

Letter to Robert Moffat 1

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

Chonuane5 (Oct^r) 1846

My Dear Father

The arrival of (Captⁿ) Nardon & M^r Oswel immediately after the departure of Mamary, has prevented my writing by this opportunity. - They are now preparing to start. - Baba & his party also are making ready for departure

M^{rs} Mamary have mentioned our desires respecting a of M^r Oswel. We find he is perfectly willing to oblige us in reference to the payment. Mentions ten years as soon enough for the liquid[...] [a]tion of debt and now desires me to write you a line & ask you to inspect the for me. I have no skill in s whatever and he is [^][in] the same condition with respect to that kind of knowledge. We wish the matter referred to your the length of time however given is a consideration which will outweigh any defect in the vehicle

[0002]

M^r (O.) asked if it would be necessary to shorten the bands previous to sending is up. Will you give your opinion as to this step.? I do not know what ought to be done. As to painting I think it would be better to get the paint & oil & we can do the needful here. - M^r (O.) purposed leaving it at about a day & half from Colesbery. I have thought men might be sent down from Kuruman and if you send a span of oxen while the expenses of [the] men will be put to my account. all the goods you may send for or boxes

waiting for you at Colesbery will or
may be drawn along by your
oxen. If you can make any
arrangement of this sort, it will
oblige us much. If not convenient
at present- M^r (O.) will leave the
at the place appointed till some other
time. The place appointed is
M^r Nelson Orlogpoort[']s river
35 south of ~~Kuruman~~ Colesbery

[0003]

we have not been able to pay Baba because
we have not money sufficient-
There are Forty two dollars for the
carriage of goods, and some other
work additional about which as
we have to count yet I set down
as other ten - if you will kindly
advance these two sums- it will
still farther oblige us. Edwards & I
seem in the same predicament
for money. Wish somebody would
leave me a hundred or two
But nobody thinks enough of me
for that- None of my forefather were
worth their breeches else I might have
had something. They wore kilts. poor
fellows. - The gentlemen are on the
point of mispanning and as they
are waiting here my thoughts have
been confused- I shall send
Macaca by M^r Cumming for enclosure
in M^r Whish's box- This address
to be written on the lid (perhaps tiomed)
Charles Whish (Esq^{re}) 144 New
City Road - Glasgow- if sent
Cape ways - care of Jamieson & (Co)[Cape Tow[...] [n]]

[0004]

you might scold me as you like
We could both speak plainly enough
if together & let the righteous smite
me &c. I should not grumble at
any amount of faithful sunting

Affectionately yours
We hope to have time to write before
M^r (C) arrives - excuse all the blunders

in this - All are well. Robert IV
improving- Hope Mamary got
out safely- Should like much
to have a visit from yourself

Rev^d (R.) Moffat

Kuruman

(Fow^d) by (W.) Oswel (Esq^{re})