

Letter to Joseph D. Hooker, 28 July 1857

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

Hadley Green
28th July
1857

My Dear D^r Hooker

I beg leave
to enclose another
of my lame
specimens. It
floats on the
water of the
Zambesi and
is very pretty

[0002]

It has no root in
the soil but
seems quite
content with
the water. this
has preserved
its appearance
but is much
shrivelled. A
water plant
called by the
Portuguese Alfacya

[0003]

"lettuce" from its
resemblance to
that plant also
floats on the water
and great quantities
come down a
river called Shire into the
Zambesi. It is
said quite to
obstruct the
navigation. It is
on that account

[0004]

I mention it in the
book. I saw it
at Oxford but the
name has escaped
me. It is like a
little cabbage-
Another plant appeared
at the same time
which I don't trouble
you with but
only mention
it as to me a
curiosity. It
is called Njefu

[0005]

and has a leaf
of this size & shape
at there is

a nut which

Sebituane the
chief liked so
much he
made it a
part of the tribute

[0006]

from the tribes
he subjected.
I liked those I
eat and they
were floating
in company
with the Alfacinya
If you can
give me the
proper name
of the last

[0007]

I shall feel obliged
but do not
I pray you
spend much
time on the subject. Many

and hearty thanks
for your notes
all of which
came duly to
hand. As also

[0008]
the notes from
M^r Westwood
for which I am
very thankful

Please present
my kindest
salutations to
M^{rs} H& believe
me Most truly

Yours

David Livingstone