Letter to Horace Waller, 24 April 1863

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Cataracts 24th April 1863

My Dear Waller

D^r Kirk & I consider the value of the boat will fully be covered by 5. This arrangement will prevent any grumbling on the part of the heir. It must be used to carry Ali & Mabruck with their luggage first.

Be so kind as look into Poor Thornton's boxes for any manuscripts or other things that his friends are likely to value as keepsakes, and have them ready for me by, say Tuesday next to clap [0002] into a box which I take from thus with all similar things I don't wish to stay more than necessary with my motley crew.

We tried our oxen yesterday & found them difficult to manage after such long idleness. For a heavy load double the number are necessary so I mean to send to Senna for some more. They know the Loetse & will avoid it. This may be a route for cattle for us all but in the mean time I dont know whether M[§] Ferraõ will sell any and I offer young [0003]

cows to each as wages - rather too much for a constancy

These sad events - Sendamore Dickinson - Thornton called away in addition to the losses of the bishop & Burrup cast a deep gloom over our future I should [][not] wonder in the least to be recalled. For should the Portuguese persist in keeping the rivers shut there would be no use in trying to develope trade. They have cleared this valley of people. I put it on them because famine [0004]from drought never utterly exterminates. The lower parts below Elephant marsh would all have been cultivated & have yielded maize in abundance I saved multitudes. The people lost all spirit in consequence of hunger & disturbance This is the way the case appears to me The slaving was the root of all the evil & slaving has depopulated the valley. In my case duty would not lead me home & home therefore I would not go. The [0005]Lady Nyassa would not be paid for by Government if the Expedition were given up because I would not apply for it though it cost me double what I intended. I meant to ask for half only & that when successfully launched on the Lake. This however is between ourselves. I wish to

devote everything I have to the service of our Lord and only wish that. he may lead my children to do the same. Come what [0006] may I have found it to be a capital good thing to "Commit thy way unto the Lord" &c. and to cast all cares on Him who really & truly does care for us.

Kind regards to Procter Rowley is well but he looks more haggard now than he used to do. He will write you about Clarke should you think of sending him. Any commission I can [0007] execute for you down bye I am at your service [0008]