Letter to H. Norton Shaw, 5 June 1857

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Hadley Green

5th June

1857

Private

My Dear D^r Shaw

I dont understand the "adjustment" unless it is comparison of my positions with those given by Maclear. In Angola the positions of Ambaca Candumba & Lombe [0002]

were known to

be East of Golungo (15° 2 E)

Alto both from

my calculations &

a sketch I sent to

the Society. M^r_ Maclears

calculation made

these three positions

West of 15° 2 probably

from an error

in my transcribing

the Lunar distances

for him. Now

I suppose you

[0003]

gave M^r A. both my sketch and

M^r Maclear's

positions - I cannot

see why detecting

the discrepancy

between mine

& Maclears should

cost you so much

but I dont understand these matters. Is there any adjustment of my sketch? If so on whose authority? [0004]I reject those of M^r Maclear that do not accord with my reckoning & view of the country as probably having some errors of transcribing in them "If the "adjustment" is followed on the same principle all the materials being supplied by ourselves Must we pay for it? [0005]I objected to two notes as they stood in the journal because he made the corrections in the following way.

He put down positions according to Maclear till he came to Ambacca then corrected that to $15^{\circ} 23$ as in my sketch [0006]without once mentioning my sketch or calculations and he dealt with Candumba and Lombe in the same way. He sent me the proof with the notes. I added to the note the line. "These positions are ascertained to be erroneous from $D_{\overline{}}^{r}$ L's own

[0007] calculations & sketch and not from any other source as none other were ever made in the country"

D.L.

This he did not relish and altered the notes somewhat leaving my addition out. I would not like to hurt his feelings in the least but the question seems to be this [0008]We give all the materials for making the map the true positions with the means of detecting discrepances in them Are we to pay extras for being so liberal? Has he made any [material] alteration between my sketch and my[the] little maps? I did not detect any in a cursory glance. [0009]

I am not sure yet whether I can be present on Monday. We are not at work with the proofs now but hard at work on new matter, but will take the liberty of bring some slips when [0010] I come. Is the paper one of interest for Monday? When in London at a late meeting I am obliged to sleep there and that is not always agreeable

With kind salutations from M^{rs} L. who is pretty well [0011] here I am &c.

D. Livingstone

My little girl has a small ulcer or depression on both corniae rather alarming as she must use her eyes in life. I am going to use a little nitrate of silver $1 \frac{1}{2}$ grs to ounce of [0012]distilled water this was our most effectual collyrium in Africa. I give her iron too Do you know anything better?

DL.