

Letter to Agnes Livingstone 2, 30 November 1860

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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Tette 30 Nov^r 1860

My Dear Sister Agnes

Your first letter to me since I came back to Africa dated 26 July /59 was waiting my arrival here a few days ago. We had been up the River to the Makololo country - and tramped 600 miles in three months. Then some 800 more in canoes & on foot on our return. We were very glad to see our old friends again but I was saddened considerably by finding a party of London missionaries had perished as we suppose of Fever at Linyanti. My regret was the greater on remembering that we were curing [^][at the time they were dying] very severe cases of the

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same complaint on our way up and scarcely a day was lost after the operation of the remedy. the patients D^r Kirk & Charles resuming their march on foot even at the very longest 2 days after the medicine operated. And I found the proper medicines in my waggon about 500 yards from the spot where the missionaries perished. the mode of using them too is mentioned near the end of "Missionary Travels" Our Tom was the first I ever tried the powder on, at Lake Ngami in 1850 Agnes got it too and so did a party of Englishmen one of whom died before we arrived. The people had taken kindly to M^r Helmore who was really a good man & most devoted missionary I grieve much over his departure

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but the Head of the church doeth all things well. the chief was afflicted with what is considered Leprosy, and several of his most influential headmen suffered death for bewitching him. We were curing him when obliged to leave, but time is requisite for complete cure. I question if it is real leprosy. the people are the most interesting I know, and I was sorely blamed for not bringing M^{rs} L. as all believe that the presence of one of M^r Moffat's family would secure them from attack by Mosilikatze. I hope that they will not be left untaught though this check has been given.

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We have not yet got our goods up the country, as soon as we do, all the Makololo will remove to the healthy highlands We are to have a new ship. Verily the one we got was a swindle, and some folks are not pleased because I say so. It entailed on me most unmerciful toil - but "He that tholes will overcome". Am glad to hear good accounts of the children. Please present my hearty thanks to my friend D^r Loudon for his continued kindness. Charles is pretty well has had fever several times. I have escaped any severe attack, but have had little illnesses - Sorry to hear that your health is so poor. My love to Grandma & Janet - I have written to Mother on every occasion of sending a mail - the letters of the children are pretty fair -

I am &c Affect^y David Livingstone

I hear very good accounts of Sechele. He has a Hanoverian missionary. Nine tribes are with him - schools very large