

## Letter to Unknown, 7 February 1871

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

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[0001]

Unpublished letter of  
D<sup>r</sup> Livingstone  
February 7<sup>th</sup> 1871.  
Manyema  
(Bearing on the  
for: office question  
of salary)

Being unable to  
carry paper in this damp  
climate I have given the  
Foreign Office only one sheet  
of closely written matter  
much like what I have  
given you but ending  
with the following sentence

"I would fain erase  
Your Lordship's approba-  
tion of my labour  
but the under secretary's  
Murray's impertinent  
letter forbids any  
Government

[0002]

Government from allowing  
me any claim no matter  
what services I may render"

M<sup>r</sup> Murray's "ungracious  
and unjust" effusion  
contained internal evidence  
that a statesman like  
Lord Russell knew nothing  
of it for we might bind  
down future [...]  
to give but never not to  
give this could only  
emanate from what  
the office slang calls  
"a safeman". He  
withdrew the most  
offensive part by sending

a copy without it, but  
had not the Grace to  
say, it was withdrawn  
My

[0003]

My first effort  
if I get home, will not  
be to speak to geographers  
but to bring the impertinent  
letter before Parliament.  
"You have no claim  
"for pay as consul, and  
"Your consulate will at  
"once cease on reaching  
"the Coast but you will  
"have no claim whatever":  
This was substantially  
the letter and one of the  
most exhuberantimper-  
tinence that ever left the  
Foreign or any other office  
On my first appointment  
Lord Clarendon's words  
imply increase of salary.  
I have a Despatch of -  
Lord

[0004]

Lord Malmesbury -  
stating his conviction  
that my salary was far  
too low: My Foreign  
Office instructions tell me  
to take my steamer to  
Rovuma, does that not  
imply the duty to share  
in my loss by her?

D<sup>r</sup> Miller got from Lord  
Russell £800 a year for  
scientific research and  
no consular duties in  
Madagascar. While he  
intended to give me only  
£500 a year if I settled  
anywhere. I mean to claim  
any salary increased during  
the whole of the time from  
1864

[0005]

1864 onwards. I may  
not get it tho'. Thornton's  
brother got his even for  
going with von der Decken.  
That letter with the  
foolish instructions  
of self elected busy  
bodies worried in spite  
of every effort to be  
philosophical and the  
worry is embittered by  
remembering that good  
Lord Palmerston sent  
Mr Hayward to ask me  
"what he could do as he  
"was anxious to serve me".

My mind was so sorely  
jaded by that last book  
and the wickedness of  
the

[0006]

the Portuguese doings, that  
I never thought of ought  
but my work. He  
meant something for  
myself but I wanted the  
Ports of East Africa to be  
opened to free commerce  
My only solace was Sir  
Francis Beaufort's words  
to the Arctic Explorers. -  
"Remember gentlemen you  
"are going on discovery and  
"not on survey" as if to me  
(signed) David Livingstone

:

A Despatch among the lost 40  
was a supplement to that from  
Bangalosa and a very good one  
It would have given you an idea  
of the watershed such as no-  
theorist ever dreamed.  
I have a copy in Ujiji in my  
journal.