

## Letter to John Kirk 2, 27, 28 March 1865

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

Published by Livingstone Online ([livingstoneonline.org](http://livingstoneonline.org))  
[0001]

27 March 1865

My Dear Kirk

What do you call  
the tree from which  
the bark cloth is made?  
And the cholompi -  
would it be  
sufficient to say  
a Pterocarpus -  
the vallisneria?  
for the lake plant  
of which they  
make salt. -& is  
the sarsaparilla of  
the hills known  
[0002]

It was the Mosibe  
that was previously  
known in the West  
Indies & no where else  
was it not - the seed  
with a red pellicle  
which was fallen up  
The Nboma or  
Boma is also  
oil yielding I  
think - what do  
you call the Fustic  
I did not put any  
thing of that kind  
down because I  
expected that the  
Government  
[0003]

would have employed  
you to describe them  
all.

Mr Webbs knee is  
a little better but still  
locked, he goes about

today for first time  
I think the thing must  
be in a dent in  
the cartilage - The  
fish are dying just  
coming out. It is  
far too cold for  
them to hatch out.

I am &c

David Livingstone

In one note you say Aula-  
clodus Swinderianus In  
another Aulacodus Swinderinanus

[0004]  
28<sup>th</sup> I am glad that  
your reply is to be  
printed - and think you  
were quite right to object  
to the Speke scheme.  
I was written to about  
3 months ago to attend the  
meeting and it would  
they said be put off till  
it was convenient. I  
let them know that it  
never would be con-  
venient - The slave trade  
must be suppressed as  
the first great step to  
any mission - that  
baffles every good  
effort. I see Lord  
Stanley is in the hands  
of the oil traders -  
again. The native Christians  
in Sierra Leone contribute  
£10,000 annually to the church mission