

Letter to John Washington, 28 November 1860

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

Tette 28 Nov^r 1860

Dear Captain Washington

On treating myself to a of your kind notes I find that have to give you some information the country south of the Zambesi in a general way all the region of Tette Senna & Shupanga is under caffre or Zulu rule. the paramount Manikuse, lately deceased, lived inland from Sofala and had war with the people of that fort . These caffres named Landeens the Portuguese are quite friendly to English - we meet them occasionally Shupanga where they come to tribute of the Portuguese whom conquered. We had thoughts of in that direction and to visit [ancient] Jesuit establishment at Gorongozo 60 miles west of Senna, but have the difficulty that the Portuguese claim the whole country, and thing we should do would be the country which at present dare not enter, for their advantage: sections of a very fine mountainous called Shiringoma were ceded

[0002] the natives to Portuguese who had with their chiefs - they were by the Zulus aforementioned, now that they dare not set a in it their home Government a decree that the lands were to be more equally divided, and the family got it by intermarriage should have seven leagues of it - they lately from Shupanga even the rent was excessive, 400 dollars to their own Government, & 600 to the Zulus.

then whenever we go the Portuguese to pick up information in a way, and assert that they all about it long ago. "It is in our archives in Lisbon" is not the low characters out here do so but Portuguese ministers , as in the case of two slaves come from Cassange Angola to Tette. they said in dispatch to our Government that were Portuguese who "went to ." there is an old woman living at Tette who remembers coming, and she is positive that were quite black, and did not

[0003] further than Tette.

They claim Delgoa Bay too and all sea board - so we should procure no for our own country by up friendly relations with tribes inland of their claims. We more interest in parts beyond claims - and the Rovuma is to be navigated in large as far at least as the of the Lake Nyassa

Between Mosilikatze and Banyai there is a large tribe called Bazizulus (Portuguese Mosusurus) they have and are in an interesting gold - stone walls & caves said to be common. We make a trip to them in our up after we have been to the Rovuma.

Many thanks for the ale & . We have a good chronometer to the Government and own private one as a standard have a third but it is small not very good. Two pocket were sent home

[0004] M^r Rae - for cleaning &c. If you have opportunity we shall be glad to get again.

I trouble you again about the Virus as you will be able get it sent direct. Perhaps two by different mails might it fresh. I wish it in capillary - I cannot concieve where our stick fast - they come in gushes

I thank you most heartily for all trouble you have taken about the vessel I am very glad that you have us Skead. He is a first rate , and I hope that you have not so carefully in marking

the exact beyond which he is not to . I think Duncan would do well, if you have the same confidence in that we have you will accept offer I understand he has made

I am &c

David Livingstone

We found that Rowe had managed by of plastering & shoreing to keep the vessel - the Pinnacle is as bad - bottom all worm as she was old when we got her - both make water - having no other resource we mean try both and abandon that which sinks first steel does not go totally as Iron would but is if worm eaten all over. 20 Dec^r tried to take her down to Senna in order to save the engine but so many leaks broke out daily we had allow two compartments to stand always full. When within one day of Senna the current us on a shoal & we could not move her. She filled & we abandoned her - the engine worth £20 or £30.

D.L.

[0005]

A Note on Fever for D^r MacWilliam by favour of Captain Washington

In the typical cases given D^r MacWilliam's Medical History of Great Niger Expedition the gall bladder found distended with black bile, if my memory does not decieve most of the cases treated with quinine an early period of the disease either or were subjected to the or intermittent form of Fever.

In 1850 I adopted the plan of giving mixed with a purgative as first step of the treatment - and was in the cases of two of my children and an English party whom found at Lake Ngami, and of whom had died before our arrival - I have the notes of my reasons for the practice, but I have been in every case I have met since. The prescription employed of Resin of Jalap and Calomel [of each] eight - Quinine and ~~and~~ Rhubarb each four grains. Mix well together when required make into pills Spirit of Cardamoms. Dose from to Twenty grains. The violent - pains in the back &c &c are all in from four to six hours

[0006] with the operation of the medicine there is enormous discharge of black bile - the frequently calls it blood. If the operation delayed a dessert spoonful of salts promotes action. Quinine is then given till the ring &c. We have tried to substitute purgatives instead of the Resin of Jalap Calomel but our experiments have produced the conviction that aught else mere trifling. No strength is lost. our march up the river of 600 miles foot - a European would be stricken one day and the next after the of the remedy would resume march on foot. In some very attacks a donkey was used but more than two days - he would to tramp it.

We tried Warburg's Tincture has a great reputation in , but it causes profuse sweating does not cure the disease - strength is also impaired. We a good supply, by the kindness one of our Nobility, but I am to say that it did not our expectations. the daily of Quinine is no preventative have seen many cases occur the person was on the verge of .

[0007]

I employed the foregoing remedy with success the west coast, but made no fuss about more than make a general statement the "Missionary Travels." I was not quite that our fever was identical with D^r MacWilliam encountered in the Niger but the melancholy fate of a party missionaries at Linyanti where six of nine Europeans, and four native perished in the short space of three makes me fear that it is the same as that which destroyed the officers Commodore Owen in Zambesi - those Captain Tuckey in the Congo, and the of the Great Niger Expedition in River. My companions, D^r Kirk M^r C. Livingstone entertain the same of the value of our Pills that I do. wrote a paper for one of the medical . But the above sad case us anxious that the remedy become more extensively known it has been - and I do not know better plan for effecting this than communicating it to D^r MacWilliam. secret has ever been made of it I felt as if saying more than did would be Quackish - those may try it will do well to

that the above doses are great He creatures whom [...] [they] turn effectually inside out that

[0008] have termed them "Rousers".

I cured myself and native companions this way during my long journeys between 1852 and 1856 and that the remedy has had effect on the system may be from the fact that I have had regular attack of fever since my . I have had little illnesses from exposure to malaria its most intense forms, but nothing what I formerly experienced. And am of the opinion that, what we were taught, not to give quinine we had used the preliminary measure relieving the bowels, was a Query. Might the [remedy] not be applied some of the fevers at home that in unhealthy localities. Around village in this country, there is very large collection of human ordure the dry season - this is swept the rivers by the heavy rains & you guess the effect from hundreds of of villages. The natives here drink it, as the natives do on the of the Thames, but make holes in sand to draw from. Possibly this as much to do with the origin of fever as has at home.

David Livingstone

1860 Tette 28th Nov^r

I give a specimen of the difference between Dry & Wet Bulb - Victoria Falls 24 Sept^r 1860

In shade - 9 A.M. Air = 87° Wet Bulb 59° Difference 28°

12. Air 96.5 Wet B. 63 Diff 33°5

3 P M Air 96 W.B.60 Diff. 36

Once the diff was 40°

[0009] greatest difference to D^r MacWilliam observed was I believe 16° generally it was 6° or 7°