

Letter to Robert Moffat 1, 6 January 1863

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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1863

My Dear M^r Moffat

The enclosed letter
for Ms Mackenzie I should like you
to read it as it will give you my views
and mind about renewing the mission
to the Makololo - I mention that I have
requested you to do so to save writing
the same thing over again - We are
ready to go up Shire and the mail is
to start for Quillimane directly -

I enclose a photograph by D^r
Kirk of the resting place of my dear
Mary - We have not the proper
chemicals to make it back - I placed
a cross over her tomb a sacred
symbol in these regions and
have sent for a grave stone with
The inscription one one side English
and on the other Portuguese "Here
repose the mortal remains of
Mary Moffat Livingstone in hope
of a joyful resurrection by our
Saviour Jesus Christ - died
27th April 1862 aged 41 years" -
This has been a spot of much
sorrow to me Well do I remember
the feelings with which I looked at

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the red tiled building in which she died when
I sailed down the broad river in 1856
Possibly at some other spot which I have
already passed I must lie down & die -
she would welcome Robert and I hope
will come forward & greet more of us
into the house of many mansions
However now we must be up and
doing our duty - We have been detained

here a full fortnight shifting the top
 to the bottom brasses of the paddle shafts
 We met M^r Procter the head of
 the church mission - He has improved
 wonderfully - was thankful for the
 Alphabet you sent - He means to
 cut out x and put in z which they
 have in their tongue - they teach it
 Fee gee Hee ee jee Lee - mee &c. and
 think it easier - They are working
 at a primer and will send it to the
 Cape I suppose - the black men
 brought from the Cape have turned
 out badly - Great professors there
 worthless blackguards - A white
 man imposed on them as an engineer
 guilty of stealing systematically wished
 me to take him - or give him my
 protection in the country as he repented
 of his sin - I advised him to take himself
 away where his crime was unknown
 and there begin by turning over an

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an entirely new leaf - the Makololo have 114
 seen those blackguards and have learned
 no good I fear - Earl Russell approved
 all my doings so you may trust me
 to go in at these vile slave hunters
 again if we can - I have just been
 giving him an account of the way
 in which one side of the Shire
 100 a week are taken away and on
 the other the whole country is devastated
 by the fire and sword - Famine has
 followed the flight of the Manganja
 from their well cultivated fields &
 more die of hunger than of the sword
 many sell themselves and children
 to keep themselves from starving
 A silly fellow Rowley has said in a
 Cape paper that I hunted the Ajawa
 everywhere and set the missionaries
 on against them - that I had a
 pitched battle with them all maka hela
 We ran away and left the bishop
 in the battle and our two quarter
 masters and engineer who were there
 reported it and we laughed & raised

Rowley's bile - M^r Glover who
published it wrote me an apology
and I take no notice of it but
Rowley will not hear the last of it
soon - I hunted the Portuguese and
hoped to bring matters to a head by
their complaining to our govern[-]
ment against me but they know

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better, and this silly letter puts the case as
between one tribe and another and not
between us and the Portuguese - But we
shall come out clean at last - I hope the
new bishop will be a man among
men and not a daneftling - If we get
free navigation of the Zambesi at which
I have been striving for years everthing
else will follow - M^s Stewart has been
up at Tette - the mission - the top of the
cataracts & now sees home - Five Scotchmen
2 carpenters - 2 masons - 1 smith & a
leader - a missionary are to join us -
They worked at their trades at Ahwal North
bought 2 waggons to go overland when the
Governor wrote to me and I have pro-
posed to them to aim at giving an example
of independent industry and christian
life to the people on the Lake - They seem to
be the men we need brought to hand
without our seeking

Thanks for the seeds all came safely
I tried Gum trees at the grave but they
sprang up and died - I now try cypresses
the sour or sweet sop is an aroma - see London
or Encyclopedia Brit. - We have lots
of wild ones here - Kuruman is too
cold for them - I have 6 oxen - taught
ones from Johanna on board - and 2
mules - we have had them 2 months in
the ship also - a cow & a bull - With kind
regards to M^{rs} M- and Jane. I am
ever affectionately

David Livingstone

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Private

Admiral

Sir Baldwin Walker

H. M S. Narcissus

1863

D^r Livingstone

27th January 1863