

Letter to John Washington, 15 October 1862

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

Rovuma 15th Oct

1862

Dear Admiral

We beached the
Pioneer about a mile
inside this river and
found that the damage
done by the coral
at Pomony, which
I reported in my
last was very slight -
five points had ripped
about 1 1/2 inches
square each. In one
there was according to
the carpenter a dent
of 1/4 inch in the wood

[0002]

In the others the felt was
rubbed to one side -
1 1/2 sheets of copper
covered the whole
no leakage whatever
had occurred there,
though believing it
might have been
more than from the
shaking of the engines
I thought it right
to report it to you at
once. She has been
caulked all over
which has done a
world of good, and

[0003]

does not leak an
inch in a week.

While we were
away I ordered Mr
Young in writing

not to leave the
anchorage. A heavy
swell came in &
he removed to the
mouth of the river
close to the right bank
point. By dragging
or otherwise she
was allowed to
get on a sand bank
there, and a heavy

[0004]

swell gave her according
to Rae a terrible bumping.
The only white sailor
with him was sick
& he says he could
not get out an
anchor to haul her
off with the new
Johanna crew. I
found about 20 feet
of the edge of one
streak of copper
bent down & put
it right. If she had
not been capitally
put together damage

[0005]

would have been done.
Young works hard
but has an awfully
bad temper and has
not the knack of
managing the men
either black or white
except in a hectoring
bullying manner.
I have just to pass
by this disobedience
of orders.

We exchanged two
men Goldsmith &
Whitehead with the
Orestes. Invalided

[0006]

Charles Neale - all
three very well

behaved men but
frequently sick. We
parted with David
Gwilliam with
regret, but Young
& he could not
get on together. Gwilliam
was the cleverer
man and knew it
He had £5 of advance
but all advances
slops &c are sent
to the Flagship.

[0007]

Instead of these four
we recieved two
from the Orestes -
Collier & Newell
who have good
characters and I
hope they may
get on with M^r
Young= We were
towed over her by
theOrestes, Captain
Gardner and will
sail for Johanna
on 17th For an
account of our
Rovuma trip

[0008]

see the larger sheet

David Livingstone
Admiral Washington
Johanna 24th Oct^r
A dhow going off to
Mayolta has been bribed
to wait only till I have
finished my despatch
that will give you
what I intended above
D. L.