

## Letter to John Washington, 26 November, 20 December 1860

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[0001]

2<sup>d</sup> Tette 26<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1860

Dear Captain Washington

The water in the river having lower than ever known by the people, we could examine the Victoria Falls with ease: people even wade from the North to the garden island and we see well to the bottom. the is 310 feet sheer down a few feet more as the on the line rested on a slope the bottom. the breadth from to bank is not a thousand as I conjectured but between statute & one geographical , we say 1860 yards though

[0002] is little more by way of assisting memory. We measured with a line & allowed 2 feet in every

67 feet for slack & curvature. then at low water there were 800 feet water falling. I measured the of the fizzle at the island in middle with the sextant and got

80 feet but this is doubtful as we not throw a stone across from above it is the of the letter LL but crack of the most wonderful shape ever seen. Fancy rude sketch all of one except the

bottom of the which is 300 feet below

[0003]

The dotted line shews the of the water after has fallen down to from both sides the prolongation

the crack. There but 400 paces the fall & first elbow made by the and all the land by the zigzags into is of the level as the bed of river above the falls walk along and see the deep down on each of you and at least

300 feet ~~down~~ below. It is the most wonderful in waterfalls in the world

[0004] could not visit Mosilikatze arrange matters about our . We could not leave Sekeletu soon as we wished on account his disease - then the Elephant whom we met at the Falls unfortunately departed before got our Despatches written heat became excessive too Sinamanés the soil was

136° at 3PM. not a single shower fallen and the country had one of its periodical . A thermometer held the shade of the body & 3 feet the soil was 102° at that and during a march blood even became 1 1/2° hotter than that of the natives or 99.5 99.5°

[0005] could not moreover have a decent visit as to time breaking entirely our to be at Kongone at end of this month. But we to the head man at the falls who always treated the Matibele Mosilikatze who came with letters in a scurvy manner to another part & orders given to his sucessor treat & feed them well. Letters waiting for me at Linyanti

M<sup>r</sup> John Moffat is now with

Mosilikatze and in time matters be arranged.

I have not by an means up hope in the Makololo

[0006] delay caused by failure to at once to them has to opening a new field of still greater importance reference to the slave trade I have no doubt as to being to ascend in flood. We the whole river in our canoes Sinamanés downwards rapids were developed Chicova by excessive low which were under 4 knots we ascended - the most part we saw was scarcely knots - Morumbua is a cataract at low water the water may come down the space of 30 or 40 yards

[0007]

20 or 30 feet but the rise is 80 feet and the flood certainly smooth the cataract . Chicova seen from land looked like a basaltic across the stream but passed through it in the canoes observing it in coming . There is a large seam coal in the bank there from steamers will one day . There is another seam the bank at Manyerive hill the coal field extends up to Sinamanés. The of the Zambesi between

Sinamanés & Kansalo is deepest & most navigable it all and Kansalo has

[0008] nothing formidable in it to canoes whose gunwale scarcely 6 inches above the .

I thank you for all your notes came now in a heap, & all you have done to aid us heartily. I am really un-thankful. It was very in you to dissuade M<sup>rs</sup> . from coming, and I sincerely she acceded to your most advice. The Makololo excessively anxious to have but until more progress is she would be in the way. have 16 of them here though I wished 10. It is arranged that as soon we get up to Kafue all remove to us