

Letter to William F. Webb, 6 April 1865

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)
[0001]

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My Dear Webb
I am sincerely
glad that no operation
is to be performed
on your knee. I
confess I was very
anxious about
it for it was not
a case of knee
only but of leg &
perhaps more -
Ferguson must
be a brick -

My brother in
America tells
[0002]
me this morning that he
will do his best to
secure wild rice for
you but it is not to
be had before the fall
of the year. He has
written to a friend near
Lake Simcoe to procure
some from the Indians
who gather it for
their own use in
winter. and also to
a seedsman in
Lanark. When he
was living in
Lanark he says
we had some of it
growing in
shallow places
[0003]
but the wild ducks
ate it up before it
was ripe. On some
lakes it is very

plentiful, and if
it is to be had at all
this year he will
secure it & send
it to Liverpool for
you

I mention this
though I know from
Kirk that you have
got a letter as it
shews that the
ducks are fond of
it - & that he attended
to my request &
will in time secure it
[0004]
fish coming out -
about this size
water getting so warm
that the hands dont
get benumbed in
working in the water
a good many had
died above Reservoir
not a single fish
runs up though
above the "ladder"
it was 50 ° on Sunday
I got a finer gauze
put in the gas
house place to keep
them from going
away till you come
down
[0005]

the trout are rising
very much at the
quarry ponds but
they must have
put the eggs back
in themselves. I
should like very
much to dissect
& see, but wont
till you come &
say yes.

I have a
commission

to all the chiefs
between the Portuguese
& the Pasha of
Egypt & Abyssinia
[0006]
and particular care
to say that I have no
salary & no pension
can be claimed.
I mean to live after
they are all dead &
rotten and always
get the petition answer-
ed so "Give us this
day our daily bread"
I don't mean to
make any howl
about it but with
love to Olivia & MrsW

I am &c

David Livingstone

We lunch tomorrow with
Mr
Arkwright & then go to see some place
over there
[0007]
Weather delightful!!! Absolutely so
and no mistake
[0008]
My [...] might too - When are you coming?
[0009]
children all beautifully well -

I have taken it upon me to write & tell
Lord Dalhousie all about Kirk