

Letter to William Thompson, 31 October, 3 November 1856

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[0001]

3^d Nov^r Found the Nubia ready to sail for Suez
at Galle yesterday. Will sail today at 4 oclock
On board S.S. England
31st Oct^r 1856
My Dear M^r Thompson
Having left the
Mauritius on the 23^d 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 Clevemont the residence
of Major General Hay whose hospitality
I shall ever remember with gratitude.
I saw but little of M^r 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^{rs} Wright for my washing. Muno recieved the money as directed but told M^{rs} W. that George owed it to him, and I had to pay M^{rs} 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^r Maclear my misfortune