Letter to John Murray III, 30 May 1857

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Sat Evening

 $30^{\rm th}~{\rm May}$

1857

My Dear M^r Murray

I am sorry to find that you have been led to suppose that the reviser employed is in any way qualified for the work. I give you a few specimens of his erudition taken at random [0002] Slip 98 line 22 from top "pestered" is the truth beseiged is not line 26th spinal is not true it was uterine but

S 95 Hooping cough corrected into Whooping cough What is that?
96 to his affrighted relatives corrected into to the great alarm of their astonished relatives!

No inspection of the [0003] body being ever allowed diluted thus, by these people -! Then third line from top a line left out which is quite necessary to complete the

Please look at slip 111 and say whether what is struck out is not proof positive of your man being entirely wanting [0004] in sympathy with the author of a book of this kind. Prof. Owen puts stet opposite it.

S.210 bottom of page Does not know meaning of "parts!" (vide Johnson or Webster)

213 Makes nonsense of a plain statement in middle of page $\rm D^o~D^o~214$ [0005]you see I have avoided saying expressly that prepuce is cut off though it might be expected from using the proper term for that operation. And a man who puts his hand to revise a work on South Africa ought to have known the universal practice of the real cutting off yet see 218 - incision See again 226 [0006]"the phrase being identical with "abiit ad plures"" is struck out, by this gentleman - ab uno disce omnes ignorance I fear

Now my good

friend I cannot think you have noticed the process of emasculation for which I fear you have been paying. the liberties [0007]he has taken are most unwarrantable and I cannot really undertake to father them. I am willing to submit my style uncouth though it be to M^r Elwin or any friend you like and if it is not clearer more forcible and more popular than anything this man [0008]can give I shall then confess I am wrong. My letters written to the Geog raphical & Missionary societies are popular Why must you pay for diluting what I say with namby pambyism Excuse me, but you must give this man leave to quit I really cannot afford to appear as he would make me D. Livingstone