

Letter to Benjamin T. Pyne, 30 April 1851

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[0001]

Boatlanama 30th April
1851

My very Dear Friends

recieved a letter from M^r Pyne on the 19th April
and as we were putting our stuff into the waggons I could
not answer it. We are now on the route to the Lake &
are engaged in drawing water out of the deep wells of
Boatlanama.the oxen making a dreadful lowing
because they have been two days without water, so
you need not expect fine writing. I expect some of them
will tumble themselves into the wells before morning
and force us to eat them. this will be taken back
by a Mokalahari and I hope you will hear by it
that I recieved your favour written it seems in a hurry
as this is. We are going North again. the country is
drying up. The Kolobeng is losing its pools even and
the people must annobe whether they will or not
there are many reasons why we should go to the
regions beyond but yet it is a venture. We venture
our all and who would not for such a Saviour
"Lo I am with you." Be it so our Lord. thy presence
is enough. We feel much when we look at
our children going into a fever country
But we all belong to the Great Redeemer and
let him do what is good in his own sight
May we all be resigned in all circumstances to his
will. And active in our duty to him & the souls
of the sinful brethren
[0002]

There is nothing interesting in this part of the world. All is dead
and stagnant the fields burned up. the grass crumbles in
the hand like powder. People lost their crops again. and
all looking as if coming out of Typhus fever. the caffre
war raging. The Hottentots rebelled All looks like con-
fusion worse confounded. the Damanas on the west
the Boers & caffres on the East and Mosilikatse shews
some symptoms or arousing himself in the North East
but Jehovah reigns. We may trust Him for he is
able to set all right and He will in his own way

the reason why I write now is a selfish one
We wish to trouble you again. M^{rs} Pyne's taste in choosing
dresses is so highly gauged in the interior of Africa
we beg to put her to it again. We send a notice to
D^r Tidman that he is to pay M^r Pyne £10 on demand
and this is to be laid out in clothing for my better half
& children. Some dresses for M^{rs} L
Some stuff for making boys trousers
Lining for dresses &c &c sowing cotton
tapers
A piece of good flannel (Not Welsh)
a piece of unbleached calico - (coarse)
A piece of cap wire & ribbon
three woven small shawls - A piece of diaper
Regulate the amount by the money sent. And send in
the usual way at your convenience. Dont put
yourselves to any trouble. We shall [not] be out so soon
[0003]
as we were last year. that is if as successful as we hope
We shall probably go beyond Sebitoane seeking an elevated
locality. We shall of course write you on our
return, and give you the particulars. At present we
have nothing to speak about but our hopes &
fears. Of these we have an assortment on hand
and you must pray for us that we may be made
faithful even unto death. Was Manning Prentice
married? Sorry to hear of M^r Cecil's illness but
we can not condole with any one for we are all
so far away. If we condoled with a widower
he might be laughing with his new wife by
the time we reached him. If with a widow
she might be married to another and almost forgetting
that she had ever had another husband or if with
anyone else it might come upon them like ripping
up old sores. Matters go on as usual among us
Our children are our cue. Thankful to say all well
they have a weary time of it in the waggon
Kind love to all of yours. Mary &c from
both of us. Excuse me troubling you so

Ever Affectionately

Yours

David Livingston
[0004]

Prepaid

Benjamin Pine Esqu^e

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