

Letter to John Washington, 25 March 1860

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[0001]

Latest

Mazaro, Zambesi 25th March

1860

My Dear Captain Washington

After waiting 23 days at

Kongone Harbour we left on the 14th currt for

Mazaro in order to get M^r Rae conveyed by this to Quilimane. The river being full now might have gone near Quilimane by one of canals off the Luabo - but our vessel has

35 patches held on by over 60 bolts in her bottom without wind we cannot make more than 1/4 knot an hour. She is without cargo too certainly have not a ton with crew and else. Everything is in the Pinnace you cant see the waterline. It is very indeed if she ever reaches Tette as she has of minute holes all over which entail con-watching & labour. We abandon her at

Tette if she does not abandon us before that. was Expedition crippled and belaboured we have been by trusting the Niger Philanthropist.

No ship having called I am hopelessly in the as a new ship. One we shall have by public or private means. Our prospects to me brighter than ever though I try to the whole of any sanguine tinge.

[0002]

I long to hear what you think of them from cool business point of view. One thing, the Bann or another vessel be given, we ought to have a pennon and a couple of respectable , not for fighting but for respect. the look on us with great jealousy is much increased of late by some English commerce up the river at Delagoa Bay they think we mean to do the same here. have requested Lord John Russell to try and get of trade on this river or at least on parts never used by the Portuguese as the

Luabo below Mazaro & the Shire. If not this let us work it out quietly without the Portuguese, but for this we require to be able to say that we are man of war. They make much of my consul for Quilimane only. I say nothing course of my being accredited to other tribes their dominion. Nothing is said to me, as much as possible to my companions way of sounding them or drawing me into a . With a soil and climate far superior Natal they do nothing but peddle in ivory think we ought to try the Rovuma if we get free trade here. 1000 feet must be for along that river to the sea but fall may be in a shorter space than the 35 of the Shire and it is happily beyond

[0003] claims.

The river is now magnificent as Captain Gordon described "more like an inland sea a river". By the way the of Baines above Senna what is never seen. the expanse of water is what strikes the eye and he that his sketch not its actual appearance what ought to be in instead the sand banks in mere lines as with the water. I did suggest alteration as I considered would be near the truth to give as bad as it ever can become its low water. For two years it has been fordable in two . this never occurred according the Portuguese before. All my com-are well & well tired of the movement up David Livingstone