

What going over the New Life might involve.

COURT REPORTS, EAST LONDON "DISPATCH" 1890

Joe Stefan, Kafir, in the service of Mr. Middleton, absconded on the 15th inst. and was subsequently arrested on a warrant. Mr. Middleton junr, proved that the prisoner coolly walked off the premises on the date in question. His Worship imposed a fine of 10s. or 7 days hard. Fine paid.

Nov. 29th, 1898.

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Another master and servant case disposed of this morning was that of a Fingo, employed by Mr. A.T. Chambers, mineral water manufacturer, as a weekly servant, who was summoned for absenting himself from work without leave. Accused had no reasonable excuse for his conduct and was fined 20s or 14 days hard.

Oct. 6th, 1890.

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Mary Msili, a middle-aged moux-faced Kafir was charged with using threatening and abusive language to Mrs. Reynolds, outside her residence at North End. Case proved, fined £3 or 30 days hard labour, Mondays and Tuesdays varied by spare diet in solitary confinement.

March 15th, 1890.

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THE SACRIFICE OF KRELI

A PLAY OF AMAXHOSA BY FATIMA DIKE

PRESENTED BY THE NEW BLACK PROFESSIONAL CAPE TOWN COMPANY

SECHABA

DIRECTED BY MAKWEDINI MTSAKA

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR MARKET PRODUCTION

BARNEY SIMON

DESIGNED BY HILDUR AMATO

PRODUCED BY ROB AMATO

KRELI	....	King of the Gcaleka nation	....	Makwedini Mtsaka
MLANJENI	....	Iqira ( diviner )	....	Chris Baskiti
MPELESI	....	Imbongi ( praise singer )	....	Bryant Tindleni
SABELA	....	Warrior	....	Sam Philips
NDZONDO	....	Warrior	....	Makgale Mahopo
BANGQO	....	Warrior	....	Mabentsu Gomo
NDODOMSI	....	Warrior	....	Tiny Skefile
MTUNZI	....	Warrior	....	Mzwandile Nqxangane
MEVANA	....	Youth	....	Tiny Skefile
VUSO	....	Youth	....	Tuna Ngatumue
NONQABA	....	Maiden	....	Zandile Mxaku
NELISWA	....	Maiden	....	Nopinkie Nqxangane
SANDULELA	....	Maiden	....	Thoko Ntshinga
KHULUKAZI	....	Old Woman	....	Natie Rula
Mr. Southey	....	Journalist	....	Joe Hartzenbey
Dr. Soga	....	Missionary, doctor	....	Fats Bookholane

THE ACTION TAKES PLACE IN 1885 IN THE PLACE OF COUN-  
CILLORS IN "THE HOLE" - A PLACE OF BANISHMENT IN  
BOMVANALAND, NOW IN TRANSKEI.

THE PHOTOGRAPH USED IN THE POSTERS AND PROGRAMMES  
IS OF KING KRELI IN OLD AGE.

EDITORIAL, EAST LONDON "DISPATCH" Oct. 4th, 1890 (Five years after  
the action of the play)

It appears that if the Secretary for Native Affairs has a fancy for inter-  
viewing Krelu a meeting can be arranged without much difficulty. Krelu is going  
about chewing the cud of his grievances in the way that old folks will do who have  
had to swallow griefs and to the end of his days it will be his cue to complain  
that having lost his country he has no liberty worth the name.

Naturally he has a version of the events of 1877 and 1878 which to him  
serves as the truth and nothing but the truth. It is not worth while now to question  
the precise amount of his responsibility for the war; and it never was a question  
that, the war having broken out in his country, it became necessary to break his  
power ... We may entertain some sympathy for the old man in his present con-  
dition; but has he not four "great" wives to comfort him, and is he not bound to  
take another? Under such circumstances, and though the latest spouse may be a  
little one, Krelu is much more affluent and much less lorn than most of the ex-  
monarchs known to history. That his present establishment is very much out of  
the way of callers should not be a circumstance to make him sad, and as to his  
throwing off his blanket and asking the "Watchman" representative to note how  
thin he was on account of living in barren country, it was a pretty bit of humbug,  
for that Krelu does not want for friends and sustenance we may be most perfectly  
assured.

There is nothing before us to show that Mr. Faure (The Secretary for  
Native Affairs) is anxious for an interview with this aged sinner, who to give him  
credit, would be sure to ask some questions that the Native Secretary could not  
answer with the readiness that might be wished. Nor is it probable that Mr. Faure  
will put himself in the way of gratuitously encountering any of the more awkward  
political characters who are vegetating in places beyond the Kei . . . .

## A NOVELIST'S VIEW

The Galekas, the Pondos, and Tembus will be found in the map in their proper places on the eastern side of the Kei River, and, as being on the eastern side of the Kei River, they were not British subjects when this chapter was written. When the reader shall have this book in his hand they may probably have been annexed. The Gaikas, I am afraid he will not find on the map. As they have been British subjects for the last twenty-five years the spaces in the map of the country in which they live have been wanted for such European names as Frankfort and King Williamstown. Those however whom I have named are the real Kafirs, — living near the Kei whether on one side of the river or the other. The sharp-eyed investigating reader will also find a people called Bomvana, on the sea coast, north of the Galekas. They are a sub-tribe, under Kreli, who have a sub-chief, one Moni, and Moni and the Bomvanas seem to have been troubled in their mind, not wishing to wage war against the Queen of England, and yet fearing to disobey the behests of their Great Chief Kreli.

It will thus be seen that the Kafirs do not occupy very much land in South Africa, though their name has become better known than that of any South African tribe, — and though every black Native is in familiar language called a Kafir. The reason has been that the two tribes, the Gaikas and the Galekas, have given us infinitely more trouble than any other.

At the time in which I am writing this chapter Kreli and his sons suppose themselves to be at war with the Queen of England. The Governor of the Cape Colony, who has been so far troubled in his serenity as to have felt it expedient to live away from his house for the last three or four months near to the scene of action, supposes probably that he has been called upon to put down a most unpleasant Kafir disturbance. He will hardly dignify the affair with the name of a war. When in Ireland the Fenians were put down by the police without direct military interference we felt that there had been a disagreeable row, — but certainly not a civil war, because the soldiers had not been employed. And yet we should hardly have been comfortable while the row was going on had we not known that there were soldiers at hand in Ireland. For some months it was much the same with Kreli and his rebellious Kafirs. In South Africa there was comfort in feeling that there were one or two regiments near the Kei River, — at head quarters with a General and Commissaries and Colonels at King Williamstown, where the Governor is also stationed, and that there were soldiers also at East London, on the coast, ready for an emergency should the emergency come.