Letter to Horace Waller, 3 July 1863

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

I have to write despatches. Will you let me know before the bishop goes down

Cataracts of Shire $3\stackrel{d}{=}August[July]$ 1863

My Dear Waller

We send down a bit of beef for you and such of your companions as can eat it - and pray their acceptance of the same. Meller tells me that the new bishop is vegetarian - alas for the goats! You remember Dean [0002]Ramsay's story about "What will the [...] [poor] whales do now" or something to that effect I am very glad to hear that now you have a head & an energetic one too but very sorry to think of the feeble health of our friend Procter. I trust that the the complaint will soon take a turn we were all the better of our trip though [0003]some had sneezings after coming back to the ship. I feel

about ½ a horse power stronger took 7 days from the boat to this making it a pleasure & not a toil to search for level paths. The boat was burned by (say the Manganja) the Ajawa - by accidental burning of the grass say we for the [0004]trees for 50 yards adjacent were killed by fire and all the debris - copper iron &c were left where the boat fell.

We got plenty of guinea fowl but no game could be seen for the long grass people beginning to cultivate - but in fear & trembling of the Ajawa - could get no news of the country beyond [0005]has been good to write me a note of condolence and begs kind words to you all. I think if you have no objection I had better hand over all Thornton's things to the mission namely 2 Rifles & their gear with the bills - to be sent to his brother - one to shew that we have liquidated it & the other to be paid Clemantino

David Livingstone

>Private

I had come to the con-clusion that no good could be done by this Expedition while the subjects of His Most Faithful Majesty were allowed to follow on our footsteps and spoil all by their slave forays and told Earl Russell this distinctly - He does not refer to this

Are you done with the Camera Lucida? [0006]

in his instructions to withdraw as it would perhaps be impolitic in a statesman to do so - We cant go down till the next flood in December without abandoning the Pioneer - and shan't attempt it sooner I would have come down to welcome Bishop Tozer but have much to do here and I hope he may be content with a welcome on paper which I now send -My eldest boy had arrived at Natal on his way to join us He will be one hand in our free crew at least in Lady Nyassa

M^{rs} Burrup