

Letter to John Kirk 2 and Robert L. Playfair, 30 May 1869

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[0001]

A long box paid for to Ujiji was left at Unjembe
& so with other boxes
64 Ujiji - 30th May 1869 35
My Dear Col. Playfair or D^r Kirk
This note goes by Musa
Kamaals who was employed
by Karoje to drive the buffaloes
hither, but by ^ over driving them un-
mercifully in the sun & tying them
up to save trouble in herding
they all died before he got to Unyin-
yembe - He witnessed the plunder[-]
ing of my goods & got a share of
them - I have given him beads
and cloth sufficient to buy pro-
visions for himself in the way
back to Zanzibar - He has done
nothing here - He neither went
near the goods here nor tried to
prevent them being stolen in the
way - I suppose that pay for
four months in coming - other
four of rest - and four in going
back would be ample ~~pay~~
but I leave this to your decision
I could not employ him to
carry my mail back, nor can
I say anything to him for he
at once goes to the Ujijians

[0002]

and gives his own version of all
he hears - He is untruthful and ill
-conditioned and would hand off
the mail to anyone who wished to
destroy it - the people here are like
the Kilwa traders ~~from Kilwa~~
haters of the English - Those ^ Zanzibar men whom

I met between this & Nyassa were gentlemen and traded with honour Here as in the haunts of the Kilwa hordes slaving is a series of forays - and they dread exposure by my letters - no one will take charge of them - I have got Thani bin Suellim to take a mail ^ privately for transmission to Uny anyambe - It contains a cheque on Ritchie Stewart &c off Bombay for Rs 2000 - and some forty letters written during my slow recovery. I fear it may never reach you A party was sent to the coast two months ago. one man volunteered to take a letter secretly, but his master warned them all not to do so, "because I might write something he did not like". He went out with the party & gave orders to the headman to destroy any letter he might detect in the way -

[0003]

This, though I am good friends outwardly with them all. I 36 can get no assistance in procuring carriers and as you will see if the mail comes to hand. I send to Zanzibar for fifteen good boatmen to act as carriers if required - 80 pieces of Merikano 40 D° Kinike 12 Frasilas of the beads called Samsam - shoes &c and I have written to Seyed Majid begging two of his gaurd to see to the safety of the goods here into Thani bin Suellims hands or into those of Muhamad bin Saleh - As to the work to be done by me it is only to connect the sources which I have discovered from 500 to 700 miles south of Speke and Baker's with their Nile The volume of water which flows North

from Lat. 12° South is
[...]that
at the
as well

[0004]

those of the Nile - I have to go
down the Eastern Line of
drainage to Baker's turning
point. Tanganyika - Nzige -
Chowambe (Baker's?) are
one water - and the head of it
is 300 miles South of this.
The Western & central lines of
drainage converge into an un-
visited Lake West or SW of
this - The outflow of this whether
to Congo or Nile I have to as-
-ertain - the people West of
this called Manyema are
cannibals if Arabs speak truly
I may have to go there first
and down Tanganyika if
I come out uneaten & find
my new squad from Zanzibar
I earnestly hope that you will
do what you can to help me
with the goods & men - £400 to
be sent by M^r Young must
surely have come to you through
Flemin[g] [...]