

## Letter to John Murray III, 22 May [1857]

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[0001]

57 Sloane St

22 May

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

M<sup>r</sup> Clowes has

just sent me proofs  
of the plates or  
drawings. the  
lion encountre  
is absolutely  
abominable  
I entreat you  
by all thats good

[0002]

to suppress it  
Every one who  
knows what  
a lion is will  
die with laughing  
at it. Its the  
greatest bungle  
Wolf ever made  
I told him about  
and I told him  
the proportions  
were much too  
great on the side

[0003]

of the lion. Its  
like a dray horse  
over me. It really  
must hurt the  
book to make  
a lion look larger  
than a hippopotamus  
I am quite distressed  
about it.

[or at least make the lion smaller]

Would the style  
in which Andersson's  
plates are got up

not superior to  
this? Of course

[0004]

I am no judge of  
this point but  
of the lion I am  
I think.

Is it impossible  
to put on a rag  
round the lions  
of these fellows?  
All wear something  
except the Batoka  
I refer to the  
elephant hunt  
to make the fellows  
all stark naked

[0005]

is worse than  
talking about Urine  
and yet your  
critic turned up  
the white of his  
eyes at that

The reception  
at Shinte's which  
came to day is  
very poor  
I have made  
some notes  
for the artist

Pray dont think me unreasonable  
you may ask Vardon if you doubt

[0006]

My men ought  
to be close to me  
two ficus or  
banian trees  
in the place and  
the roofs of the  
huts seen over  
the walls on one  
side as I have  
indicated. the  
musical instrument  
when seen

side ways is

[0007]

thus

The keys are beaten  
with drumsticks.

The drum slung on  
the neck & beaten  
with the hands.

Have you  
any of the permanent  
copy set up. I  
would like to  
see whether your

[0008]

in the corrections  
introduced by your  
corrector

he is  
a man who has  
sympathy in  
such a book

I dont send back  
the plates to M<sup>r</sup>  
Clowes but to  
you begging mercy  
against being caricatured

D. Livingstone