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Livingstone Letters from the John Murray Archive at the National Library of Scotland (30 December 2008)

John McMurray established the publishing house of John Murray in 1768. The firm's historical archive (to 1920) of over 150,000 items is now at the [National Library of Scotland](#).

John Murray III (1808-1892) was head of the company in David Livingstone's day and published his two major works *Missionary travels and researches in South Africa* (1857) and *Narrative of an expedition to the Zambesi and its tributaries* (1865).

The archive

contains correspondence between Murray and Livingstone about the publication of these works but also a great deal of other material such as Livingstone family letters, manuscript proofs of his works and proofs of illustrations used in his books.



Pencil and ink sketch by David Livingstone of a fish (inscribed by Livingstone as 'Sanjika'), from Lake Nyassa (now Lake Malawi) in his journal compiled c.1868-1870. (John Murray Archive, National Library of Scotland, MS. 42439).

Credit: Trustees of the National Library of Scotland

- [List Livingstone Materials in the John Murray Archive](#)

For more information about *Missionary Travels* and its publishing history, please see the study kindly contributed to Livingstone Online by Louise Henderson, of Royal Holloway, the University of London.

- [Louise Henderson, "'Everyone will die laughing': John Murray and the Publication of David Livingstone's *Missionary Travels*](#)

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