

## Letter to William Thompson, 31 October, 3 November 1856

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[0001]

On board S.S. England

31<sup>st</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1856

My Dear M<sup>r</sup> Thompson

Having left the  
Mauritius on the 23<sup>d</sup> we now find  
ourselves within two days of Galle  
and as we may find the steamer  
for Aden about to leave as we  
enter that port I prepare a note  
to let you know of my progress  
thus far. I believe I let you  
know by a letter per George Fleming  
that I had by my sojourn at  
Mauritius got completely over  
an affection of the spleen entailed  
on me by frequent attacks of  
fever, this happy result was  
owing by God's blessing  
[0002]

to the salubrity of Clevefont the residence  
of Major General Hay whose hospitality  
I shall ever remember with gratitude.  
I saw but little of M<sup>r</sup> Le Brun but hear  
he has been very useful in Mauritius,  
and as deservedly respected. I saw less  
of his sons. One lately went to Seychelles  
with his wife who is consumptive  
the bishop has gone thither also,  
in the Frolic, but for religious  
purposes. As I was five miles from  
town I did not form many acquaint-  
ances. And have for a long time been  
longing most ardently for reunion  
with my family. As for the future  
I can say nothing I shall let you  
know how I shall act when  
I have seen my way clear myself  
[0003]

If you are writing to Kuruman I

shall feel obliged by your mentioning  
that I am so far well and on my way  
home. Also, if George Fleming is near  
you say, as he can not write or read  
what is written that he must look  
after ten shillings which he directed  
a man of the Frolic called Muno  
or some such name to recieve  
and pay to M<sup>rs</sup> Wright for my  
washing. Munorecieved the  
money as directed but told M<sup>rs</sup>W.  
that George owed it to him, and  
I had to pay M<sup>rs</sup>W. another ten  
shillings instead. Muno is a coloured  
man and George will know him  
by this if I have mistaken the  
name. My peacoat which you  
sent from the Cape is gone & a new  
blanket is substituted by an old one  
[0004]

which served me all the way from  
Loanda and was given to the poor  
fellow who drowned himself  
Another is taken away which I  
prized as that thrown over me by  
Sekeltu during a terrible storm  
I don't know whether these things  
have been stolen or not in the Frolic  
the parcel does not seem to have  
been touched. But about the  
money there can be no doubt &  
George can manage that when  
the Frolic comes to the Cape.

Believe me

Affectionately Yours

David Livingston

Misfortunes dont come alone - my sextant  
got smashed by George putting it to the  
tiller below, he had packed it without  
knowing, tell M<sup>r</sup> Maclear my misfortune

3<sup>d</sup>Nov 1 Found the Nubia ready to sail for Suez  
at Galle yesterday. Will sail today at 4 oclock