Letter to John Murray III

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[0001]

57 Sloane St

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My Dear M^r Murray

M^r Clowes has just sent me proofs of the plates or drawings. he lion is absolutely abominable . I entreat you by all that 's good

[0002]

to suppress it . Every one who knows what a lion is will die with laughing at it. It 's the greatest bungle Wolf ever made . I told him about and I told him the proportions were much too great on the side

[0003]

of the lion. It 's like a dray horse over me. It really must hurt the book to make a lion look larger than a hippopotamus I am quite distressed about it. or at least make the lion smaller

Would the style

in which Andersson's plates are got up not superior to this? Of course

[0004] I am no judge of this point but of the lion I am I think.

Is it impossible to put on a rag round the of these fellows? All wear something except the Batoka . I refer to the elephant hunt to make the fellows all stark naked

[0005] is worse than talking about Urine and yet your critic turned up the white of his eyes at that .

The reception at Shinte's which came to day is very poor . I have made some notes for the artist .

[0006] My men ought to be close to me two ficus or trees in the place and the roofs of the huts seen over the walls on one side as I have indicated. he musical instrument when seen

side ways is

[0007] thus

The keys are beaten with drumsticks.
The drum slung on the neck & beaten with the hands.

Have you any of the permanent copy set up. I would like to see whether your

[0008] in the corrections introduced by your corrector , he is a man who has sympathy in such a book .

I don 't send back the plates to M^r Clowes but to you begging mercy against being caricatured .

D. Livingstone

Pray don 't think me unreasonable you may ask Vardon if you doubt