

## Letter to John Washington, 11 March 1861

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[0001]

Pioneer Rovuma Bay

11<sup>th</sup> March 1861.

My Dear Captain Washington

The enclosed mess bill of  
M<sup>r</sup> Rae amounting to £31.16 for  
66 days was handed to me by M<sup>r</sup>  
Jones Paymaster of H.M.S. Lyra  
Had it been a small sum I would  
have paid it and put it to the  
incidental expenses but it is  
more than I possess of public  
money though I have recieved  
a balance from M<sup>r</sup> May of  
£17..17..4 I therefore send  
the bill on to you and refer  
M<sup>r</sup> Jones to you for settlement  
you will be able to explain the

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account to the Foreign Office. I sent  
M<sup>r</sup> Rae to the Admiral at the Cape  
and requested him to furnish a  
passage in some Government  
vessel to England. He seems to have  
taken another route - and came  
to grief. He had all D<sup>r</sup> Kirks specimens  
and other articles in charge but  
sent them all as we hear by  
the Cape. We dont feel well pleased  
at his parting with them

We go up Rovuma today  
All promises fairly - No bar - 17  
fathoms & no bottom felt across  
mouth which is a mile wide  
people speak a dialect very  
nearly allied to that of Senna,  
the men who knew all our  
discoveries long ago ought

to come down with their knowledge before  
we come down with ours. In three months Please God we shall tell you all about it. The  
bishop is on board - An excellent man - and all  
his party D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup> David Livingstone