

Letter to Everybody in the House [Family], 28 August 1856

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[0001]

Claremont Mauritius

28th August 1856.

My Dear Everybody in the House

I don't number this
in order to spare you the pain of blushing
black when you see how much I have
written in answer to – I make
ready the enclosures now in consequence
of having missed a mail this morning
Another will start in about a fortnight
You will see I wrote one at Quilimane
and another at Tete. At Quilimane
I remained 6 weeks and then H. M.
Brig Frolic came and took me off.
the Bar of that port is very bad
she was 12 days off the port before
we knew she was there and it was
only by her firing two guns to recal
[0002]

the boats attempting to cross the bar that we
knew of her presence. She is a fine
large ship of 16 guns & 130 men. We came
to St Augustine's Bay Madagascar
to water and thence to this island where
I have been kindly recieved by Major
General Hay who commands the forces
and am now in his house. I wait
for the arrival of the Commodore &
intend after seeing him to proceed to
Ceylon, thence to Aden up the red sea
to Suez through the isthmus and
along the Mediterraeen home. this
is by far the shortest route from
East Africa. I shall come and see
you as soon as I can but my stay
will be short and incognito. I hate
all fuss, and you will oblige me by
telling no one. I cannot preach
nor speak in public. If I can stop two

[0003]

days with you that will be all at first.

[...]

[0004]

prayer to God decide for yourselves.

~~I cannot urge you but do not understand
how you managed to give up your
own connections on receiving the
opinions of others. Anything I thought
my duty I would do it in the face
of all opinions that could be
heaped against me. Unless proof
were given that the knowledge on
which my judgement was formed
was fallacious. No one asserted
in your case that to working people
the new world was worse than the
old~~

this is a fine island. the cultivation
is sugar chiefly. It is the fabulous
scene of the fine tale Paul & Virginia
I am very well not quite however

Affectionately

David Livingston