen volumes which the Library Committee has much pleasure in returning to you, I have added, with their permission, any such books in African Languages, of which we had duplicates and which are not comprised in the above collection, and which you may be presumed not to have as yet w^tth you. A few other small publications have also been added. I am sorry to say that we have not, as you suppose,

a duplicate of De Foe's "True Born Englishman."

We were glad to hear indirectly of your safe arrival, and I trust that the increasing opportunities which, I understand, are now to be given to intercommunication between Australia and South Africa will also bring you particularly nearer to us. May we not perhaps hope to see you soon here? You wi'll have seen from the "Athenaeum" that my paper on the Australian lan-

languages was communicated to the British Association, and one on the "Consonants and the Classification of Nouns and the Origin of Pronouns, &c." was read before the Ethnological Society. I hope to see soon both papers printed.

Professor Husley expressed also the wish to have my paper on the connection of the Papuan and Polynesian languages with those of Africa. You had mentioned this

this paper to him, and as the only complete copy of it is in your hands may I remind of you promise to send it me, for the purposes of revision, &c. - You also wished me to remind you of your kind promise of sending us books from the Islands.

Our Bushman Studies are well advanced, although during the last six weeks I have hardly done anything myself

myself in this respect.
We have now two Bushmen with us, an old one and a young one (whose portrait I enclose); and they constantly are chattering in their monkey-like speech.

One of my wife's sisters, of whom two are staying with us, is already further advanced in the practical knowledge of this language than myself, and as she has a far quicker ear, I shall have to trust to her observation in many ways. She is, of course,

also able to devote more time to this study than I can. - We are all pretty well; only my wife ought to be stronger. She expects again to be confined in July next. We have just been for a month's holi'day to Kalkbay, and have been collecting in spite of all sorts of sea animals for my cousin J. Haekel, Professor in Jena, and a great friend of Huxley's and a special one of Darwin's. The lot of the Contakid lies at the top of the box, I got

from our Colonial Office
the Parliamentary Papers for
1868, 1869 & 1870. I do not
think you have any of them
as yet. They gave me also
the Cape Almanac for
1871 for you. I have
also sent a number of
duplicates of pamphlets
of general interest referring
to Africa, Australia &
New Zealand as I found
had room for them.
But I must close. With
our kindest regards & best
wishes, believe me
my dear young
ever truly yours
W. W. J. Black