

## Letter to Joseph D. Hooker, 28 July 1857

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[0001]

Hadley Green  
28<sup>th</sup> July  
1857

My Dear D<sup>r</sup> Hooker

I beg leave  
to enclose another  
of my lame  
specimens. It  
floats on the  
water of the  
Zambesi and  
is very pretty  
[0002]

It has no root in  
the soil but  
seems quite  
content with  
the water. this  
has preserved  
its appearance  
but is much  
shrivelled. A  
water plant  
called by the  
Portuguese Alfacinya  
[0003]

"lettuce" from its  
resemblance to  
that plant also  
floats on the water  
and great quantities  
come down a  
river called Shire into the  
Zambesi. It is  
said quite to  
obstruct the  
navigation. It is  
on that account  
[0004]

I mention it in the  
book. I saw it

at Oxford but the  
name has escaped  
me. It is like a  
little cabbage-  
Another plant appeared  
at the same time  
which I dont trouble  
you with but  
only mention  
it as to me a  
curiosity. It  
is called Njefu  
[0005]  
and has a leafe  
of this size & shape  
at there is

a nut which

Sebituane the  
chief liked so  
much he  
made it a  
part of the tribute  
[0006]  
from the tribes  
he subjected.  
I liked those I  
eat and they  
were floating  
in company  
with the Alfacinya  
If you can  
give me the  
proper name  
of the last  
[0007]  
I shall feel obliged  
but do not  
I pray you  
spend much  
time on the subject. Many  
and hearty thanks  
for your notes  
all of which  
came duly to  
hand. As also  
[0008]  
the notes from

M<sup>r</sup> Westwood  
for which I am  
very thankful

Please present  
my kindest  
salutations to  
M<sup>rs</sup> H& believe  
me Most truly

Yours

David Livingstone