

## Letter to Agnes Livingstone 3, 22, 29 January, 6 February 1866

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

Published by Livingstone Online ([livingstoneonline.org](http://livingstoneonline.org))

[0001]

Crossing the Line in  
( Long.) 49° E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Januar

y  
1866

My Dear Nannie

I begin a letter now order to be part ready we come to Zanzibar which may be in a week . We are getting on well but such a ship never was by the name of pleasure yacht. I suppose was sold in England because she was so . As soon as we down to dinner

[0002] entire attention is taken in balancing the soup . If you forget the in your hand, the vessel gives a lurch. the greasy fluid flows your lap. Fancy a old gentleman

[about my size] taking a bath while she is her beastly pranks. bucket of salt water all he can venture to put . One moment he is on by the sides to sliding to the other . the next the mad sloshes up to his & mouth, and the in their holes & the

[0003] flies on the wall laugh him. Most of the marine were sick. You have been a victim you had tried the remedy of a bag of ice along the spine, sounds as hopeful the old cure for tooth-, namely, "take a mouth-of cold water & sit on the till it boils. You suffer no more from " We have had no-to attract our attention coming over this wide of waters - a sea broke of the boats so that half of was swept away & two or black sailors were with it. The life buoys

[0004] thrown to them and a lowered & they were up. All the sailors [either] Lascars or Seedies. They confused in any . The Captain to go & shew them every to be hauled when in sail, and I took wheel and brought her

"up in the wind" while the affair took place. stopped the ship's course we should have the poor fellows hope-out of sight. A took a bite at the vane of the log today. He some pieces of the

[0005] of his teeth in the , and probably has the ; you will of sympathize with . The vane revolves the water and the number revolutions are registered a little machine in of it so that the travelled over is . It trails behind the .

If you ask M<sup>r</sup> Murray send by M<sup>r</sup> Conyningham  
" Buckland's curiosities of history",and M<sup>r</sup> address to the  
Edinburgh students it will me writing to him

[0006] you return home you be scrutinized to see if are spoiled. You have to act naturally & to all your old to disarm their . I think you find the Youngs true . M<sup>rs</sup> Williamson Widdicombe hill near

Bath writes to me that would like to shew you plans for the benefit poor orphans. If you of going to Bath might be well to get the insight you could that, and every other work. It is well to be

[0007] to take a comprehensive of all benevolent , and resolve do our duty in life in way or other for cannot live for our-alone. A life of self-is one of misery. it is unlike that of blessed saviour who not himself. He not his own even, but the will of father in Heaven. I have with much pleasure book called "Rose Douglas" is the life of a minister's with fictitious , but all true. She near Lanark and through Hamilton you

[0008] better read it if you come contact with it.

I would not stop too long Newstead Abbey. Travelling is very expensive.If Tom & Oswell go again to you had better go with .

What a mistake to say any about the Marsaueaux before the review written. If I say now it was very good. It had something very in it, M<sup>r</sup>Cailliate see that I am dreading Review, But I main-that I only depretiated it a means of writing for drinking. No. No!

[0009] did not mention you considered most on the night of the , so I dreamed that I one young lady hug-a German Grammar her bosom - another with pair of curling tongs - a and a pinafore. with a bunch of up postage stamps & in a crinoline upside down, and fourth lifted up Madame & insisted on carrying as her most precious . Her name which I not catch will go down to alongside of the ladies each carried out her from the besieged city & took care never to let him

[0010] the last of it afterwards. am so penetrated with ad-of her that I enclose wing of a flying fish for . It lighted among us last while we were at din-coming right through skylight - You will make of this fact in the high flying which you will deliver in French

If the "Anties" would get M<sup>r</sup>Youngs lawyer to manage affair of the house they get a double storeyed built for them some else but they wont advice. They put no down - make memoranda so are the mercy of any one gives them a fair story cannot interfere further

[0011] to ask M<sup>r</sup> Young to them. Janet will "Oh aye its a in my " & no documents necessary. I question the ground is theirs. wanted them to get all settled in 1858. some lawyer fellow whom instead of town council they got fen, but they only me with their my questions & never say a word them about it again.

Write a note to R.L. esq. Ritchie Stewart & co. Bombay and say I desired you to give my[(your)] address in to the money has been kind enough

[0012] invest. It wont be put your name until perhaps months hence. If above £2000 then had better make the stand for Anna . You will give your address say half year hence.

Zanzibar 29<sup>th</sup> we arrived yesterday & found that 9 of my buffaloes had . It is a bad climate both man & beast 2 males 2 cows & 2 alone remain to the experiment with Tsetse. We went today call on the Sultan. His Highness met us at bottom of the stairs

[0013] as he shook hands brass band which he at Bombay blared "God Save the Queen" was excessively ludicrous I maintained sufficient gravity. After & sherbert we came and the wretched now struck up "The Grenadiers" as if fact of my being only 5 ft 8 & Brebner about 2 inches lower ought not have suggested "Wee Winkle" as more . I was ready explode but got out of before giving way cachinations

[0014]

There can be no doubt of Baron Van der Decken's . He was excessively . & over bearing the utmost for the natives taking pains on all to shew that . His Hauteur accompanied with stinginess in small . This was the remarkable in-as he bought two from his own . but these were confer honour on as an explorer imagined that I had into the Juba with

[0015] Lady Nyassa instead of Bombay & raged against like a wild bull in net. Imagining that I purposefully forestalled in his exploration. saw the water discoloured 8 miles out from the as fluent to Bombay I had only three men whom I could depend I felt it would not be to go in so short . The poor man so much contempt the natives that up to moment when they him he never they dared lay finger on the Noch weil Baron. He went [...]

[0016] before he was killed demand why provisions not been sent regularly this in their own & other things which shall never know simply insanity, but must say nothing 6 February The Sultan had - a gum boil too. this afternoon the Thule to be taken over. He salutes English flag ere we haul down 21 guns & then the Captain Bradshaw the Sultan's flag it runs up. Plenty of burned. The Penguin some 3 weeks hence take me to Rovuma bless you dear Nannie [...]