

Letter to Roderick I. Murchison, 20 August 1854

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Loanda 20th August

1854

Sir Roderick Impey Murchison

Sir

The enclosed a sketch of my route from the town of Sekeletu to Loanda viz. down the Chobe and the Zambesi and Leeba in canoes. Then a portion of the Balonda country Cassange the farthest inland station of Portuguese, and thence to this city oxback. It is intended to be supplemental a letter which I lately transmitted through Commander Bedingfield. And a mere will enable you to percieve Loanda is a well watered country. me it appeared remarkably so consequence of passing through it the rainy season. But though

[0002] streams were much swollen I believe all ~~those~~[the streams] put down in the map perennial, for they were invariably with rustic bridges, and the though not extending far beyond banks submerged these structures feet deep. The close proximity, (not more than 8 or 10 miles in some) of streams flowing in totally directions through a level , excited my surprise.[Begin]~~And not untill~~[Only when] we reached the declivity forms the valley of Cassangé I concieve why all [the rivers] that flowed , North East or North West, ran in deeper vallies than those followed an opposite course. slopes down to the feeders of the Casai and Quango are more than 500 yards long and pretty steep, while beds of the branches of the Leeba never more than ten yards

[0003] the level of the surrounding country. whole valley of Cassange seems to have a work of denudation, for on sides the declivity presents the same peculiarities, viz. a covering brown haematite, mixed with quartz , lying upon bright-red friable slate. This, differing only in hard-and paleness of colour continues the bottom; but towards the centre the valley, it takes the form of schist. A detached , 7 or 8 miles S.S.W. of Cassange, called Kasala, and having sides all round, possesses same structure. I regret much no instruments to measure elevations of these parts, but ascending again at Tala Mungongo, appeared to descend again all way to Ambaca, where we met and secondary rocks.

[0004] latter containing metals. Fever me from doing more in quarter than ascertaining the of different points along road. they are put down in pencil and if I am successful my observations for the Longitude retracing my steps, I shall the liberty of forwarding [the results] to you Cassangé. the marks in pencil are intended to shew the noted on the information of who, however, possessed no of ascertaining their true positions

Again apologizing for troubling with my communications

I am, Sir

Your most Faithful .

David Livingston