

Vryburg,
June 2^d 1895.

ma,
Chief of the Bamangwato.

Chief. — It is said in the Cape Parliament that British Bechuanaland must go under the Cape Government, and the Protectorate under the Charter Company. Mr. Rhodes wants this, and is trying to get the Imperial Government to agree to it. A number of people in Vryburg do not like this at all. We want to remain under the direct control of the Queen's government until Her Majesty thinks we are able to govern ourselves; and we are signing a petition to be sent to the Government, protesting against being annexed to the Cape.

I enclose a copy of the petition for you to read. You will notice in Clause 7 that we ask for the Protectorate to be joined to British Bechuanaland. We think it will be better for all the people in Bechuanaland, white and black, to remain under the Imperial Government, than to have southern Bechuanaland taken by the Cape, and your country by the Charter Company. We do not know what you think on the matter, but if you are opposed to going under the Company, we hope you will make your voice heard as we are doing. You know that in British Bechuanaland the rights of the natives are protected. It seems now as if there are only two things for you to choose, — to be annexed to British Bechuanaland, and let all this country make one Colony under the Imperial Government, or else go under the Charter Company. Let the Government and the white people know what your views are, then there will be no danger of the Government in England making a mistake.

We