

## Letter to John Washington, 19, 28 April 1858

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[0001]

Steamer Pearl, at sea

19<sup>th</sup> April 1858

Private

My Dear Captain Washington

I am happy to inform that we are now so far our way as to have the of reaching the Cape by tomorrow (20<sup>th</sup>) evening left Sierra Leone on 10<sup>th</sup> and sighted the coast Cape Negro, and that we have head winds nearly all way and a current us as well we done fairly.

My companions are all good health and spirits M<sup>rs</sup> L. has been sick

[0002] ever since we Sierra Leone and as it to be the sea sickness 'the nine months com- to which ladies are I have decided to her at the Cape and her proceed with her brother M<sup>r</sup> Moffat to Kuruman, there await her confinement then come up overland the Makololo country. this is a great dis- to me and will still more so to the Makololo looked forward to her coming more interest than [to] mine. would have been a comfort any who might be sick. expense is considerable, £200 least, and to make matters I actually gave away waggon now standing at

Cape Town a few days before left England, and a new costs £75 in this dear labour country

[0003] have written out instructions all my companions and observations will be as soon as we leave the

Cape in order to get their hands . I have thought that the deviation from the drawn out will meet approbation. After the is sounded we take the into smooth water, put Launch together as that can done in a few hours and make her pilot the Pearl the river. Then from point it may be on to send the Pearl , send the Ma Robert to her back to the sea. will sound both ways the risk of grounding the vessel will be reduced the minimum.

It may be well to examine the Luabo branches - i.e. Eastern & Western or Hoskins

[0004] it may be called as he thinks latter the best, and then our choice but this will left to Bedingfeld's judgment, the state of the river when get there. Captain Duncan a very careful navigator. the way M<sup>r</sup> Duncan the Office agent neglected give him any money to purchase provisions for his crew, he needed planks [fresh water] & besides

Oldfield from whom he got what needed seemed unwilling take his bill on the Colonial so to settle the difficulty wrote "approved" on the bills as we were just sailing could [not] write you to tell you that these expenses are not those of Expedition but of the Colonial . The senior Naval was absent and the could not give men to coal so Captain D. obliged to incur expenses were not provided for the Colonial agent. It will so here again I suppose.

Captain Duncan has draw

£130 on the Ceylon Government

28<sup>th</sup> April We found M<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>rs</sup> Moffat here from Kuruman - my men at Tete - Skead is going with us - so is the Hermes - Duncan supplied with money by Sir George Grey to be repaid by the

[0005] Government - Maclear is well & hearty - Captain of the Buffalo sailed with you

and would do anything for us your sake - we sail on 30<sup>th</sup> Captain Lister is thoroughly obliging  
Admiral not having returned yet. I am &c David Livingstone