

## Letter to John Murray III, 30 May 1857

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[0001]

Sat Evening

30<sup>th</sup> May

1857

My Dear M<sup>r</sup> Murray

I am sorry to find that you have been led to suppose that the reviser employed is in any way qualified for the work. I give you a few specimens of his erudition taken at random

[0002]

Slip 98 line 22 from top "pestered" is the truth beseiged is not line 26<sup>th</sup> ~~spinal~~ is not true it was uterine but

S 95 Hooping cough corrected into Whooping cough What is that?  
96 to his affrighted relatives corrected into to the great alarm of their astonished relatives!

No inspection of the

[0003]

body being ever allowed diluted thus, by these people - ! Then third line from top a line left out which is quite necessary to complete the sense.

Please look at

slip 111 and say  
whether what is  
struck out is not  
proof positive of  
your man being  
entirely wanting

[0004]

in sympathy with  
the author of a book  
of this kind. Prof.  
Owen puts stet  
opposite it.

S.210 bottom of page

Does not know  
meaning of "parts!"  
(vide Johnson or  
Webster)

213 Makes nonsense  
of a plain statement  
in middle of page  
D° D° 214

[0005]

you see I have avoided  
saying expressly that  
prepuce is cut off  
though it might be  
expected from using  
the proper term for  
that operation. And  
a man who puts his  
hand to revise a  
work on South Africa  
ought to have known  
the universal practice  
of the real cutting off  
yet see 218 - incision  
See again 226

[0006]

"the phrase being identical  
with "abiit ad plures"  
is struck out, by  
this gentleman - ab  
uno disce omnes  
ignorance I fear

Now my good  
friend I cannot  
think you have  
noticed the process

of emasculation  
for which I fear  
you have been  
paying. the liberties

[0007]

he has taken are  
most unwarrantable  
and I cannot really  
undertake to father  
them. I am willing  
to submit my  
style uncouth though  
it be to M<sup>r</sup> Elwin  
or any friend you  
like and if it is  
not clearer more  
forcible and  
more popular than  
anything this man

[0008]

can give I shall  
then confess I am  
wrong. My letters  
written to the Geog  
raphical & Missionary  
societies are popular  
Why must you  
pay for diluting  
what I say with  
namby pambyism  
Excuse me, but  
you must give this  
man leave to quit  
I really cannot afford  
to appear as he would  
make me D. Livingstone