

Letter to Heinrich Barth, 10 November 1857

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

50 Albemarle Str.

10th Nov^r 1857

My Dear Sir

It was only on my return from Staffordshire yesterday that I received your kind note of the 7th. I saw you at the meeting of the R.G.S. and intended then to acknowledge the kindness which prompted you to think of me in connection with your remaining volumes. But you escaped my sight in the crowd. I shall always be heard of at Murrays 56 Abermarle St. and beg to assure you that [I shall peruse your works with double interest from] the circumstance of having known you and participated so largely in your generosity. I am keeping the other three to be a treat where far away from the hustle of civilisation My countrymen give me little leisure now, just as I suppose yours to do when in Germany. I however cannot get away into quiet by going over there as you do by coming over here. I hope that you found your family well. As for me, my poor father died when I was near Sete on my way to the East coast and there is no one to whom I should have been more pleased to relate my adventures than to him. My poor mother is ill through the excitement of parting with three sons from distant parts of the world on one day.

There is some prospect of my getting back to my adopted land in January, but I go first to Portugal. Wherever you may be placed I shall always read every word I see about you with pleasing interest. And I pray that our Heavenly Father may protect you and that through the merits of our blessed Redeemer you & I may meet in joy after all our wanderings all over.

[0002]

I am most sincerely

yours

David Livingstone

My work which you receive so kindly is a poor little thing as compared to yours. You have at least five times as much perseverance in handling the pen that I have.