

## Letter to Agnes Livingstone 1, 31 October 1859

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[0001]

River Zambesi

31<sup>st</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1859

My Dear Mother

It is rather difficult  
to write to you for never a word  
have I recieved in answer to  
my other letters - but here goes  
and it will shew you at least  
that you are not forgotten.  
We are working hard at what  
some can see at a glance  
the importance of, while to  
others we appear as following  
after the glory of discovering

[0002]

Lakes, mountains, Jenny nettles  
and puddock stools. In reference  
to the latter I always remember a  
story told me by the late D<sup>r</sup> Phillip  
with great glee - When a young  
minister in Aberdeen he visited  
an old woman in affliction  
and began to talk very fine  
to her on the duty of resignation  
trusting hoping and all the  
rest of it when the old woman  
looked up into his face and  
said "peer thing, ye ken naething  
about it." this is what I say to  
those who set themselves up to  
judge another man's servant

[0003]

We hope our Good Master  
may permit us to do some  
good to our fellow men; And  
that his great name may  
be glorified in our lives &

by our deaths . Charles is  
with me - suffers sometimes  
from fever but thank  
God I have escaped as  
yet and I believe we have  
found out the cure for that  
complaint which has long been  
the bane of Africa - We have  
opened a large region and are  
hoping that the church missionary  
society will soon occupy it.

[0004]

We are hoping too that our work  
will cut up a very large section  
of the slave trade but our reasons  
for so trusting are too long to  
tell. May the Almighty bless  
and keep you and grant you  
all the blessings you need. My  
love to Tom and all the rest.  
I am unable to write to him at  
present but hope he is getting on  
with his learning and that he  
will be fitted thereby for our  
saviour's service in some way  
which he may appoint  
Ever Affectionately Yours  
David Livingstone