

Letter to Horace Waller, 7 July 1862

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)

[0001]

Shupanga 7th July
1862

My Dear Waller
Thanks for your
very welcome letters &
also for the silk under
shirts the most com-
fortable things I ever
wore. We must go to
Johanna for various
reasons - and intend
to start in a day or two.
This is a grievous
delay as the water is
now very low. Something
has occurred to prevent
Captain Oldfield sending

[0002]

a ship between 20th May &
1st June as he intended.
Rae was very ill with
dysentery, and I took him
away to breathe the
sea air - came up on
12th June & put the
steamer in the water -
and everything into her -
and hearing from
a Lieutenant Burlton
who has volunteered,
that the Penguin past
Quillimane on 15th ult
without giving us
any provisions. I must
go & get them. This is
a grievous loss of
time but it will all
turn out for the best

[0003]

We shall not meet old

Seedy as he died of cholera
about the beginning of
this year - & will have
some work beating
back.

If Chibisa could be
aided without com-
promising the mission
with the Portuguese
it might be done - but
he was the active agent
in passing the Tette
slavehunters up and
across Shire to hunt
the Manganja and
I am not quite sure
but he may have a
hand in aiding those
now in the Ajawa camp

[0004]

you can trust none of
them - they are degraded
to the lowest point the
devil can effect moral
and we can scarcely enter
into their feelings in the
unprotected state in which
they spend their lives -
I have told Chibisa's
people what I think of
his conduct in aiding
the Azungo to do to the
Manganja what they
now do to him and
will write immediately
to the Governor against
Belshore.

The conduct of the
black English will not

[0005]

hurt you much. The
people soon learn the
difference and will
value you the more.
I am sorry for it
however. I told Chibisa's
people that though I had
brought them they were
not slaves and were

accountable for their
actions as much as he
is himself. I hope they
have not gone up
by the cataracts as that
would place difficulties
in our way in the
transport.

I bespoke 2 bales of
calico from Vianna

[0006]

and intend to ship them
in a day or two but
Scudmore says that
you dont need any
for six months at least
I shall bring them at
any rate. I bought a
small cask of wine
such as we spoke of
2 for ourselves &
1 for you. It costs
£5 and Vianna says
will be between 50 & 60
bottles. That too we
shall bring - when we
come say 2 months
hence.

[0007]

I have suggested to Procter
to begin translation as
a means of reducing
the language. If you all
spent several hours
a day at it you would
soon discover the
advantage. The product
need not be thought of
as fit for the press
but to fit you for
more important works
I told Scudamore this
but he forgets & I repeat
it to Procter & you.

Thanks for your
kind sympathies
In return I say

[0008]

cherish exalted thought
of the great work you
have undertaken. It is
a work which if faithful
you will look back
to with satisfaction
while the eternal ages
roll on their everlasting
course. The Devil will
do all he can to hinder
you - by efforts from
without & from within
but remember Him who
is with you & will be
with always.

The Governor of Tette
has got the sanction

[0009]

of his big brother
The Governor General
of Mosambique to
prosecute slave trade
on land. I have written
a despatch which
will place the conduct
of the brothers in its
true light - probably
it will only take
effect when the
big brother is gone
but his successor
will be the better of
the information now
given. I have proved
that what the Governor

[0010]

General says about
slave trade being still
the law of the land
cannot be true except
by an oversight
which the statesmen
of Lisbon will be
sure to remedy.

The packet of letters
that came last by
your return canoe
was at once delivered
to José M. Nunes

of Quillimane who
was here and he took
them off to that port
the claret; dont you

[0011]

wish you may get it
We never saw it.
Miss Mac. may have
exchanged it for something
that bites the tongue
more than that wishy
vashing stuff claret.

With kind salutations
to Dickinson &c

I am &c

David Livingstone

In my letter to the
Makololo I give them
some news. Then
tell them that I have
heard of their deeds
& will if they live

[0012]

quietly take them across
country to their own
land as soon as
possible. I hope they
have not disturbed
the people adjacent
to the cataracts. I add
that they must not
allow you to be
disturbed. If you had
a hundred of them
bad as they are I would
back you to stop all
the Chicunda slave hunters
and all the Azanga too
26 who went up with us
to Sekeletu have run away
from him. I dont tell them
this except in a general way