# CETSHWAYO'S DUTCHMAN; BEING THE PRIVATE JOURNAL OF A WHITE TRADER IN ZULULAND DURING THE BRITISH INVASION

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Cetshwayo's Dutchman; being the private journal of a white trader in Zululand during the British invasion by Cornelius Vijn & J. W. Colenso

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# **CORNELIUS VIJN & J. W. COLENSO**

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# CETSHWAYO'S DUTCHMAN





CETSHWAYO

(From a Photograph by J. E. Bruton)

# CETSHWAYO'S DUTCHMAN

BEING THE

PRIVATE JOURNAL OF A WHITE TRADER IN ZULULAND
DURING THE BRITISH INVASION

BY

## CORNELIUS VIJN

TRANSLATED FROM THE DUTCH AND EDITED WITH PREFACE
AND NOTES BY THE

RIGHT REV. J. W. COLENSO, D.D.

BISHOP OF NATAL

Mith a Portrait of Cetshways

(from a Photograph taken at Capetours)

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LONDON LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO 1880

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TO AMMU AMMONLIAD

## PREFACE.

Mr. Cornelius Vijn is a young Hollander, 23 years old, who has been 41 years in Natal, during three-fourths of which time (as he states) he has been trading in Zululand, and has thus learned to speak the Zulu language well, though he would not undertake to write it, and has become thoroughly conversant with the Zulu people, and their ordinary habits and customs. He was educated at the Town Burgher-School of Hoorn, in Holland, and, of course, speaks and writes European Dutch, in which language the narrative of his sojourn in Zululand during the late war was written by him. But since his arrival in Natal he has learned to speak freely in the English tongue-very well indeed for a foreigner-though, as his letters printed in the 'Notes' will show, he does not write English

quite grammatically. On the whole, however, he is a young man of fair education and good intelligence; and his character is such, on the authority of an English Colonist who knows him well, as to warrant entire confidence being placed in his statements as to what he has heard, or seen, or known, in Zululand.

Mr. Vijn has placed his manuscript in my hands with the request that I would cast my eye over it, and say whether it would be worth while to publish it in England, at the present crisis of Zulu affairs. Having perused it I found that it was well worthy of being published and made accessible to English readers. And I have accordingly undertaken to translate it, and supply a series of Notes, which may throw further light on the matters referred to in it, and especially on the character and conduct of Cetshwayo.

<sup>&#</sup>x27; Some of the information in the Notes has been obtained by my head-printer 'Magema,' who, under authority from Sir G. Wolseley, was sent, in October, 1879, into Zululand to recover, if possible, the watch, or other relics, of the late Prince Imperial, and ascertain the manner of his death (Note 46).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In this name C represents a click; but, if the English readers pronounce the name as 'Ketsh-wa-yo' (a sounded as in

My own very strong conviction is that the Zulu King has been grossly misrepresented by those who have wished to find some support in his doings for waging, in the name and with the power of Christian England, the late most unjust and wicked war -a war which at first was said to be waged against the King, and not against the Zulu Nation, a figment which was afterwards abandoned by Lord Chelmsford, who says that, though 'at its first commencement such an announcement, that our quarrel was with Cetshwayo alone, was politic and proper, as it afforded an opportunity to those Chiefs who were averse to Cetshwayo's rule to come over to our side ' [2318, p. 56], yet 'it is clear that the Zulu People themselves are not prepared to accept the distinction it was thought desirable to make' [Ib. p. 81], and which Sir G. Wolseley, in the face of the plain facts, has again revived.

In particular Sir B. Frere has been unceasing in his efforts to blacken Cetshwayo's character and to make him appear odious in the eyes of Englishmen,

<sup>&#</sup>x27;father'), they will come near enough to the native pronounciation for all practical purposes. It is quite wrong to spell and pronounce it as a word of four syllables, r.g. 'Ce-te-wa-yo.'