

Letter to Captain of Any Man of War Touching at Mozambique, 25 February 1863

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Enclosure No 6 in Letter No 5 to Commander in Chief
Truebany J. Wilson
Commander
River Shire
25th February 1863
Sir,

Three Black men who were brought from the Cape by the late Bishop MacKenzie to assist the Universities' Mission are now sent back to their homes - they were brought up the Courtesy of the Admiral in a man-of-war, and if you can give them a passage down I am authorized by the Missionaries to say that all expenses will cheerfully be paid to your Paymaster by the Bishop of the Cape.

In introducing them, it would scarcely be right in me not to mention that but little can be said in favour of their moral characters & behaviour while with the Mission.

Allow me to add, that as the lower Shire has been completely depopulated by Slave-hunting - drought, and famine, we can purchase no provisions for the "Pioneer" and will be obliged

The Captain of any Man-of[-]War touching at Mosambique

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obliged to return to the Kongone - Quilimane or Mozambique for Stores Sooner than we anticipated, if you can leave any for us at either of these Ports you will confer a very great favour and render us essential Service; as it will be unwise for us to venture to Johanna at this Season in this Small Craft. I have to beg very Earnestly that you will take this request into your favourable consideration.

The Shire has not risen as much as usual this Year, and we have found con=

siderable difficulty in getting the two vessels
up through the Elephant Swamp; but we
hope Soon to reach the Cataracts

Our Blacksmith William Mcleod, is
obliged by disease of the Kidneys to leave us -
he is a very good man; - we got him from the
"Gorgon" on his passage to the Cape.

I am &c

(sd)

David Livingstone

H.M.S. Consul