Letter to William J. Hooker, 10 August 1863

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

[0001]
Cataracts of Shire 10 Aug
1863
DearSir William
In our letter of
Instructions for withdrawal
of the Expedition a sort of
complaint is made that
whatever may be the
natural resources of the
newly discovered regions
H. M. Government have
as yet recieved but
scanty information
thereon - to which I have
replied that Dr Kirk
had sent or taken home
to the Government
Museum at Kew as
ample materials for
elucidating the Economical

[0002]
and botanical resources
as ever have been sent
from a barbarous
country & from a vessel
where incessant care
was required to keep every
thing from spoiling.
and as no instance
is on record of information
of value being communicated
without consulting existing
Herbaria and Authorities,
I though the complaint
slightly premature or
words to that effect - I
thought this justice to
Dr Kirk demanded and
I hope if you are
consulted or should a
favourable opportunity

arise you will say a
a good word in his behalf

[0003]
The means too of publishing
his extensive materials
ought to be forthcoming
for as a commercial
speculation I suspect
a work of the kind would
not be a paying one.
The Doctor has been I can
assure you a most
assiduous & painstaking
collector - nothing ever
deterred him from his
duty and he always
did it like a man.
If you can confer
any favour you
will never find a
more deserving
recipient. This I can
say after five years
constant intercourse

[0004]
    When I last heard from
him he was at Quillimane
in poor health. I sent
D$^{\underline{r}}$ Meller down too - and
I hope the report of his
appointment to Madagascar
is correct. We remain
waiting for next flood
to take Pioneer down to the
sea. When as I shall
have to go to India I
must beg you to recieve
my luggage at Kew.
It is not much and I
have no home now
    Will you remember me
kindly to D$^{\underline{r}}$ & M$^{\underline{rs}}$ Hooker
and believe me
    Truly yours
    David Livingstone