

No. 2/1930

British Museum East Africa Expedition
Tendaguru via Lindi
14th. May, 1930.

The Director
British Museum (Natural History)

Sir,

There are two or three matters I might perhaps mention without waiting till the end of the month.

1. I have been obliged to cut out from my programme the march on foot from here via Liwali to Songea. We will go by motor from Lindi to Songea. The rains have continued unduly, with the result the ground is still water-logged, and there is no prospect of the grass being burnt by the time I should want to begin prospecting. The long march therefore seemed a waste of time and quite unlikely to be productive of any result. Whether I shall be able to get it in on my way down, I am not sure yet.

2. Prospecting at "Kindope" where I noted some sites last year to begin work on, has resulted in a good skeleton coming to light only a few yards from the place I decided on. It is close to the old German diggings where Major Deacon also dug. A very few fragments on the surface were the only indication of the big skeleton below. So far 28ft. of it is exposed. It lies on its side and the vertebral processes are all in position. I consider it better than M.1.No.2 or M.8.No. 1 for the reason that the vertebrae are not bunched. So far it looks like a *Dicraeosaurus*.

In all I opened eleven trial diggings about here, but have now concentrated on this one alone.

As this skeleton will take at the very least two months to deal with, the earlier abandonment of the march to Songea has been proved doubly necessary.

3. Mr. Farrington has been laid up for six days with a slight touch of malaria. He is better as I write this, but it will be desirable to keep him indoors for a few more days as a precaution, and for him to regain strength.

4. I am sending forward Box No. 85 containing a collection of invertebrates, etc. from the marine bed above the Kindope dinosaur bed, and as Dr. F.L.Kitchen has written a monograph on the subject, I submit they be sent to him if he desires to have them.

5. I might note here one or two facts in connection with this new digging site. I place the marine bed at 295 ft.

and the dinosaur at 562 above sea-level, based on Tendaguru house being 827 feet (see my map). I must also add that though the three German lines of stratification are seemingly borne out by a long distance view of the country down to the Mbemba river, I cannot recognise their perfect horizontality as drawn in the German plans; and I can see no mention in the German reports of a topographical survey nor reference to altitudes. In fact I make (tentatively) a dip of one in a hundred and forty, roughly northerly but with some east in it.

I mention this subject briefly now in view of the despatch of specimens from the 'Trigonia Suesi zone'. This dip will put the Dinosaurs of Ngurwe, of Tendaguru itself and of Kindaps all immediately ^{under} one marine bed.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

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