

Letter to George L. Conyngham, 26 June 1858

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[0001]

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Zambesi 26th June
1858
[...]
My Dear M^r Conyngham

I am just going
into the Launch Ma Robert
to sail away up this
river from the Pearl
I have been up all
night writing and now
feel ashamed to give

[0002]

but one word - you will
no doubt hear how we
are obliged to part with
the Pearl as it was
too big for us and
we were under such
terribly stringent orders
not to risk her remaining
in the river &c. that
I got quite a load off
my mind when I could
say off with you to

[0003]

Ceylon though many loads
must be carried in the
poor little Ma Robert before
we reach our destination.
You must give me
another ship a decent
little paddle and not a
160 ft [...] that could

not back though she
saw a bank at her
nose. The hippopotami
can't stomach a
steamer at all. They

[0004]

tumble head over heels
to get out of her way
I shall write you a longer
tale next time.

This is the 26 June
will it do for a certificate
of my existence on the
30th If so tell Mr. Coutts
to draw for my salary
Here I am and no mistake
witness my hand!

David Livingstone