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TRANSVAAL.

July 11.1932.

Mr Moras Molema,
P.O.The Stadt,
Mafeking.

Dear Sir,

I return your article herewith , as
we have already published a letter concerning these points.

Yours faithfully,

Atkinson

ASSISTANT EDITOR.

By Vere Stent.

HIS STATEMENT REPUDIATED

By Mora. Molema.

The readers of the Star shall by now have noticed the Article which appeared in this Paper on the 5th, Inst. under the above Heading, by ~~the~~ a distinguished writer.

I here want to point out to them how faulty ~~is~~ his statement is.

Although the writer professes to know so much of the origin and life History of Sol. T. Plaatje, from the bare mistakes he has conglomerated in trying to bring a lot of dramatism into the life of this man, not one of those who knew Plaatje personally will ever believe such mere fantas-mago-ria of feathers. After reading what the writer has said, those who knew Plaatje well, cannot help but doubt if ever the writer came in contact with Plaatje in any walk of life--- as he wants people to believe.

To say Plaatje was of an aboriginal and no-~~of~~ Bantu Origin, was captured and orphaned by the Bangwato, (which people live no-~~t~~ in Mafeking but in Serowe on the North Bechuanaland Protectorate) and brought up by the Missionaries, and educated as a European from his childhood, living however with certain foster parents who were Bantu, are but if nothing else deliberate fabrications; but to say he was a Vaalperse, or Yellow Belly is much more than an insult.

Not only was the late Sol. Tshekisho Plaatje a full blooded Mocoana, but he was of quite a distinguished parentage of the Barolong tribe--- of the Badiboa Branch. He was brought up by his own Bantu Parents together with his elder and younger brothers, some of whom are ~~this~~ time still living in Peniel, Mafeking and other places.

During his life-time he has had councils with Becoana Paramount and Sub-Chiefs of all the different tribes, both of olden and present days. He enjoyed the privileges of being at table with them--- yet these personages were and are branded and proverbial Jews in their customs---who could not allow just any body to be at table with them. He could therefore not have been what the writer implies.

Perhaps it is the intellectual powers and brilliancy with which he was endowed that makes the writer imagine that Plaatje could not have been a "Motho" as such attributes would not become a Black man.

The late Sol. T. Plaatje was an outstanding journalist, and because the writer is also one, he might have felt sympathetic when he heard of the death of a fellow-journalist, even though of a different colour, and the two may never have met in life.

fact

It is not clear if the writer brought the ~~death~~ of Sol. T. Plaatje's death into the public's notice as a sympathizer or merely as a dramatist. I hope ~~it~~ it is as the former--although he has let himself to be the slave of his unfounded imaginations.

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Silas T MOLEMA and Solomon T PLAATJE Papers

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