

## Letter to Horace Waller, 5 February 1871

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Published by Livingstone Online ([livingstoneonline.org](http://livingstoneonline.org))

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Bambarre = Manyema 5 Feb 1871

My Dear Waller - I yesterday recieved gladly your 3 letters of Oct<sup>r</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1869 You repeat the dose which is like to break my heart - You "gave Kirk all the news and he would impart them to me" but he had other matters to attend to and as usual I have to whistle for news - I am the man with too many friends - Oh says Muff N<sup>o</sup> 1 such a nice book has come out - I would send it but you have so many friends I am sure that someone must have sent it already - N<sup>2</sup> says I would have given you the news but you have so many friends &c &c - N<sup>o</sup> 3 says our large national educational establishment in which I have the honour to free a chair ought to help if not take on them the education of your children - I would do it myself but you have so many friends &c - The upshot is I recieve nothing

Two great friends removed my three boys at my expense and against my wish from a healthy school in England to an abominable "Do the boys Hall" in Scotland & they were all home sick three months afterwards - ! I am glad of all you told me when you forgot the idea of others telling me and wrote naturally as a married man ought to do I did not know of Youngs trip up after me nor of Musas lies till now - The successful laying of the Atlantic cable I Enferred from my Canadian brother saying "last cable news told us you were alive & we put off our mourning" I infer that a new Government or ministry is in power because you speak of John Bright & Duke Argyll as ministers - Well I am off in a few days to finish with the help of the Almighty new explorations - Ten men here come from Kirk who like the good fellow that he is worked unweariedly to get them & goods off in the midst of disease and death - one gang of porters died quite off and five of my men perished by cholera - We get that from Mecca - letters preceded it thence saying it was coming - We do nothing to stop its hatching in Mecca Medina & Judda which annually become vast cesspools of abomination because the new political economy says let everything alone Formerly it went along shore now it comes inland - In our small camp here we lost 30 & how many Manyema no one knows - All the able bodied all off ivory collecting - if it had continued three instead of two months the camp would have been desolate - Fowls & goats fell first then cattled shivered

and died & then men. I quite expect to hear that it went to the Cape - I got the copy of the Standard you sent - I have not seen the "Times" for an age - I differ from you for I am proud of our great Paper and only sorry when it admits the babble of the clubs - Jupiter must be nodding when he admits Cooleys ill natured twaddle as "geography". I would not answer him why he boldly challenged me to argue the point whether the great Zambesi above the falls were a river - He maintained that it was "an undeveloped river" that went under the ground of the Kalahari and was lost, and in what he called a map put it down as ending in a pothook - doubtless meaning if the "learned" the "erudite" Cooley could be so low as use a hieroglyphic to say "here it hooks it" - that shut me up from answering for ever - My work leads me down Lualaba in canoes till it touches the head of the Nile probably near the Eastern arm followed down by Speke Grant & Baker then double back up the Western line of drainage to the fountains on the Watershed - on return I shall not go down the Western arm of the loop formed by the end of Bakers water and it - the Northern part of which again [...] r Bakar i[...] a liar o[...] I am - This is

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still unknown in fact it is Cooleography & not to be made public - I propose to go up the lower Uerere or ~~lower Tanganyika~~ Albert Nyanza and on to Ujiji & Zanzibar I do not know Bakers plan and in my ignorance fear that conquering the small headmen all along the Nile is doing on a large scale what slavetraders now do on small one - commit many murders to punish a few robbers and make the whole population Turkish slaves - I know of no large chief in all this region Every village is independent and no glory can arise from enslaving these in detail but I dont know the Egyptian expeditions under the French were as bloody as if conducted by Manyema -

My packet of 40 letters is I fear destroyed The governor the alleged culprit complains that he conducted the expedition of Burton from Zanzibar to Ujiji & thence to Uvira and back to Zanzibar

deal of wrangling  
and was left un-  
-paid till the Indian  
Government or  
that of Bombay sent  
him a 1000 dollars  
He was soured at  
all Englishmen –  
placed my goods  
under his man  
Musa bin Salim  
who stopped the  
porters ten days  
while he plundered  
& went off to Karagwe  
to buy ivory for  
his master - He  
wished that no  
evidence should  
go to the coast -  
my packet con-  
tained evidence &  
I conjectured it was  
destroyed - His agent at Ujiji sent back the  
packet after had paid for it because "he did  
not know the contents" I regret the loss of copies  
of all my astronomical observations and [...]  
Despatch supplementary to that from Bangw[...]

but I have copies at Ujiji - The gross carelessness of  
the council in allowing Arrowsmith to take away my  
imperfect sketches made solely to oblige them by the earliest  
information while my work went to the Cape and then my  
good friend Arrowsmith glorifying himself by sending the  
errors easily detected to Germany & India made me  
resolve to take care of them myself and at the risk of losing  
them altogether - My kind love to your wife I am glad she has taken you & under her wing  
and my blessing on you both David Livingstone

The Governor's statement may be untrue for he is  
an ill conditioned Arab and lying is no sin to such  
A. then charged M<sup>r</sup> Murray & me £300 with the reason  
for the overcharge had to alter all his work on  
recieving later information which later  
information was the only thing we employed  
him upon - He employed himself on Kirk's  
and my imperfect sketches He ought to  
refund or leave the council

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PS. to Waller - It is not worth while noticing anything fr[...] Burton any more than from Cooley – they make statements only [...] lug themselves forward to the public - For your private information I tell you that my party consisted of fifteen Muhamadans six pagan Hindoos six christians & four Heathen - the Moslems were by far the worst in every respect - The christians had the misfortune to have been born slaves in their own tribes & had recieved the worst training in the world from Moslem slavetraders but behaved better than the Moslems till we came into close contact with Moslems again - the Heathen had been in the Portuguese service and were infinitely inferior to heathen Makololo in consequence - I have heard gentlemen from India speak of native christians with contempt because they had never seen any save the vile scum that hangs about camps which may be called moral cess pools - I have seen the native christians in India which these silly gentlemen pretend to describe and they are as different from the "Masters caste" men who say "I drink brandy" as one can concieve - I have travelled with all sorts of Africans and I can without hesitation assert that the native Christians are out of sight better than either Moslems or heathen - only let them understand thoroughly that they are servants and must work as hard as slaves - They are not gentlemen and you will have trustworthy & generally truthful attendants - The trouble you will have with them is just what all have with English servants and every other - I am to be judged by the work done -

I am truly thankful that there is some prospect of the suppression of the East African slave trade as carried on by the Sultans subjects - I have heard but little of the details but I believe a great deal is owing to the exertions of our friend Kirk on whom for his share may Heavens rich blessing descend - the sights I have in this journey seen of slaving make my blood run cold and I am not easily moved or very Sentimental - I cannot call the Arabs cruel - but [^] [it is the trade that is cruel and certainly is vil[...] ] few are like those wretches the Kilwa traders or the atrocious Portuguese of Tette whose murder and arson you witnessed - But it is an awful traffic and can be congenial only to the Devil and his angels - If our statesmen stop the frightful waste of human life in this region and mitigate the vast amount of human woe that accompanies it they will do good on the large scale and cause joy in Heaven - The whole horrible system North of Rovuma & Cape Delgado is to support the Sultan of Zanzibar who is said to be by no means very greedy of money save to uphold his little court & attendants - The system South of a point South of Cape Delgado for that is the boundary claimed by the [^] Portuguese [Arabs] is kept up not to injure the rights of the crown of Portugal " so said one not supposed capable of abetting an atrocity and the Governors D'Almrida destroyed our work & people unchecked - The most startling disease I have seen among

slaves is not earth or clay eating which too is a disease  
per se but what really seems to be brokenheartedness  
It does not attack those who have been slaves in their own  
land but those who have been free - I saw a party taken  
across Lualaba by a slaver and when they saw this mighty  
river roll between them and home they seemed to lose all  
heart - Twenty one who were then considered safe were  
unchained all scuttled off to the mountains but eight  
still in the chain and in good health died in three days

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[...] hen asked why they did not eat but lay pictures of  
abject misery they pointed to the heart as the seat  
of pain - they point to that organ correctly though  
many think that the heart is under the upper part  
of the sternum or breastbone - I saw many others  
die - some were kindly carried and on expiring were  
laid down on the side of the path - The masters wondering  
why they died and had plenty to eat - I once saw a party  
in the slave yoke singing merrily & thought my  
these fellows have taken to it kindly - they must belong  
to the class to whom

slavery is the  
natural state  
for which they  
were born - I  
asked the cause  
of their mirth &  
was told that  
they laughed at  
the idea "of coming  
back after death  
and haunting &  
killing those who  
had sold them"  
Some of the words  
I had to enquire  
the meaning of the  
word to "haunt and  
kill by spirit power"

[...] hen it was "oh you  
sent me off to  
Manga but the  
yoke is off when  
I die and back  
I shall come to  
haunt and to kill  
you" Then all  
joined in the  
chorus which was  
the name of each

vendor as if it  
were "oh Johnny  
Smith Oh Johnny Smith Oh Oh"  
It told not of fun but of the bitterness and tears  
of such as were oppressed [^] [and on the site of the oppression there was power] and they had  
no comforter - "There be higher than they."

I am terribly knocked  
up but this is for your own eye only  
in my second childhood a dreadful  
old fogie - doubtful if I live to see you  
again - I stick to my work in spite of  
everything because most of my friends

will say as my good daughter does - "much as I wish to have  
you home I would rather that you finish your work to your  
own satisfaction than come merely to gratify me" there's a good  
brave girl I guess - a chip of the old block and no  
mistake David Livingstone [There is a red wax seal here that was placed on the page after  
Livingstone wrote his text.]

News came lately to Ujiji that a large body of Turks (Egyptians?)  
came and attacked Sunna - They were repulsed and fled in disorder  
Sunna is Spekes Muza with his fathers name - can this be Sam Baker or De Bono?

Baker does not seem to be aware how  
often the Portuguese have tried the conquering  
plan and always failed - more signally  
in the West perhaps than the East but it may  
be different with him and though I dont  
know his plan I hope he may do good  
on the Zambesi the natives to a man were  
most friendly - the Portuguese instructed from  
Lisbon were civil but hated us & the expedition  
with Baker the Turks will be as friendly as the  
Zambesi natives to us - but I fear that the  
common people will be like our Portuguese  
But for cannon Sunna could conquer Egypt  
far more easily than 3000 troops could injure  
him - 100 000 warriors though an exaggeration means something great

Revise Nov 23/69  
for Dr Livingstone Interior of Africa

Uncorrected