

Letter to John Washington, 20 December 1861

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

H.M.S. Pioneer 20 Dec^r
1861
Captain Washington R N.
Sir

I am very sorry to have to report the death of Robert Fayers, carpenter of the Pioneer on the 17th Curr. After a fortnights illness. We have been detained since the 16th November in a most unhealthy part of the river having a large marsh on each side of us. this is the only reason we know for the greater virulence of the Fever for the ship has been kept scrupulously clean above, below and in the bilges. We did not expect a fatal issue and feel the loss very much it being the

[0002]

only death in the Expedition during three and a half years in these rivers

I have written to the young mans parents and advised them to apply to you about arrears of wages, and any money that may arise from the sale of his tools and clothes and an account of which will be sent as soon as possible. Their address is M^{rs} Fayers

Near the Coventry Cross
St Leonard's
Bromley
Middlesex
I am &c

David Livingstone
H.M.Consul.

[0003]

He was attended by D^r Meller during
most of his illness & latterly
had the assistance of D^r Kirk
D^r Mellers report & post
mortem examination is
enclosed

I close this letter and will
send an account of the
effects of the carpenter in
another letter as soon
as the sale takes place