

Zanzibar, June 4 1846

My dear Sir!

Hoping that my letter from the Cape has reached you, I take up the simple narrative of my passage where I left off in the said letter, repeating only the general remarks that I was quite comfortable all the time, that we had many adverse winds but no long continued calms, so that our passage to that place, as to rapidity, proved still a middling one. After a stay of 2 days more than I had mentioned to you, that is on the 29th of April, the Arrow sailed again with a good breeze out of the Table Bay, but very soon the wind died away and we had again foul wind for about a whole week, so that the Captain was obliged to sail so far to the South as to the 41st - 42(nd)^o S.L. (=degree of Southern Latitude) where he expected to find a westerly wind, which was however not the case, until he had sailed again some distance to the North. From that time we nearly always carried a more or less favourable wind with short intermediate calms. The Lord enabled me to bear up patiently under this peculiar and trying nature of the weather and also to console the Captain about it in such a way that I sometimes found an opportunity of bringing home to his heart and conscience the great decisive truths of the Gospel. In the Mozambiquan Channel God in his gracious Providence evidently preserved us Shipwreck. The Captain, who is a very diligent and careful man in navigation and not deficient in understanding it properly, intended to pass the dangerous Island Juan de Nova about 8 miles to the west of it, when to his utmost astonishment and consternation at daybreak he found the island at a distance of only 3-4 miles nearly right a head of the vessel, so that he thought it better to pass it on the east side. The Captain did not know whether this wrong and dangerous course of the vessel was to be attributed to bad steerage or to a current or to a wrong sight the chief mate had given him the day before, but he acknowledged himself the hand of God in not allowing us to come so near to the island during the night, when, as it is very low, it could not have been distinguished at the distance requisite.

On the 20th of May, between 3-4 o'clock p.m. we were at last safely brought to the desired haven. Capt. Hamerton received me very kindly into his house and has since shown me every kindness so that I felt quite at home with him. It is the acquaintance with Dr. + Mrs. Krapf, as he himself frequently conferred to me, that produced a religious change in him, to that effect that he is acting now no more so much with regard to men but to God and is ready, cheerfully ready, to do all in his power to assist the missionaries in their work. I look upon him as a man whom God himself has peculiarly fitted for the important post in this part of Africa. He speaks fluently several oriental languages and is therefore not in need of an interpreter between him and the King, which circumstance gives him great reputation and authority and is at the same time of a peculiar importance because those go betweens are often very great liars indeed.

On the 29th Capt. Hamerton introduced me to his Highness, the Sultan, who asked me, whether he could do anything for me, upon which, in reply, I first expressed my thanks for the kindness he had hitherto shown to Dr. Krapf and would then have asked for the same, but by the interpretation of Capt. Hamerton and the reply of the King it was made superfluous to do so. Tomorrow I shall see him again to take leave of him, as on Saturday next I hope to proceed to Mombasa by one of the King's vessels.

[The letter ends here and will be continued with the next letter from Mombas.]