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Livingstone East Coast Aid Expedition

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honied words and see the kindly, gleaming eyes of the great traveller—Livingstone.

The PRESIDENT, before the conclusion of the evening, introduced to the meeting the Rev. Charles New, who was about to return to Eastern Africa, where he had formerly explored part of the Galla country and Mount Kilimanjaro, and who had been elected Honorary Corresponding Member of the Society. He also introduced Captain Glover, R.N., and Captain Sartorius.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE.

(Printed by order of Council.)

Livingstone East Coast Aid Expedition.

LETTERS FROM LIEUT. V. L. CAMERON, R.N., COMMANDING THE
EXPEDITION.*

“Konongo, 9 miles w.s.w. of Kwi-hara,

“Unyanyembe.

[No date.†]

“SIR,

“It is with great grief I have to write to inform you of the death of Mr. W. E. Dillon. He had parted from me at Kwi-hara, apparently better, on the 15th instant, and I was in great hopes he would get better as soon as he got away from Kwi-hara, which was a very hot-bed of fever; but, after leaving, he seems to have got worse, and, in addition to dysentery, to have suffered from inflammation of the bladder. The acuteness of these diminished, but left him intensely weak, and suffering from delirium, in which he shot himself on the evening of the 20th.

“He was a thorough good fellow, and, if his health would have allowed him, would have proved most valuable to me, both as a companion and to collect specimens of the flora, &c., of the country.

“I would wish the news of his death not to be published for two or three days after its receipt, so as to give my mother time to write to his, so as to break it as gently as possible.

“I shall be able to commence regular marching in a day or two; but the task of finding pagazi is a difficult one, and they have no moral sense whatever. A man will engage, receive his advance, and walk off the next day in caravan to the coast. Chains, &c., are of no use, as one or two men seen in chains deters people from coming at all, and one cannot get a place to shut them up in; and when the askari have brought in a lot, those got together before are gone, many, perhaps, not intending to desert, but gone 10 or 12 miles off after a mat or a spear, or something they have forgotten. The chief Arabs, Said Ibn Sulim, the Governor, and Sheikh Nassib and his brother, have been most kind, and to-day thirteen of my askari, with a large party of Sheikh Nassibs, are collecting my pagazi. I am well in health, and only anxious to proceed. My eyes are so far well that I hope to get on with observations again in a few days, when weather permits. I have cloth enough to take me to Ujiji, and to use beyond the Tanganyika as presents to chiefs,

* Continued from p. 180 *ante*.]

† November 25, according to Mrs. Cameron.

and beads to last for over a year, by which time I hope either to have met Sir Samuel Baker or to have reached the west coast.

"Bombay has been working splendidly lately, and so has his second, Bilal.

"There is no change in the country between this and Kwi-hara; all has been cleared except the small rocky hills, and seems very fertile; the soil is reddish loam. The rains have just commenced, but the Arabs and Bombay, in fact every one, tell me it is the right time for travelling.

"Believe me, dear Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"V. LOVETT CAMERON, R.N."

"MY DEAR SIR BARTLE,—

"Uganda, Dec. 4, 1873.

"I had written to you before leaving Kwi-hara, but I find that poor Dillon, to whom I had entrusted my letters, has torn them all up. You will most likely have heard of Dillon's death before this reaches you, as I wrote home about it, and to the Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society. My mother has a copy of Murphy's journal detailing the facts, and will tell you all about it: it is still too painful a subject to me to dwell on.

"I must now tell you all the news of the Expedition. We arrived at Unyanyembe all well, and hoping to go on again soon: in which, however, we were fated to be disappointed. We were all more or less ill the whole time we were there. I myself had twelve attacks of fever, and was totally blind for some time from ophthalmia. Thank God, I am now as well as ever I was in my life, except that my eyes are still rather weak, and I find it prevents my sight-taking.

"I was also fearfully bothered by the pagazi: we lost about 600 dotis at Kwi-hara by desertions, which, as 9 dotis equal 15 dollars, was equal to 1000 dollars.

"Some of the Arabs were very civil and friendly, especially Said Ibn Salim, Li-Wali or Governor, and Sheikh Nassib, and his brother Abdullah Ibn Nassib (Kisesa), who are in charge of the soldiers of Seyed Burghash; but others were most decidedly hostile to us on account of the news from the coast.

"They used to send men to engage as pagazi, and as soon as they had received their advance would send them away into outlying villages or in some caravan to the coast.

"In one instance I found a man had seven of our pagazi, and said he would not give them up without having three dotis paid for each, as he had advanced them that amount. I said, 'No, you have no business to take men whom you knew to be mine; you can keep them, however, if you repay me the advance I have given them,' which he refused to do. I went to Li-Wali, and through him got the men: a few days after, when I was down with fever, poor Dillon gave this Arab the 21 dotis, and when I recovered I found the 21 dotis gone and the men also, who had been marched off in chains to the coast in a caravan by this same Arab.

"Soon after Livingstone's caravan arrived with his body, Murphy resigned, saying that the chief object of the expedition had been attained; and, two days before we left, Dillon said he was too ill to go on: in fact, I had advised him to go some time before, as his health was so bad, and he had entirely lost the use of one eye.

"On hearing that Dillon was not coming on, Murphy at once, in the handsomest manner, volunteered to accompany me; but with the difficulty

about pagazi, and knowing that he had strong private reasons for wishing to return, I did not think it right to avail myself of his offer, besides which, he had never been fit for work since joining us at Rehenneko.

"Both caravans started on the 11th, and Murphy is now about a mile from me. Yesterday I found I had lost 10 men in the night, although I had the precaution of having askari on watch outside the village all night. I am only halting here to-day, however, to rewrite my letters.

"From here I steer straight for Ujiji. I was going a still more direct route, only I found that Mirambo had sent a large party of men to intercept us. A couple of Watusi (the herdsman tribe) had heard of our intention to go that way, and went and told Mirambo. Some of their confrères, however, told Kisesa, and he shot the two men, and sent to tell me I must change my road. I am in great hopes of being at Ujiji by the end of the year, and starting over the lake at once for Nyangwe. If I am lucky about my men at Ujiji and in Uguha, and my health stands good, I think I shall reach Nyangwe about the end of February or beginning of March, and take up the Lualaba, or, as it ought to be called, the Livingstone, from that point. I am completely at sea as to whether it is the Nile, or Congo, or neither, there seem so many conflicting arguments to be taken into consideration. However, never mind, I will, D.V., solve the problem, if it is not done by Grandy or Baker before I reach there. If I find it so, I must do what I can in some other direction. My great anxiety is to solve the problem of the Lufiji and Tanganyika, or rather to hear of its being solved."