Letter to Richard Thornton, 30 July 1862

David Livingstone

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[[Sticker over letter]] Kongone 30th July 1862

My Dear Sir

In coming down we ran aground twice after you left us. The prospect of finding the river still lower a month hence made us almost conclude that it will be better to spend the months between August & November in boat exploration of the Rovuma than in slowly threading [0002]our way up Zambesi & Shire. It is not quite decided yet but we must go to Johanna for though the Ariel called she had no Johanna crew with her and was on her way to the Cape. We parted with our incorrigibles & got a carpenter & quartermaster instead: we are now getting ready for sea. In the mail I see one letter for you. Please to send forward [0003]the mail for the Mission Vianna will do it at their expense.

Captain Oldfield said that the Baron had grumbled to the men of war at your having published a paper. I understood that you were perfectly free to do so and think you had better let your friends know the footing on which you went in case the Baron should say publicly that you had broken your engagement. I give you [0004]this hint as the Germans will be sure to appropriate all the credit to themselves if they can. If you go to Gorongoza look well after the inscriptions and in Manica it will be well to ascertain the exact gold bearing stratum. Hoping that you will keep your health & be protected by our Almighty Father

I am &c.

David Livingstone

 $M^{\underline{r}}$ R. Thornton