

Letter to Agnes Livingstone 1, 30 August 1862, 21 October 1862

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

Johanna 30 Aug 1862

My Dear Mother

We came to this island a few days ago and have an opportunity of sending letters so I write though I have not much to say. We are on our way to another river called the Rovuma by which we hope to find an outlet to those discoveries which we have with so much toil effected. We wish to be away from the Portuguese who are inveterate slave traders and turn all our labours to the forwarding of

[0002]

this horrid traffic. We mean to explore Rovuma in boats - and in December next return to place the Lady Nyassa on the Lake of that name. the mission established by the High church party may yet do good but they have much to learn. I wish them every success but it may be better to stand less in contact with them than I have been as any blunders they make are put on my shoulders The Portuguese would like to worm them out of the country by their slaves

while they remain in

[0003]

the background. I lately called on the Governor
of Tette to prevent a private
Portuguese who had armed
a large party of blacks
and waged war from
disturbing them & he has
acceded to my request.
We had a great deal of
fever in consequence of
being so long down in
the lowlands - and exposed
in a way I never
contemplated for dear
Mary. The man whose
culpable negligence did
it all had fever himself
and was jaundiced but
was saved at death's door
We can cure it in general

[0004]

very quickly but sometimes
it resists all our efforts
I have written to Oswell by
this occasion but fear
I may not be able to do
so to Agnes & Thomas

With kindest salutations
to my sisters & to you
my dear mother and
to Anna Mary I am
ever affectionately

David Livingstone

I think it may be better
for Robert to come out
here for a while. I thought
education the best legacy
I could leave him but
so thought not he & must
rank in life accordingly