

O. H. M. S.

A missive from Chief Lobengula written by John Smith Moffat "marked" by the Chief and attested by his interpreter and Moffat - to the Deputy Commissioner at Khamè River. With it a letter to Sir Sidney Shippard, KCMG: about Woods party being unwelcome in the Chief's domain.

To His Honor

The Deputy Commissioner

Khamè River.

J. A. Moffat.
A.C.

Approximately 15 OCT 1888 Shippard met Lobengula with JSM, Reverend Helm of LMS and Gould-Adams, resulting in the Rudd Concession. The earliest mail from the Mafeking/Gubulawayo runner route is known from a few days after the date of these letters which must have been carried along that route.

Lobengula River. Oct. 23, 1888.

To His Honor Sir Sidney Shippard - K.C.M.G.

W. L. S.

My dear Sir,

I am thankful to read to-day you are accompanying my letter. It appears that Wood has departed. His people's advice I should in a few days have had a removal of the road, with the probable result that something much more serious would have happened than in the former case. I wish the letter had

Woods come. I tell you that he told that he knew he would not make work I tell you. This you will see. If you can, do take him and if he is off to send for him. If my own servants to arrange for the Macabo.

What I say on this letter applies to the whole party that is with Mr. Wood. Interpreter J. J. Louisa. Before me

J. A. Moffat. Asst. Comm.