

Letter to John Washington, 3 April 1862

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[0001]

We towed the brig over the bar yesterday - Gorgon
leaves and we go in tomorrow morning

H. M. S. Pioneer off Kongone

3 April 1862

Dear Captain Washington

The Gorgon left this
in a storm while Captain
Wilson was assisting us
up the River. Went to
Mosambique and there
the Pantaloon being
disabled sent her to
Johanna for provisions
Captain Wilson has
now given us six
months provisions
and all the preserved
meats you kindly sent
[0002]

Some dysentery has troubled some

We have recieved all the
tools we need for the
road &c. and being well
found in food will now
set ourselves with all
our might to the one
great object of transporting
the steamer to the Lake.

The failure of our stores
for but a short time
involved great expense -
the rum for the men
was done and fearing
that we should get no
more for them till May
I purchased Wardroom

mess rum to the value
[0003]

of the men lately - possibly from eating
beans while our flour was done

of £21. Our quinine
wine is also expended -
so to carry on the expend-
iture of wine & quinine
for the sick I bought
the cheapest of the expensive
wines of the Mess for
over other £20 - and
hope this eight dozen
will suffice till we
get a supply of cheap
Cape wines which
have been ordered. The
purchase of expensive
wines on pressure by
the fear of being blamed
if we should happen to
be without cordials has
[0004]

run away with the money
on hand. I have drawn
£50 from M^rSewell
paymaster of the Gorgon
and fear this will not
clear off my bills for
calicoes ordered from
the Portuguese. I have
made advances to the men
as wages also from
private sources, and may
have to do the same to
pay our Johanna men
their years wages but
will let you know all
about it - this is chiefly
to advise you of the above
£50.

Yours &c

David Livingstone