Letter to [Richard Owen], 30 March 1858

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Sierra Leone

30 March 1858

My Dear Friend

I have only time to say How do ye do? before leaving this to which we made a good passage from Liverpool. I am sorry that I was unable to call at last and bid you good bye but by way of making amends I have spoken to the Governor here - Colonel [0002]Hill a most excellent and obliging man to get some mud fish for you. They are abundant in the Gambia and he will have them sent to you in the mud & all ready for examination If you kindly acknowledge the receipt of them and mention any other kind that you may wish his Excellency will I am sure take care that [0003]your wishes are attended to The complaint I hear made on all hands here

when an invitation is given to send home specimens of natural history is that they have sent objects & no acknowledgement is made of their receipt Though sure that this does not apply to you it is well for you to know that there are defaulters among your bretheren

My kindest regards to M^{rs} Owen. M^{rs} L. [0004]joins in this with hearty good will. She has symptoms of the nine months intermittent and I fear must on that account be discharged at the Cape to go up to her father's for this I am sorry as she would have made us all comfortable in our labours. Mrs O's name put this little bit of gossip in my head

I am Affectionately

yours

David Livingstone

D^r Kirk is a fine fellow. I think he has got a peculiar new mud fish already. it will be sent you from the Cape.