

## Letter to H. Norton Shaw, 25 March [1857]

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[0001]

25 March

Sloane St.

My Dear Shaw

A few days  
ago M<sup>r</sup> Prout wrote  
to me saying that  
he thought I had  
known that the  
Directors of the Society  
had placed £200  
to my credit but  
finding I did not  
he now told me of it  
[0002]

I suppose your  
movement has  
elicited this. I had  
on my arrival £100  
out of my four  
years salary. M<sup>rs</sup>  
L having been obliged  
to draw on it as all  
she got after paying  
for the children was  
£45 per annum  
which in war times  
was not very fattening  
that £100 finished  
[0003]  
and not a word said  
about aught else except  
commencing a new  
year [(1857)] which I don't  
intend to do. I was  
obliged to apply first  
to you then to Murray  
I get what I need  
there - though it is eating  
my book before it is  
made. I don't mean

to draw any of the  
£200 or anything else  
as that will be  
considered a hold upon  
me. And I dont think  
[0004]  
they have it in their  
power to give me any  
on the course I mean  
to pursue. The Society  
is to send the gospel  
& nothing else

When on my way  
home I asked  
Tidman to send me  
the address of the  
authorities of the  
P & O. company  
as I believed they  
would give me  
a free passage  
[0005]  
on account of  
my connection  
with the R.G.S.  
Instead of giving  
me what I asked  
Prout wrote to  
some of the company  
I dont know  
whom and got  
a promise of  
the Passage money  
back £105 which  
I paid at the Pont  
de Galle, Ceylon  
[0006]  
No more was said  
or done untill a  
few days ago when  
Prout in his note  
said Tell me to  
whom you paid  
the money and  
we will get it  
back for you  
Now I dont quite  
like this we will  
It will be returned  
not on his account

[0007]

at all. Are you  
acquainted with  
the P.& O. company?

This letting me alone  
looks like wishing  
to let me feel the  
screw of want &  
then come humbly  
to them which  
though I am as  
much a missionary  
as ever I dont  
like to do.

I think you had

[0008]

better not do any  
more about the  
Fund. Though it  
would be well to  
have it when I  
need it & not when  
on the sea or where  
no shops are to be  
had to spend it.

I dont mean to  
draw any more  
from the L.M.S.

Yours &c

David Livingstone