## Letter to Pye Brothers, 31 July 1859

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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# [0001] Kongone Harbour 31<sup>st</sup> July 1859 Mess<sup>rs</sup> Pye, Brothers Sir As you kindly undertook the examination of the Buaze which I brought home in 1856 and reported favourably there on though the specimen was too small for any manufacture,

### [0002]

I have taken the liberty to transmit through the Foreign Office a box and two barrels of the same fibre in the hope that it may be convenient for you to convert a portion of it into cloth, or other materials proper for a thorough trial of its properties. The seed contains a valuable oil for painting and the plant itself grows

### [0003]

on soil unfit for other cultivation and no pains are required in rearing the crop as it yields by being pollarded. Seeds have been sent to Natal and India and should you be able to produce a fabric of finer and stronger quality than flax, there is but little doubt but H. M. Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs would encourage its production in our own colonies

# [0004]

Your report on its strength bleaching properties &c if addressed to the Foreign Office would recieve the attention it merited Your Obedient Servant David Livingstone