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## *Editorial*

### *Captain Allen Francis Gardiner: First Missionary to the Zulu*

IT IS with pride that we present in this issue Captain Allen F. Gardiner's 'Natal Journal for 1838', a valuable fragment of Nataliana, which, to the best of our knowledge, has never before been published.

Through the good offices of Mr. L. S. Johnson of New Zealand, and of Mr. R. A. Brown, the University Librarian in Pietermaritzburg, arrangements were made in 1972 for two MS notebooks in the possession of Mrs. S. Gardiner of Napier, New Zealand, to be made available on loan to the History Department, Natal University, Pietermaritzburg.

The one, a little pocket-book measuring 18 × 11 cm, and bound in soft, blue, marbled covers, is the 'Rough Journal' kept by Captain Gardiner in 1838 — the year of the collapse of his mission to the Zulu and his departure for South America. The other, bound in hard covers and measuring 22,5 × 18 cm, contains a small collection of handwritten documents relating to the Gardiner family. From these two volumes, photocopies were made of material bearing on the career of Captain Gardiner, and these photocopies, together with transcripts, are now lodged in the University Library, Pietermaritzburg, and in the Killie Campbell Africana Library, Durban.

Gardiner's 'Rough Journal' for 1838 falls into two parts. The opening pages are a record of his experiences in the dramatic events surrounding the Zulu massacres of Retief and the Natal Voortrekkers in February 1838. The second part is a diarized account of his departure from South Africa and journey to South America where he hoped to commence mission work among the Patagonians. We publish the South African portion of the journal. Unlike the second section, it is not diarized, and one must assume that a diary which Gardiner had been keeping was left behind in the hasty evacuation of Natal after the bloodshed of February 1838, for the first page is headed 'Abstract of part of the former Journal which was lost'.

It is an exciting find. Its closely written pages (the deciphering of which required the constant use of a large magnifying glass!) serve to supplement, in small measure at least, Gardiner's famous *Narrative of a Journey to the Zoolu Country* (London, 1836), which carried the story of his mission to the Zulu to December 1835. Though inadequate as a basis for any major historical re-evaluations, this fragment, so unexpectedly dug up from the past, refracts new light upon a controversial man and his position during a highly dramatic and much-debated episode in our history.

\* \* \*

Born at Basildon in Berkshire, on June 28th, 1794, Gardiner showed from early childhood a restless desire for travel and adventure. In February 1808 he entered the Royal Naval College at Portsmouth. A successful service career followed, leading to his appointment as commander of the *Jupiter*, Flag Ship of Admiral Lake, in 1826.

From all accounts, the death of his wife (Julia Susanna Reade) was a major turning point in his life, strengthening his resolution to devote his life to missionary endeavour in distant and untamed lands. It was this that brought him to Natal in 1835, 'the first of his calling to attempt evangelical work among the Zulu'.<sup>1</sup>

A rigidly upright, somewhat impetuous, uncompromising man, Gardiner seems to have lacked the tact and tolerance, the human touch, that brought success to many of the great figures in the missionary field. To complicate his task, he faced in the Zulu king, Dingane, a man with a distinctly suspicious cast of mind. His requests to establish a mission station near to the royal capital, Mgungundhlovu, were consistently evaded or rejected. But in May 1835 he reached a compromise agreement with Dingane. In effect, Gardiner was to become responsible for the good conduct of the white trader-hunters and their black followers at Port Natal. Deserters from the Zulu kingdom were not to be given sanctuary at the white settlement, but were to be sent back across the Tugela. In return, Gardiner was to be permitted to establish a mission station near Nyoni, just north of the Tugela and some miles inland from the coast.

Armed with this treaty, Gardiner returned to the port, persuaded the residents to set up 'Regulations' for the control of the town 'D'Urban', and then departed for Cape Town and England, carrying a petition from the traders which he hoped would assist him in persuading the British Government to annex the territory between the Tugela and Umzimkulu, and subject it to proper control.

While in England, in 1836, he published his *Narrative of a Journey to the Zoolu Country* and gave evidence before the Aborigines Committee of the House of Commons, which was influential in the passing of the famous Cape of Good Hope Punishment Act. He also remarried. And when he returned to Natal in 1837 he brought with him his family, including the children of his first marriage, and a commission appointing him a Justice of the Peace under the Punishment Act.

His visit to England had also been used to make arrangements for the Rev. Francis Owen of the Church Mission Society to join him in the Natal-Zululand field. Owen was able to secure the permission that had been denied to Gardiner, to settle at the royal capital, Mgungundhlovu. Gardiner established himself on the hills overlooking Port Natal at a site which he called 'Berea'—the name by which the area is still known. But his efforts to exercise his authority as a justice of the peace were unsuccessful, and he moved off to another station closer to the Zulu country. This was 'Hambanati' ('Go with us') near present-day Tongaat.

The lack of an effective controlling authority over the growing numbers of white adventurers and their black followers in Natal was one of many factors that had begun to alarm Dingane, and strain his patience, before ever the Trekkers appeared on the scene.

In the debate over the Zulu king's motives for murdering Retief and attacking the Trekker encampments, dark suggestions had been made that he was urged to these deeds by the machinations of Gardiner. That Gardiner was no lover of the emigrant Boers is clear from some of the comments in the little 'Natal Journal for 1838', but there is no hint of any connivance on his part at the onslaughts of February 1838. Indeed, the evidence of a man disconcerted and dismayed by 'the wanton massacre of Retief and his party' should help to dispel any lingering suspicions about his role at this time.

The 'Journal' also throws interesting new light on Gardiner's reasons for abandoning all thought of resuming the Zulu mission.

Except for minor amendments to paragraphing and punctuation, we offer the 'Journal' without editorial change.

\* \* \*

### *Sir Theophilus Shepstone and Native Policy in Natal*

Readers who welcomed the reprint of the 'Reitz-Shepstone Correspondence' in *Natalia* No. 2 will be gratified by the appearance of its sequel in this issue. To a generation raised on 'news headlines', 'book digests' and 'points from correspondence', there may also be some fascination in discovering the leisurely expansiveness of our forebears when they turned to print. Our letters to the editor are shortened if they exceed a couple of hundred words in length. Editorial response to a 10 000 word epistle defeats imagination!

That the editor of the *Natal Mercury* and his readers in 1892 viewed things differently is cause for sincere gratitude. Had their demands corresponded to ours, one of the most important nineteenth century statements on native policy in South Africa might not have seen the light of day, and would not have been available for reprinting now.

In his 'Reply to President Reitz' (*Natalia* No. 2), Shepstone was concerned to expose the flaws in a particular white supremacist policy which he believed to be morally wrong and dangerous in practice. But the 'Reply', in its turn, roused a host of opponents, whose fire was directed from a variety of new positions. The letter which we reprint in this issue reveals Shepstone counter-attacking on all these different fronts, and is, in effect, the final manifesto of the man whose reputation as a native administrator surpassed all others. Shepstone died on 23 June, 1893, a little over a year after his letter to the *Mercury* was published. Whether he was a doctrinaire, committed to the system that bore his name, or whether a cautious pragmatist working for constructive change within the limits imposed by circumstances, we leave our readers to judge.

\* \* \*

### *One Hundred and Fifty Years*

Next year being the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the white trading settlement at Port Natal, we hope to make something of a bumper issue of *Natalia* No. 4.

Included in the contents, as the *pièce de résistance*, will be another unpublished manuscript from the recently discovered Gardiner papers. This is an account of Captain Allen Gardiner's life written for a grandson by his second wife, Elizabeth.

We will also offer brief biographies of leading figures among the early traders and hunters, and longer articles by well-known scholars and writers.

We hope that the ranks of our readers may also hold potential contributors to this special issue. Articles need not be tied specifically to 1824, or to the white adventurers who arrived in Natal in that year. Contributions on the background to the settlement, on the human and environmental conditions in the territory at the time of the arrival of the whites, on ships and trade, on aspects of Natal's development since 1824, will all be favourably considered—but, if possible, should not exceed 2 000 words in length!

*Farewell to R. A. Brown and Serendipity*

After eleven years as University Librarian in Pietermaritzburg, Mr. R. A. Brown has now retired and is moving to take up a new appointment in Oxford. His association with the Natal Society thus comes to an end, making this the last issue of *Natalia* to which he will contribute as a member of the editorial board.

Our debt to him is enormous. The seed from which *Natalia* has grown he planted in March 1969 with a mimeographed leaflet under the title *Natal Notes and News*. It ran to four issues which he produced virtually single-handed, and demonstrated the existence of a real demand for a journal devoted to the dissemination of information of Natal interest.

Collaboration with Ron Brown has been an extended demonstration of the meaning of Horace Walpole's word 'serendipity'. Recognising that some men more than others are blessed with a genius for making 'discoveries, by accident and sagacity, of things they were not in quest of', and remembering the fairytale of *The Three Princes of Serendip*, Walpole in 1745 coined a new word for the English language. R. A. Brown's capacity for chancing upon new information, for turning up a happy, but unexpected, discovery, for pulling the right thing out of the hat at just the right time, has been uncanny. If serendipity is one of the qualities that made him an outstanding librarian, it is also one of the qualities that has made him an invaluable editorial colleague.

We shall miss him greatly. And we wish him well.

C. de B. WEBB

**Note:**

1. Lugg, H. C., *Historical Natal and Zululand*, (Pietermaritzburg, 1949), p. 21.

## *Register of Societies and Institutions*

THE PURPOSE of this register is to list for general information the numerous organisations that are engaged in preservation, conservation and research, and in the promotion of scientific, artistic and creative endeavour in Natal.

The organisations listed are asked to check the accuracy and adequacy of the information given, and to supply the editor with amendments.

Organisations and institutions that have not been listed are invited to furnish information for inclusion in the next issue.

1. *Ancient Africa Club*. Secretary: Mrs. N. Ogilvie, 21 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg.
2. *Botanic Gardens*. Swartkop Road, Pietermaritzburg.
3. *Botanical Research Unit*. Botanic Station (Natal Herbarium), Botanic Gardens Road, Durban. Regional Office for Natal of the Botanical Research Institute, Department of Agricultural Technical Services, Pretoria. The Natal unit is active in research and the naming of indigenous plants.
4. *Campbell Collections of the University of Natal*. 220 Marriott Road, Durban. Three collections are housed together: the Killie Campbell Africana Library; the Mashu Bantu Museum (ethnological specimens); and the William Campbell Museum (furniture, *objets d'art*). The Africana Library serves as a repository for family papers and other historical documents, which may be housed there on loan or donated. The collections are accessible on application to the Africana Librarian at the above address.
5. *Colenso Historical Society*. R. E. Stevenson Museum, Colenso.
6. *Durban Civic Orchestra*. City Hall, Durban.
7. *Durban Local History Museum*. Old Court House, Aliwal Street, Durban.
8. *Durban Museum and Art Gallery*. City Hall, Durban.
9. *Durban Municipal Library*. Houses a valuable collection of Africana, as well as some official records.
10. *Durban Old House Museum*. 31 St. Andrews Street, Durban. A settler homestead, housing a valuable historical collection.
11. *Federation of Women's Institutes of Natal, Zululand, East Griqualand and the Transkeian Territories*. Fraser's Building, Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg. The Federation has been responsible for organising the compilation of 'Area Annals', recording the history of country districts in Natal, East Griqualand and Zululand. Copies are being housed in: Government Archives, Natal Depot, Pietermaritzburg; Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg; University of Natal Library, Pietermaritzburg; Killie Campbell Africana Library, Durban; Local History Museum, Durban.
12. *Greytown Historical Society*. The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Jean Tatham, Greytown.



13. *Historical Association, Pietermaritzburg Branch*. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. M. Sellers, 9 Vere Road, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg. The Association is an affiliate of the British Historical Association, and serves as a forum for the reading of papers and the presentation of talks by local and overseas speakers. At present it is also actively engaged in plans for the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of White settlement in Natal.
14. *Historiese Genootskap (Natalse Tak)*. Local representative: Mr. I. Adendorff, c/o Werda Skool, Posbus 3, Malvern. The Genootskap has been involved in the restoration of Commandant General Andries Pretorius' house at Welverdiend (now Edendale).
15. *Ladysmith Historical Society*. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. F. N. Tatham, P.O. Box 200, Ladysmith. Conducts tours of the local battlefields and has as one of its objectives the publication of maps, diaries and other records relating to the history of the area. In co-operation with the Ladysmith Town Council, the Society also maintains a museum in part of the old Market Hall.
16. *Military Historical Society*. Local representative: Mr. M. C. Carter, 30 Sea Doone Road, Amanzimtoti.
17. *Mountain Club of South Africa*. Natal headquarters: P.O. Box 4535, Durban. Articles on Natal appear in the annual *Journal* of the Mountain Club.
18. *Natal Depot, South African Government Archives*. Private Bag 9012, Pietermaritz Street, Pietermaritzburg. In addition to official papers from the colonial period, the Archives houses a valuable collection of newspapers, private papers and published works.
19. *Natal Development Board*. Private Bag 9037, Pietermaritzburg.
20. *Natal Museum*. Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg. Houses scientific and historical collections.
21. *Natal Parks, Game and Fish Preservation Board*. P.O. Box 662, Pietermaritzburg. In addition to maintaining a number of game parks and nature reserves, much scientific research is conducted under the auspices of the Board.
22. *Natal Performing Arts Council*. 480 Berea Road, Durban.
23. *Natal Society Library*. P.O. Box 415, Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg. A copyright library, housing a large and valuable collection of Nataliana, newspapers, journals, etc.
24. *Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission*. Private Bag 9038, Pietermaritzburg. Has published a number of reports on the economic resources and potential of Natal.
25. *National Monuments Council*. Natal representative: Mr. G. A. Chadwick, c/o Natal Educational Activities Association, 480 Berea Road, Durban. The Council's main function is to preserve the heritage of South Africa in respect of: (a) geological features; (b) biological associations; (c) archaeological phenomena; (d) historical sites; (e) important buildings; (f) relics. Excavations are at present in progress at Dingane's Mgungundhlovu kraal. Sites and other objects considered worthy of preservation should be reported to the Natal representative.

26. *Newcastle Historical Society*. The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. D. Russell, 5 Majuba Street, Newcastle.
27. *Operation Wildflower*. Local representative: Mr. T. Giddy, Gwyddian Farm, Umlaas Road. Chiefly interested in removing, for preservation, indigenous plants that are in danger of being destroyed.
28. *Pietermaritzburg Municipal Art Gallery*. City Hall, Pietermaritzburg.
29. *Pietermaritzburg Philharmonic Society*. City Hall, Pietermaritzburg.
30. *Pinetown Historical Society*. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Atkinson, P.O. Box 49, Pinetown. Active in collecting and preserving.
31. *Queensburgh Historical Society*. The Hon. Secretary, Miss W. Jones, P.O. Box 31, Queensburgh.
32. *Simon van der Stel Foundation*. Regional Secretary: Mr. A. S. B. Humphreys, 356 Prince Alfred Street, Pietermaritzburg. The aim of the Foundation is the preservation, by purchase or other means, of buildings, historical objects and sites of historical value or great beauty. The restoration of Macrorie House, Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg, has been undertaken by the Foundation.
33. *South African Archaeological Society*. The Hon. Secretary Natal Branch, Dr. D. E. van Dijk, c/o Zoology Department, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. Arranges talks and expeditions.
34. *South African Association for Marine Biological Research*. Centenary Aquarium, Durban.
35. *South African Institute of Race Relations*. Natal regional offices: 8 Guildhall Arcade, Durban.
36. *South African National Society*. Natal branch headquarters: c/o Mr. G. W. McDonald, P.O. Box 135, Durban. The Society was founded in 1907 'for the preservation of objects of natural historical interest'.
37. *South African War Graves Board*. Private Bag 236, Union Buildings, Pretoria. Amongst other activities, the Board is undertaking the restoration of the graves of British soldiers in Natal.
38. *University of Natal*. Pietermaritzburg and Durban. Many of the academic departments of the University are engaged in research relating to the natural and human resources of Natal, its environmental conditions and its history. In addition to the academic departments, there are the following research institutes; Meyrick Bennett Children's Centre (Durban); Oceanographic Research Institute (Durban); Paint Industries Research Institute (Durban); Institute of Parasitology (Durban); Institute of Social Research (Durban); Sugar Milling Research Institute (Durban); Wattle Research Institute (Pietermaritzburg). The various libraries of the University have large holdings of works relevant to Natal subjects.
39. *Wilderness Leadership School*. c/o Stainbank Nature Reserve, Yellow Wood Park, Durban.
40. *Wildlife Protection and Conservation Society of South Africa*. Natal Branch: P.O. Box 2985, Durban.
41. *Zululand Historical Museum*. Nongqai Fort, Eshowe.

## *Register of Research on Natal*

THE FOLLOWING does not pretend to be complete. It has been compiled from the Human Sciences Research Council *Research Bulletin*, information supplied from the Archives and individual submissions.

It is a supplementary list to the 'Register' published in *Natalia*, 2. Persons knowing of research work that has not been listed are asked to furnish information for inclusion in the next issue. For this purpose a slip is provided.

### AFRICANS

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| Bantu independent churches  | B. Sundkler   |
| Politics in Natal   | G. R. Cloete  |
| Proses van besluitneming in die ekonomiese lewe van die Bantoe, met besondere verwysing na die distrik Port Shepstone | A. O. Jackson |
| Some aspects of the economics of Bantu agriculture in Natal   | R. F. Bates   |

### BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NATAL

University of Natal  
Library, Pietermaritzburg.

### BRITISH SETTLERS

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Biggar family          | (Mrs.) S. Henderson |
| Carbutt, Thomas Brooks | (Mrs.) S. Henderson |
| Knight, Humphrey Evans | (Mrs.) S. Henderson |

### BUCHANAN, David Dale

- |                                |           |
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| <i>Natal Witness</i> , 1846-56 | B. Naidoo |
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**SOUTH AFRICAN WAR, 1899-1902**

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D. Schauffer

**ZULULAND**

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# UNIVERSITY OF NATAL PRESS

*CREALOCK, J. N.*

## THE ROAD TO ULUNDI

An album of sixty-seven water-colour drawings made in Natal and Zululand during the Zulu War, 1879, by Lieut.-Col. John North Crealock, military secretary to Lord Chelmsford. Edited and introduced by R. A. Brown M.A. Librarian of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. 1969. 48 pages of pictures of which 36 pages are lithographed in full colour and 12 pages in two colours. 43 cm by 29 cm. R19,50.

*HILLIARD, O. M. and BURTT, B. L.*

## STREPTOCARPUS

### A genus of Gesneriaceae

By O. M. Hilliard and B. L. Burtt, 1971. Full cloth. Numerous line drawings, maps and 15 colour plates. R13,00.

*Streptocarpus* is the largest African genus of the family Gesneriaceae, and this is the first comprehensive taxonomic account of it since 1883. It is a genus of manifold interest, and attracts the attention of botanists, geneticists, naturalists and horticulturists. The work includes keys to and descriptions of the species, as well as chapters on vegetative morphology, geographical distribution, natural hybridization, and so on.

*MANSON, H. W. D.*

## Four Plays

### THE COUNSELLORS : THE FESTIVAL MAGNUS : POTLUCK

The four volumes in this uniform edition each contain a biographical note and an introduction by Prof. Christina van Heyningen. 1970. Each volume: full case bound, R3,50; paperback, R2,50.

The Festival, The Counsellors and Magnus are, in their different ways and for all their many-sidedness, plays of tragic intensity. Potluck is a vigorous satire, directed largely at contemporary dramatic fashions.

*WRIGHT, J. B.*

### BUSHMAN RAIDERS OF THE DRAKENSBERG 1840-1970

A study of their conflict with stock-keeping peoples in Natal.

By J. B. Wright, M.A. (Natal). 1971. Full cloth. Illustrated. R7,50.

This is a scholarly piece of work, interesting both for the new light it throws on the part played by Bushmen in the history of Natal, and for indicating the effects of contact with Bantu-speakers and other peoples on certain of the Bushman hunter-gatherer communities.

# UNIVERSITY OF NATAL PRESS

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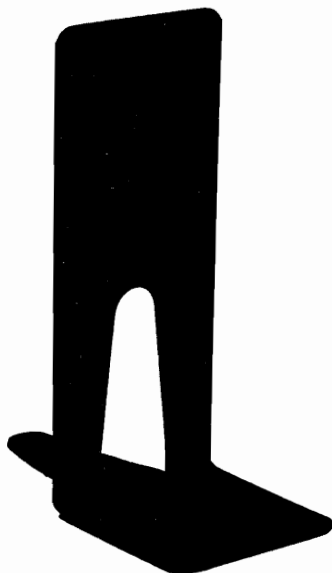
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