

Letter to John Murray III, 30 May 1857

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

Sat Evening

30th May

1857

My Dear M^r Murray

I am sorry to
find that you have
been led to suppose
that the reviser employed
is in any way
qualified for the
work. I give you
a few specimens
of his erudition taken
at random

[0002]

Slip 98 line 22 from
top "pestered" is the
truth beseiged is not
line 26th ~~spinal is not true it was uterine but~~

S 95 Hooping cough
corrected into Whooping
cough What is that?
96 to his affrighted
relatives corrected
into to the great
alarm of their astonished
relatives!

No inspection of the

[0003]

body being ever allowed
diluted thus, by these
people - ! Then third
line from top a
line left out which

is quite necessary
to complete the
sense.

Please look at
slip 111 and say
whether what is
struck out is not
proof positive of
your man being
entirely wanting

[0004]
in sympathy with
the author of a book
of this kind. Prof.
Owen puts stet
opposite it.

S.210 bottom of page
Does not know
meaning of "parts!"
(vide Johnson or
Webster)

213 Makes nonsense
of a plain statement
in middle of page
D° D° 214

[0005]
you see I have avoided
saying expressly that
prepuce is cut off
though it might be
expected from using
the proper term for
that operation. And
a man who puts his
hand to revise a
work on South Africa
ought to have known
the universal practice
of the real cutting off
yet see 218 - incision
See again 226

[0006]
"the phrase being identical
with "abiit ad plures"
is struck out, by

this gentleman - ab
uno disce omnes
ignorance I fear

Now my good
friend I cannot
think you have
noticed the process
of emasculation
for which I fear
you have been
paying. the liberties

[0007]
he has taken are
most unwarrantable
and I cannot really
undertake to father
them. I am willing
to submit my
style uncouth though
it be to M^r Elwin
or any friend you
like and if it is
not clearer more
forcible and
more popular than
anything this man

[0008]
can give I shall
then confess I am
wrong. My letters
written to the Geog
raphical & Missionary
societies are popular
Why must you
pay for diluting
what I say with
namby pambyism
Excuse me, but
you must give this
man leave to quit
I really cannot afford
to appear as he would
make me D. Livingstone