Letter to John Kirk 2, 24 March 1865

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My Dear Kirk

I feel very much annoyed at the refusal to print your reply. They ought to have refused Peters too, but this knuckling down to the Germans shews them to be no great things themselves There is an immense deal of "claw me & Ill claw you" with bowing to Germans [0002]immaculate conceptions I have fired a shot at the thing "kaia" but had "a grave Berlin professor" till last revise & I put out Berlin. I enclose a proof that you may see

Dry cupping has been tried, it has made the skin looser and I think straightened the leg but it is still to a certain degree locked In speaking tonight they both urged that you should press Lord Dalhousie [0003] now that the Parliament is going to be dissolved to ask

for a Consulate - a definite promise in black & white. They will do anything for an influential man like him. It is only by pressing that anything can be got. You know him I suppose -If you think that I would do any good give me his address and I could write him at the same time or send my [0004]letter to you if you think a reference to me would help. The way my brother got his was not through me except indirectly & so that I would not be blate to apply for another - I think that really it is high time that pressure should be applied for it is evident to me M^r Wild having spoken to Sir Roderick that after he had reported what I said to Lord Russell his Lordship must [0005]have said "See what Sir Roderick says first"

Suppose you put the case fairly to Lord
Dalhousie - "no consulate on the whole 900 miles of coast which the Portuguese claim - nor [on] an equal line of Madagascar where slaving is going on &c &c.

The Comoro consulate being a mere nothing & the Zanzibar one having too much to do - then the scientific results to be expected besides [0006]the consulate having by a vote of the Lords being insisted on but at Benn-batouk -bay this would be accomplished without the Government being forced to follow the vote &c anything that will make a good case if fairly in Lord Dalhousies head would I feel sure help you, and so many people app[...] that unless pressure is put on nothing will be done -

I am &c David Livingstone

Have you Captⁿ Grants address?

And I am to get no salary