

Letter to John Washington, 11 March 1861

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PioneerRovuma Bay

11th March 1861.

My Dear Captain Washington

The enclosed mess bill of

M^r Rae amounting to £31.16 for

66 days was handed to me by M^r

Jones Paymaster of H.M.S. Lyra

Had it been a small sum I would

have paid it and put it to the

incidental expenses but it is

more than I possess of public

money though I have recieved

a balance from M^r May of

£17..17..4 I therefore send

the bill on to you and refer

M^r Jones to you for settlement

you will be able to explain the

[0002]

account to the Foreign Office. I sent

M^r Rae to the Admiral at the Cape

and requested him to furnish a

passage in some Government

vessel to England. He seems to have

taken another route - and came

to grief. He had all D^r Kirks specimens

and other articles in charge but

sent them all as we hear by

the Cape. We dont feel well pleased

at his parting with them

We go up Rovuma today

All promises fairly - No bar - 17

fathoms & no bottom felt across

mouth which is a mile wide

people speak a dialect very

nearly allied to that of Senna,

the men who knew all our

discoveries long ago ought

to come down with their knowledge before

we come down with ours. In three months Please God we shall tell you all about it. The

bishop is on board - An excellent man - and all

his party D° D°David Livingstone