

## Letter to Philip Saumarez, 30 July 1859

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[0001]

Kongone Harbour

30<sup>th</sup> July 1859

Commander P Saumarez. R N.

Dear Sir

I have much pleasure  
in acknowledging your  
favour of 28<sup>th</sup> and regret  
that you have so little to  
spare now that we have  
the pleasure of meeting  
a Man of War. We have  
a wretched little craft  
put together in the flimsiest  
contract style and as  
we are very anxious  
for her to last long  
enough for us to examine

[0002]

a route which we think  
opens up a very large portion  
of the Highlands of Eastern  
Africa. On this point I  
beg to submit the letter  
which we had deposited  
on the island off this harbour  
the vessel was only 1/16 of  
an inch thick in the beginning  
and is now no thicker than  
this paper. if we can  
have some sheet iron to  
tinker the worst parts,  
and some [^][one or two ] thin planks  
to mend our whalers  
both of which are leaky  
with copper nails, and  
white[ned] lead [with paint oil]. these will enable  
us to hold out till we have

[0003]

gone up Shire & back again and  
all the good will have been  
got out of her (and a great  
deal more) than was ever  
put in her by the builders

You will favour us  
much if you spare us  
some salt provisions,  
whatever it be, it will be  
acceptable. Shoes, good  
blankets, socks or stockings  
blue check shirts, a piece  
of blue cloth [^][& serge] enough to  
make a jacket or two,  
a piece of sheet lead

We have ten Kroomen  
shipped at Sierra [^][Leone] for two  
years. Our work will  
in all probability be on  
land for the next six  
months. We have 46  
Makololo who are useful  
[0004]  
on land where  
Kroomen are  
useless. Will you be able  
to ship them so that they  
may be useful on board  
men of war and the  
contract not be broken.  
Our Quarter master  
J. Walker, an excellent  
hand has been ill, and  
wishes to go to hospital.  
His absence and that  
of the Kroomen would  
be well supplied by two  
good [steady] volunteer seamen.  
We give double full pay.  
Excuse this troublesome  
business. I shall make  
a proper requisition when  
I know what you can spare

I am Dear Sir

Most Truly Yours

David Livingstone

You will oblige me much if you could conveniently come ashore & look at us. You will be able to do more than I could by coming on board.