

Letter to Austin H. Layard, 28 September 1865

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

Copy of original historical letter
From D^rDavid Livingstone

Bombay

28th Sept^r 1865

My dear M^r Layard

Having nothing official to write about I send this private note to say that I am making preparations for starting in November when the monsoon changes, & when we hope a Man of War will be here. I have got 8 Africans & some drilled men - Indians - of the Marine Battalion who have been accustomed to rough it in the Persian Gulph & are said to be quite trustworthy.

In addition to these I intend to take buffaloes as beasts of burden, & I am indulging in hope that they may understand the poison of the Tsetse, & if they do we shall confer a great boon on East Africa. The brutes are as like our wild African ones as two peas, except the horns, & I am told the horns of the tame ones are often straightened [out] artificially. I have seen several with the regular curves of the wild ones.

The men of the Marine Battalion being Indians know how to manage them.
[0002]

The Sultan of Zanzibar is coming here. I shall make what arrangements are necessary when he comes, & then I can land at Rovuma without delay, & when we get to the coast, I am acquainted with Rev^d D^r Wilson

whom you may remember at
Constantinople

I am &^c₋
David Livingstone

Copied from the
Original letter by
C. G. Reeve
Feby 1938