

Letter to John Washington, 11 March 1861

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[0001]

Pioneer Rovuma Bay

11th March 1861.

My Dear Captain Washington

The enclosed mess bill of
M^r Rae amounting to £31.16 for
66 days was handed to me by M^r
Jones Paymaster of H.M.S. Lyra
Had it been a small sum I would
have paid it and put it to the
incidental expenses but it is
more than I possess of public
money though I have recieved
a balance from M^r May of
£17..17..4 I therefore send
the bill on to you and refer
M^r Jones to you for settlement
you will be able to explain the
[0002]
account to the Foreign Office. I sent
M^r Rae to the Admiral at the Cape
and requested him to furnish a
passage in some Government
vessel to England. He seems to have
taken another route - and came
to grief. He had all D^r Kirks specimens
and other articles in charge but
sent them all as we hear by
the Cape. We dont feel well pleased
at his parting with them

We go up Rovuma today
All promises fairly - No bar - 17
fathoms & no bottom felt across
mouth which is a mile wide
people speak a dialect very
nearly allied to that of Senna,
the men who knew all our
discoveries long ago ought
to come down with their knowledge before
we come down with ours. In three months Please God we shall tell you all about it. The

bishop is on board - An excellent man - and all
his party D^o D^o David Livingstone