

Letter to [Roderick I. Murchison?], [24 February 1864]

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

Private

You cannot conceive the state I was in on the stoppage of three letters somewhere I imagined that you had thrown me overboard and being in poor health I racked my thoughts to discover wherein I had been senseless enough to have offend you. I thought all manner of things - but all came right when I found the missing letters on 31st Oct^r and one from Lady Murchison too I thank you and her very much, and pray that the Almighty may bless you. they lifted a heavy weight off my mind and heart

Very glad to hear of the success of my friends

[0002]

Speke and Grant. I had become very uneasy about them. I would have tried to have gone in by the Webbe had I been attempting the Nile but it has turned out well for our country

I dont know whether I am destined to be thrown on the shelf or not. the Earl of Clarendon said that I had been put on the list of Consuls by way of providing for me. If I am thrown into idleness I shall come out here again rather

the mission of the Univer-

sities has not answered
my expectations & then
they blame me for their
fighting which took place
when I was away at the
Lake - come what may

[0003]

I shall never blame another
for what I do myself.
the New bishop was two
months ago on the top
of Morambala mountain
at the mouth of the Shire
4000 feet high - Fancy a
mission on the top of
Ben Nevis and no
people near to teach.
The clouds condensing
drop through their roofs
perpetually.

the river not yet up
(4 Dec^r) though we have
been back a month
Wish we had gone on
to Bemba but I should
not have been happy
knowing that I was
neglecting my duty to
the Pioneer. We take
Lady Nyassa to India if
we can to sell her.
Earl Russell says that

[0004]

the expense of this expedition
cannot be justified - I
wonder if the expense of
the cruizers on the coast
one of which costs £25,000
per annum can be justified
if we had got the steamer
on the Lake we should
have done more to stop
the slave trade than half
a dozen cruizers. Unless
the slave trade of buba is
stopped the Portuguese never
will give it up

David Livingstone
the bishop is off before

me. I take the boys & children
whom he wished to abandon
& send them to the Cape - there
are about 40 altogether - having
liberated them once I felt in
honour bound to see them
free. the bishop is about as fit
to be a missionary as I am to
be the Director at Jermyn St
At Mozambique 24 Feb^y all right