

## Letter to William S. Price, 27 September 1865

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[0001]

[5-6-9] Bombay 27 Sept 1865 [MS 8/13]

My Dear M<sup>r</sup> Price

I was leaving  
Poonah when I got  
your letter of the 23 and I have  
been so occupied since  
as to be unable to  
answer [...] the questions  
which the eight volunteers  
naturally put -

In travelling they  
will be required to act  
as carriers of the calico  
and beads which are  
argued to pay our  
way - There are instruments  
also - but I go in as light  
[0002]

marching order as possible  
I never carried a bed  
nor liquor and my  
men knowing that the  
burdens are all for use  
and like Aesop's become  
[...] clearly more light have  
always been eager to  
take as much as they  
could - [...] If one has been  
sick but able to walk  
then they divided his  
burden among them  
Food from a place  
where it abounded has  
often been added - The  
strong helping the weak -  
I look to them to regulate  
somethings themselves  
and I find that though  
[0003]  
they have to [...] bear fatigue they  
dont lose their spirits -

Besides carrying the  
goods they are expected  
after travelling about  
5 hours to prepare a  
sleeping place for me  
and themselves - if it  
is likely to rain sheds  
are made with branches  
of trees [...] and long grass -  
when accustomed to this  
all will be under shelter  
in an hour & a half  
or two hours - Dry wood  
is always abundant &  
near except when we  
sleep in a village but  
it must be brought in  
both for cooking and  
protection  
[0004]

At the principal villages  
we usually rest a few days  
and it is sometimes  
necessary that two or three  
go to adjacent villages  
to purchase food at a  
cheaper rate than where  
we may be - they are  
expected to take an intelligent  
[...] interest in the Expedition  
get information on  
every subject and whatever  
happens never turn tail  
and run away -

I would like them  
distinctly to understand  
that they are to perform  
any reasonable duty for  
me because the late  
good bishop Mackenzie  
[0005]  
brought some men from  
the Cape and when they got  
into the country they wished  
to be served rather than  
serve - they expected to  
have the same food as the  
bishop's associates who  
were clergymen gentlemen

They had boxes with them  
which they could not have  
carried to save their lives  
if your men have luggage  
of that kind it will be  
necessary to have it at  
Zanzibar or other place of  
security and a blanket  
with spare shirts & trousers  
only be taken till we see  
our way clear to a more  
permanent place of abode  
inland -

[0006]

The country people have  
a strong inclination to  
detain every traveller as  
long as they can at their  
own village & often invent  
stories of "war in front"  
to effect their object -  
They wish to get him to  
spend all their goods in  
buying food from them  
I expect my men to  
march when the word is  
given without minding  
the palavers of others - I  
intend to take some  
buffaloes as beasts of  
burden and if they are  
capable as [...] I expect they  
will be of withstanding

[0007]

the bite of the fly (tsetse) they  
will lighten all our labour  
your men will lend a  
hand with them - and  
as I shall never desire  
them to do anything un-  
reasonable I think that  
they ought to make up  
their minds to do as  
they are told in all cases

If I leave Africa  
without finding a place  
and chief untable and  
in their judgment desirable  
for residence then I shall  
bring them with me to

Zanzibar.

We are to have a passage  
in a man of war  
[0008]  
probably in November  
The rains begin then - past  
now the feet would be  
made sore by travelling  
on in hot dry paths - In a  
man of war they are  
aware that every one  
conforms to the regulations

I am going back to  
Guniskind on monday  
next and have to give a  
little lecture on Tuesday  
then - I shall be at Govern  
ment house till monday  
following & will be glad  
when how your men  
recieve this - anxiety to  
avoid bishop Mackenzie's  
difficulty makes me  
particular in specifying the  
duties -

David Livingstone

[0009]

P.S. I should like  
to know if any  
of the men have  
a knowledge of  
carpentry, as it  
may be necessary  
to build up on a  
canoe for navigating  
the Lake Tangan-  
-yika

[0010]

D. Livingstone  
Oct. 1865

MS 8/13/3