

Letter to H. Norton Shaw, 20 January 1857

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

57 Sloane St.

Cadogan Place

20th Jan^y 1857

D^r Norton Shaw

My Dear Sir

I herewith
forward for your
perusal a letter from
Lieutenant Hoskins
R.N. whose acquaintance
I made in Loando
Angola, and whom
[0002]

I have reason to
remember with
gratitude as he
furnished me
with a copy of
"Humbolt's Cosmos"
which afforded me
pleasant reading
half way accross
the continent. He
was then in com
mand of the Pluto
a war steamer

[0003]
stationed on the West
coast, and had
been in command
of a vessel on the
East Coast also, hence
the mistake of rank
to which he alludes.

I understood from
the Portuguese authorities

in Eastern Africa
that the late Captain
Parker examined the
principal branch of
the Zambesi up to
[0004]
the point where I
left that river viz.
Mazaro or " mouth of
the Mutu" otherwise
called the river of
Quilimane, and
was highly pleased
with its capabilities the Portuguese speak
highly of him to
this day, and their
admiration of his
[0005]
abilities induced me
to nurse a severe
tertian I had caught
at Mazaro instead
of going round
and examining
the mouths of the
Zambesi myself.
I had the impression
[too] that my examination
of a point requiring
nautical knowledge
[0006]
and experience would
be like that of a
monkey & lookingglass.

As the Lords of
the Admiralty are
always willing to do
anything in their
power to forward
the interests of science
and commerce,
would it not be
well to beg of them
the favour of
[0007]
any details sent home
by Captain Parker
during his command
on the East coast
respecting the mouths

of the Zambesi, not
because we undervalue
the testimony of
Lieut^t Hoskins but
in order to furnish
your society and
the public with the
fullest information
[0008]
on the[a] very important
point

Believe me Dear Sir

Faithfully yours

David Livingstone