

Letter to Whitwell Elwin, 22 March 1858

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[0001]

Screw Steamer Pearl

22 March 1858

My Dear Sir

One or two things having come my recollection as probably worthy insertion in the abridgement I them down in order to send them from Sierra Leone which we hope to reach in the course four or five days, and I may say to you that we have had very weather up to this time and all companions seem to be men in of right stamp. I look upon this a smile on our enterprise from Benignant Father in Heaven. He graciously continue to prosper us.

When speaking of the quantities of in the country above Tete, it be well to remark that. We have varieties of bees in the country, some of them are without stings. called Motla makes its hive in the ground but a still very variety of the same selects trees this purpose. The honey is aromatic and sensibly in taste. The latter species around any person who near their hive and lights on face and hands and apparently the perspiration. It resembles

[0002] is not much larger than the small black ant and if it exists Palestine may be the "ant" Solomon, for I am not aware the habit of "providing her in summer, and gathering food in harvest" can be ascribed any ant as well as it can be this species of bee. It would be while for those who travel Palestine to examine this point.

At the point given of the pounding corn in mortars by the Egyptians - the following of a scriptural phrase be put in-

"though thou bray a fool in mortar among wheat with a yet will his foolishness not from him." When wheat other grain is pounded in the here represented a little is added and very soon bran is stripped off the seed idea present to the mind of one who has witnessed the is this, if wheat is the outer scale is stripped off

[0003] though a fool were subjected the same treatment his folly still cleave to him.

When Professor Owen at the Farewell dinner by the Royal Geographical he remarked that I had let their ideas the majesty of the South Lion down consid- erably, he could assure hearers that the British which once inhabited islands was a very animal from with which I was and its size that it was a noble majestic . The speech is be published in the transactions the Geographical Society if not too much trouble make a good

[0004]

I give these for your consideration you think them unworthy insertion just drop them ever taking the to tell me you have so. As I am writing the book I may just that if you think illustrations desirable are several scenes possession of Mr Oswell they are at our disposal any time. M^r Murray them - they are at Hotel Cork (St.)

A week after we Liverpool we were in warm weather and 12 days after our depart- ure it is like midsummer you. We look back & the poor natives of what Romans called "out of the " and hope that Great may become so yet that annual to warmer skies will be possible for the weak chested. I have nothing to write about so say good bye

David Livingstone