

No. 6

British Museum East Africa Expedition
Likuyu river, between Songea and Manda
1st. September, 1930.

The Director
British Museum (Natural History).

Sir,
I left Tendaguru on the 21st. August arriving at Lindi on the 24th. Here I packed the rest of the big pieces for shipment, and left by motor lorry on the 27th. reaching Songea on the 29th. The next day I came on to this place where I am encamped close to the Likuyu river, 30 miles from Songea, this being the extreme limit of motor transport on the Manda road. Mr. Farrington, with the bulk of the stores, is ahead of me and should reach Manda in two or three days.

I could not finish at Tendaguru owing to being unable to get at Lindi any more cement, which material I have been using latterly as a substitute for plaster, the supply of which had come to an end. The greater part of the skeleton has had to be set in plaster. The remaining piece consisting of dorsal vertebra No. 1, the shoulder vertebra, and a part of cervical No. 1, is of great size, which I am rather at a loss as to how to divide. This piece, which is plastered on its upper side, is covered with a tent, and the two caretakers left at Tendaguru have instructions each to inspect it once a week until my return.

The only additional find in August was a very small caudal vertebra in the tail area, which, if it belongs, indicates a whip-like end to the tail and so additional length. A little of the grass was burnt before I left, and I was able to do some prospecting in the Kindope area, and have marked down two promising bone sites for further exploration. I found again the marine bed over a valley, and followed it north as far as I could trace it on the ridge it lies on. Its disappearance in places where one would expect it to be leads me to form the opinion that it is only a marine inlet, as I have suggested before. Some specimens of invertebrates from it go forward, including an ammonite from below it, this ammonite having fallen down a small course. I mention this since the question of ammonites in this stratum is one that has been the subject of some discussion. I hope to pursue this marine bed further on my return, and to confirm that it dips. Meantime I am awaiting the arrival of a copy of Dr. Parkinson's book to see if he agrees with or rejects the three submersions of the Germans.