

## Letter to John Washington, 10 October 1859

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[0001]

(I)

Murchison's Cataract

10<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1859

My Dear Captain Washington

we have traced this up to its point of departure from

Lake Nyinyesi or as we heard it there Nyassa and found there are only thirty miles [(say 33)] of and the river is placid to 14° 25' S. where Nyassa . We abandoned our intention going up the Ruo when we that M<sup>r</sup> Laird's precious was in a sinking state: , Furnace, Deck & went shaky simultaneously it would have been unadvisable be encamped near the border about Ruo. We came on to

Chibisa's taking nearly a month do what an ordinary steamer have done & what we can (with the current) in three . We proceeded over land Zomba & then descended

[0002] the Shire valley & followed the river to the Nyassa. It was the hottest of the year - the "smokes" from burning of thousands of acres tall grass = a broiling hot London if you can imagine such a . We were 37 in all D<sup>r</sup> Kirk M<sup>r</sup> . Livingstone, M<sup>r</sup> Rae & 33 Makololo were delighted with the country & no for it is mountainous & few miles we had streams of cool water. It was Londa . A great deal of cotton is cultivated indeed the Lake region opens up finest cotton & sugar country in the . Remember please when I so that I invariably discouraged formation of any company or speculation, but the time come when with calm deliberation can say there is a glorious prospect both Africa and England. No what you have done there is an opportunity for you doing than ever, for, the two Lakes

Shirwa (which means simply - {Great } or Tamandua and

Nyinyesi or Nyassa lie parallel to East coast and all the slave of Anghozia & Mosambique

[0003] the Interior crosses these Lakes rather crosses Shire and then goes the partition between them - Tamandua length is about 90 miles

Nyinyesi no one could tell more than months to the North it turned into the sea. We met a slaving party from Cazembes & bought fine specimens of from them. When they we were English they evaporated night They had a great many and elephants tusks. Now commerce would eat out traffic ere long, but it must untrammelled by Portuguese and I now give you points about which you will be consulted.

The Kongone or as it is sometimes Nyangalüe was quite unknown the Portuguese and lately when we down to meet the "Persian" slaves sent to follow & report on we had found a navigable . This though we had given of it they knew Melambe miles west of it but not Kongone

[0004] , the Governor General of Mosambique for a half cast called Paul Mariano few months ago to ask him if the

Zambesi really entered the sea at the

Luabo! & shewed him my map. And a slave from Senna our in last journey was sent to Mosambique to be pumped by Excellency as to where we had . The Shire being wholly unknown them except 3 miles at its mouth. is English discovery exactly as in Niger and all the right or Southern which at Shupanga they farm paid tribute for by the Portuguese the

Natives. From Kongone up to is all English discovery & ought to free for the Portuguese line of ran from Sofala to Senna then across the country to Quilimane

M<sup>r</sup> Candido denied to D<sup>r</sup> Kirk that had told me of his having been to Nyanja. then reasserted to me that had been there & pointed to it, N. N. W. Tette. That he punted 36 hours under palms - quite soft. If he had seen Lake at all it was Not Nyassa for it deep & has no cabbages & it is N. E. of N. N. W. of Tette

We found the southern edge of Zomba 6600 - a peak 8 or 10 miles off must eight thousand. Air delightfully cool, water delicious & plenty of it

D<sup>r</sup> Kirk botanized up a peach a mile from our camp 500 ft. more (or 7000 say)

We must have a steamer capable of being unscrewed here & carried 30 . No more Macgregor Laird shams please.

We hope to send off Thornton - disease, laziness, Baines - theft has stolen a great deal & given away to Portuguese ticket of leave men property & provisions

[0005] stopped Baines pay on 30 July, but think anything on hand of his to be stopped till he accounts for stolen goods

Not a line from you yet I am &c Ever Yours David Livingstone