

Letter to John Kirk 2 and Robert L. Playfair, 30 May 1869

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[0001]

Ujiji - 30th May 1869

My Dear Col. Playfair or D^r Kirk
this note goes by Musa
Kamaals who was employed
by Karoji to drive the buffaloes
hither, but by [over] driving them un-
mercifully in the sun & tying them
up to save trouble in herding
they all died before he got to Unyin-
yembe. He witnessed the plunder
ing of my goods & got a share of
them. I have given him beads
and cloth sufficient to buy pro-
visions for himself in the way
back to Zanzibar. He has done
nothing here. He neither went
near the goods here nor tried to
prevent them being stolen in the
way. I suppose that pay for
four months in coming - other
four of rest - and four in going
back would be ample pay
but I leave this to your decision
I could not employ him to
carry my mail back, nor can
I say anything to him for he
at once goes to the Ujijians
[0002]
and gives his own version of all
he hears. He [is] untruthful and ill-
conditioned and would hand off
the mail to anyone who wished to
destroy it. the people here are like
the Kilwa traders ~~from Kilwa~~
haters of the English. Those [Zanzibar men] whom
I met between this & Nyassa were
gentlemen and traded with honour
Here as in the haunts of the Kilwa
hordes slaving is a series of
forays - and they dread exposure
by my letters - no one will take

charge of them - I have got Thani
bin Suellim to take a mail [privately] for
transmission to Uny[any]ambe - It
contains a cheque on Ritchie
Steuart &co of Bombay for
Rs 2000 - and some forty letters
written during my slow recovery.
I fear it may never reach you A party was sent to the coast two
months ago. One man volunteered
to take a letter secretly, but his master
warned them all not to do so,
"because I might write something
he did not like." He went out
with the party & gave orders to
the headman to destroy any letter
he might detect in the way.

[0003]

This, though I am good friends
outwardly with them all. I
can get no assistance in Pro-
curing carriers and as you will
see if the mail comes to hand.
I send to Zanzibar for fifteen
good boatmen to act as carriers
if required - 80 pieces of
Merikans 40 d° Kinike
12 Frasilas of the beads called
Samsam - shoes &c and
I have written to Sayad Majid
begging two of his gaurd to
see to the safety of the goods
here into Thani bin Suellims
hands or into those of Muhamad bin Saleh.

As to the work to be done
by me it is only to connect
the sources which I have
discovered from 500 to 700
miles south of Speke and
Baker's [with their Nile]. The volume of
water which flows North from Lat. 12° South is [...]

[0004]

those of the Nile. I have to go
down the Eastern Line of
drainage to Baker's turning
point. Tanganyika - Nzige -
Chowambe (Baker's?) are
one water - and the head of it
is 300 miles south of this.
the Western & central lines of
drainage converge into an un-

visited Lake West or SW of
this. The outflow of this whether
to Congo or Nile I have to-
ascertain.the people West of
this called Menyema are cannibals if Arabs speak truly
I may have to go there first
and down Tanganyike if
I come out uneaten & find
my new squad from Zanzibar
I earnestly hope that you will
do what you can to help me
with the goods & men - £400 to
be sent by M^r Young must
surely have come to you through Fleming[...]

A long box paid for to Ujiji was left at Unjembe
& so with other boxes