lose their good name & if I would leave the matter to them entirely they would do their best to bring all to light." Upon the advice of the older colonists I agreed to their request. I was agreeably surprised therefore, in 3 or 4 days to meet the whole lot of native officers with about one fourth part of the stolen property, which they informed me, they had found in the house of a certain person in one of the small towns who had fled upon learning that the officers had discovered the

3 mmd. colonial officers were dispatched to see if nothing further could be discovered, & to learn the name & family of the absconding delinquent. Upon their report, a further search was made on the premises of the young man's father in Cape Town, who immed. lled upon the entry of the officers with a search warrent. In his dwelling was found a very heavy bar of iron which was immediately recognised as colonial property. It came out on further investigation that he was a near relative of King Freeman, and no doubt was left on my mind, that the latter has been a party in the late robberies which has been committed on the store, and hence his unwillingness to move in the matter. King F. also appeared much displeased at the discovery of the stolen goods, though he dared not express himself openly to his headmen & people, for the affair had taken such a turn that even they were also suspicious that the king was participe in the business. Early the next morning the Sheriff proceeded to Cape T. and succeeded in arresting the father, after some resistance, who was lodged in jail for safe keeping, with the understanding, that he would be released as soon as his son came forward & gave himself up. A guard was placed outside the jail to prevent any communication without the consent of the jailor.

Things remained in this state, when another native was brought up before justice Wood & sentenced to be flogged & fined for some very petty theft. As soon as I heard of the affair, I gave the magistrates to understand that I wished no other native to be ordered to jail until the old man then in had given us some clue to discover the balance of the missing goods or had recalled his son from the bush, whether it was reported he had fled. My surprise was great therefore, when informed that the prisoner had been arrested out of the hands of the officers & others, whom he had summoned to his assistance, on his way to jail, & that the people of the small towns had armed themselves with guns & were proceeding to break open the jail & to release the oldman then in confinement.

I had hardly time for consideration how to act, when Rev. J. L. Wilson came up & confirmed the report in every particular, & some 15 minutes after, the King also came in & informed me "that the people were very angry that I had confined the oldman. While in conversation with Mr W. his boy came & informed us that the mob had broken open the jail & released the oldman; it was therefore concerted, that I should agree to place the old man in King's hands upon Mr Wilson's intercession & that the King should be responsible for his forthcoming whenever that palaver should be talked. Upon making this known to King F. he appeared satisfied with the arrangement, & said he would go & still the people by informing them of the state of affairs. In the mean time I had dispatched orders to Capt. Ward to prepare every thing for an attack, as I began now to suspect that the natives had watched their opportunity, when they knew our people were off the Cape & intended to make an attack as they knew there were not upwards of six men including Mr Holmes & myself to man the guns. The two field pieces were accordingly placed in a direction to bear upon the town & loaded, & our small force was ordered every man to his post. Upon the kings leaving the Agency house accompanied by Yellow Will & William Davis (a magistrate) I found that the excitement above spoken of, had been communicated to the large town, & apparently it was as much as they could do to keep the soldiers from rushing up to attack us. They succeeded after however in stilling the people somewhat, when Mr Wilson took his leave & proceeded to the town to reason if possible with the leading men. The bad counsel of those most opposed to the Americans prevailed on the present occasion, and they determined to shut