

## Letter to John Washington, 3 April 1862

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

Published by Livingstone Online ([livingstoneonline.org](http://livingstoneonline.org))  
[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<sup>r</sup>Sewell  
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