

Letter to General Edward Sabine, 6 February 1860

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[Ans^d. Oct. 3 Arch. Mackenzie.]

Tette 6th Feby 1860

My Dear General Sabine

In spite of the interest in our behalf by the Royal Society the intentions of Government M^r Laird furnished us with a most vessel, and I am sorry to you that our magnetic have lately suffered in consequence. the was built of a sort of steel plate of only 1/16 of an in thickness. It is excessively - friction has no effect it, but moisture & heat

[0002] a chemical decomposition which paint is no protection. apparently of the black oxide iron are formed inside & out when these are peeled off there a black smooth shining surface numerous small holes. the are strongly magnetic, and think that they have damaged the of the instruments. The consequent on the scaling , and wet from springing leaks in plates now not

1/32 of an inch in thickness destroyed the glue in wooden parts, so much a new set would be

[0003] only really satisfactory . You may be that my brother do the best that can in the circumstances regluing &c. but I it my duty to let know exactly how stand. We hope a new vessel with for instruments & . In this we have [& much private & public property has been spoiled]. and she has been put together as to pump into herself by her own motions. M^r Macgregor

[0004] promised before we got her she would carry ten or twelve . His brother cooly says

after we got her, that she intended to carry only a few persons. As far discovery is concerned we done pretty well, but our operations have cramped by this wretched , and it is a wonder have escaped with our .

I am Dear Sir

Yours Most Truly

David Livingstone