

Letter to John Kirk 2, 13 May 1865

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

8 Dover St
London

13 May
1865

My Dear Kirk

Agnes wont
undertake the selection
of a vignette so I
must do the best
I can. you remember
a sphex which
used to kill tsetse
a long bodied rakish
craft of an insect
I dont know its
native name but

[0002]

Oswell called today
and he thought of it
I shall take the
scroll to Murray
on Monday Morn-
ing & see what he
thinks. I set Waller
to draw a man
in a slave stick &
the slave trader
holding the end
with a gun in his hand

The sewing would
be better see if you

[0003]

cant light on something
better. We have a
birds eye view of
the falls as a Front-
ispiece - from one
I sent home in 1860

Palms however are
home manufacture
It gives a good idea
of them.

Waller called with
Alington yesterday
the latter would
like to go with me
and I believe pay
his own expenses
as he did with
the mission. He is
[0004]
a good fellow -
knows a little Zulu from
going into Panda's
country. I told him
what we have for
the whole thing
£500 from F. O.
£500 from RGS
and £1000 from
a private friend.
I would rather go
alone than take
any one untried
I suffered too much
from Bedingfield
& co. I would be
delighted if we could
be together but I fear
[0005]
the money wont
reach a salary
Could Lord Dalhousie
not manage a salary
for you - I mean
to go up Rovuma
to where we turned
in boats - Make
Ndonde's a depot
for goods - Not
many for I dont
mean to waste
men as Speke &
Burton did. nor
go in grande array
twenty or twenty
five Indians Sir
Bartle Frere told me

that they were [...]
[0006]
faithful - I would
not bring them into
contact with Zanzibar-
ites at all. Then go
up along Rovuma
westwards of whom
we heard as good &
having many buffaloes
in their country - then
get into communication
with the Mazitu if
they are still further
west - and if they
are to the South go
among the Manganja
who are great
elephant hunters about
[0007]
Bemba and work
quietly west.

We were always in
too great a hurry
last expedition I
would have more
time & get better
acquainted with
the natives and
try to give them
some idea of our
objects as we go
along.

I told Alington that
I would take tea
coffee & flour to last
a long time but not
much else - & that
[0008]
he might think about it

What do you say to a
talk with L^d Dalhousie
about it? I shall be
here till 23^d.

Thanks for the
information about
poor Baikie. It is

very sad. I did not
quite believe Mays stories

Of course I shall keep
it secret but it does
appear sad, and enough
to discourage the F.O.
altogether.

Rowley talked 2 hours
yesterday. Waller called
the anthropologists
Icebergs floating down
the warm stream of humanity
chilling all who came near them.

They have £17000 yet!

Agnes sends kind regards &
thanks for the offer of a ticket
and so do I to your mother. Hoping
she is better I am &c David Livingstone