

## Letter to William Thompson, 24 November 1852

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[0001]

Kuruman November 24<sup>th</sup> 1852

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

Am sorry to say I am still here in durance vile - but matters are in a fair way now for effecting my escape I could not get drivers - people were all so afraid of going Northward - I have made arrangements with two Hottentots and think I shall be off positively before the next moon - the delays which have occurred have prevented me falling into Boerish hands so I am thankful and indulge the hope that God has still some little work for me to do - The belief that my hindrances from the Cape off to the Kuruman are providential makes me submit with a good grace -

Fine fellows you Cape worthies are M<sup>r</sup> Fairbairn tells his contemporaries that the connection of the Dutch Church with the state is very slender - and you believe it of course - They get £200 per annum and the state appoints the ministers - or has all the patronage in its hands - our connection with the society is half as slight again for we only get £100 I have sent a paper on the Caffre war to the B. Quart. - If this is blabbed by the D<sup>r</sup> I shall not write any more for him

[0002]

He of course knows what sort of people he is speaking to - Humph. Sir George C. tells the Caffres that they may receive the Goika warriors into their houses - Receipt of stolen goods is no crime in his eyes Its for any sake take them away - I can't beat them. Boohoo O thou mighty man of valour that's "extermination" "driving over the Kei" - "unconditional submission" "complete subjugation" - and £500 for Nitboalders head too - I intend to offer

£5000 for the Lions Head which looks  
down at Church square - saw Lion's  
head to be delivered at Lattakoo and  
I give you the first offer - What  
unutterable meanness this Sir George  
Gibbet Cathcart can be guilty of - &  
a Scotchman too - Did I not tell  
you we Scotchmen are a bad set -  
I dont understand your questions about  
responsibility - the superintendent will  
get all the blame of everything bad  
if he allows the committees to do wrong  
I think the Directors will do so - In Africa  
we all blame each other and we are blamed  
by every body else - Make them all  
independant thats my advice  
D Livingstone

[0003]

P.S. By this post I send 10 letters  
addressed to your care and Post  
paid as far as Cape Town. There  
is no use in attempting to pay  
beyond that - You must open  
an account against me and  
put down Postage - Forage  
and all other monies expended  
on my behalf - I enclose a letter  
to M<sup>r</sup> Macgibbon of the Botanic  
gardens and if you can spare  
time to glance over it you  
may oblige me in one of your  
walks next winter by putting  
him in remembrance

[0004]

Macgibbon's letter contains  
seeds. 2 of the above named  
letters are for yourself. I say  
"put down all monies &c." What  
hypocrisy! if honest I would  
say you may either put it  
down or not I see no prospect  
of ever paying you - If I live  
to come back to Cape Town  
I shall get a share of M<sup>r</sup> Moll's  
parlour in the house by the jetty  
or a lodging in the Union Workhouse

Please request M<sup>r</sup> Pococke to  
get a supply of vaccine virus  
from the institution for me

[0005]

I forgot it - If you are acquainted  
with the officer he will do it better  
& send it post free - I shall probably  
draw £12 for Mebaloe - This is  
all the business I have to transact  
or trouble you with  
One of the letters is for America  
through Captain Holmes &  
you ^ will perhaps be good enough  
to present my kind remembrance  
to him - As the post is not  
going for an hour or two  
I may have time to write  
another letter, which will

[0006]

be eleven. to your care

Business