

Letter to [Edgar L.] Layard, 7 April 1860

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[0001]

Senna 7th April

1860

Private

My Dear M^r Layard reply to your about snails I have to that there is a singular blessed scarcity of them here. can recollect having seen only species - of these one is black velveteen coated individual shell, and another very that yellow civilized snail we used to see when "daisies & buttercups gladdened sight" He is houseless too. this scarcity arises from tremendous grass burnings

[0002]

that annually sweep over the land, from [the] want [of] enterprise (in the) which has consigned this country to paltry peddling ivory & sneaking dealing in human flesh, I cannot pretend say, but if you are fond of snails into your dissenting 's garden, you need not here. It would be all up with . but I shall try & send you few some day.

D^r Kirk got away a good collection and M^r C Livingstone good many birds. but it has uphill work - want of room perpetual damp in our wretched steamer seriously im-every effort. But if we live, shall do something more, i.e. we try & try again

[0003]

Thanks for the Pinches - the good fellow swam ashore seven west of where he sent afloat! letters lost. am &c

D. Livingstone

We leave our craft at Tette she floats so long she is done. A better is necessary before collection can be made for the zoological information