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Apnea. 1891?

We had dismounted + got across on apostrini sticks + Geography followed me safely but was wet halfway up her body + the saddle was covered with mud in the seat. Snowstorm fell entirely in + nearly disappeared the saddle was dragged off, the men putting their arms in the water to do so + we were afraid she might drown. Beauty was unsaddled first + soon fell over nearly on his back with his legs entangled + it was thought they might come off

them be broken. He lay there some time in a most helpless condition, but at last was got out without a dry hair. There are very many swamps about here. I took some little photos of the horses in difficulties.

We reached the capital of the chief Cherrembila ab. 4 o C. He was absent & did not turn up till next morning. We began to light a fire & buy rice, eggs, mealies for the horses, honey & to send for wood & water also milk. Mr. King again set to work & roasted 2 chickens, no grease to baste with & made an excellent rice pudding in an old tongue tin. I made some 'scones' which only Theodore liked. Eventually we enjoyed our dinner sitting on the floor of a hut. These huts are 12 feet in diameter. The floor is made of a smooth cement & the middle is raised  & then hollowed out slightly for the fire & a square seat a few inches high is raised, for the cook I suppose. The floor slopes down on all sides. One 3rd is divided off by posts as a cow house & a part is raised higher & full of pots of food vases mostly. There is a little wall in sink & the rest of the floor one can spread one's bedding on. The rats careering among the pots made a terrible row in the night. The village is situated on two hills but there is a good deal of flat ground about among the houses. The entrance

to the town is guarded by a stone wall + low + a barricade of wood so narrow that not only had we to dismount but even to remove saddle bags & saddles. I took several photos while there. These people seem finer & fatter than most we have been & there were many old ones. We did not leave till about 1.30 C after luncheon. In the morning I was sitting alone on the hill side & a dozen people came round me. An old man with his two old wives were very kind & polite & gave me some mealies. I had to open my mouth to show I was really eating them but finally as I had just breakfasted I remembered Jack the plant killer's plan & concealed them in my jersey. After they had duly enjoyed my eyeglass, to give further pleasure I took off my shoe. The eyes all opened wide & there were wondering exclamations. at last I felt sure they thought my cream coloured stocking was my foot so I pinched it up & they looked round at eachother with sighs of relief.

We rode to Victoria over swamps through pretty woods & arrived about 5 at the fort. Mr Chaplin met us with apologies for our waggons having been sent far from camp but said the sergeant had not known whose they were. They offered us one of the Graves's late huts. They are gone to Fort Salisbury and these huts are to be the hospital.

He took us to the mess tent to have

tea + in about half an hour Lord Randolf Churchill arrived, boarded He has of course come up with every luxury + a silver coffee pot - + enough champagne & give him the bottle + a half a day without which he could not live he says.

After tea we walked half a mile & our waggons which had got in the night before. heard details of the journey. How the loose ox with the mange was lost + how Meredith had shot 2 crocodiles. He brought some of the paws. We dined + travelled up to the hut where we are most comfortable. and it saves us pitching the tents. We King sleeps here. In the night we heard a rat bounce into our waggon. I hope it will be caught.

All the tools, planks, forge + funds from Zimbaboë are now placed in the fort. C has paid off Duncan + O'deary but they begged for a passage to Fort Salisbury buying their own food. so Theodore consented

We mean to leave the waggons about 40 miles on + strike off to see some other ruins. We are being provided with 6 donkeys + now pack saddles are being made for them + + we are laying in rations for the trip. The same party will go as on this last very delightful journey. We got plenty of letters with accounts of Fanee's wedding + good news for everybody. There was a grass fire this afternoon.

June 1891.

~~Which came within~~

Which came within 15 feet of us but we were fortunately protected by the road.

Theodore & Mr King must now have quite got over the fever as they bore the rainy weather & the walking so well.

We enjoyed the fruit very much for 2 days & started off from Fort Victoria on Sat the 8th at 4.30 a.m and crossed the Umshagashe & outspanned on the other side about 7. Our waggon got on pretty well but the food waggon stuck for more than an hour. Diggin did wagon so our ox-n which had gone to breakfast had to be yoked & sent to the rescue.

All the men went & wash in the river but they had to go up stream a good way on account of a dead ox in the water & that

& sit about in my dressing gown till the basins were forthcoming with the breakfast waggon. There was a good deal of roasting done & we lost our fifth ox poor Victor that we knew very well as he was always one of our wheelers & an excellent puller - The oxen had again & be fetched & yoked & pull him away into the field & he was quickly deprived of his flesh & skin by the Makalankas. He was first examined & see what he had died of. Pneumonia Meredith said it was. His lungs were all gone & part of his heart. However all the Savages loaded themselves with strips of flesh & all the trees were festooned for days & dry it. These people belong or wish & go & the villages we want & find & so they are come & drink

the 7 donkeys.

Just as we were starting about 6, Major Browne & Mr. Armytage came up & some of the 19 waggons of the De Beers prospecting expedition. The Major invited us to dinner on the following day, hoping to be near us. The weather very dull & cold.

After the early morning trek we found ourselves near a village on koppjes of Umfanipatza & Sibilabaira. A great many people came down to trade &

Major Brown had pushed on & was ready for us. We went up to the village Sibilabaira's the largest I think. It is full of caelus trees. We went into many of the huts. In one a man was weaving a blanket very neatly, with no loom only plaiting it with his fingers. It was done with a kind of pink twine made of bark. These huts were rather large & had 2 doors.

We all washed our hands, some of us changed hats, collars & coats & we were then dressed for the party & which we had abt. 150 yards off. We enjoyed the feast most amazingly. For 3 months to live on your own stores & with your own very uncertain cook make a little change most welcome. The bread was excellent. In spite of all variations ours never is. Major Brown said his cook was not always lucky but this day he certainly was. We had Oxford Sausages on toast. worthy of capitals. Herring & cheese & a most magnificent Currant "plum duff", no mean triumph when done with a kind of pink twine made of bark. These huts were rather large & had 2 doors.

there is no suet or any grease in the country. There was tea & sticky. Afterwards when talking over stores he made me climb up to his storebox & insisted on giving me a pig's face. 2 cakes of Pears soap - a potted tongue, a Bologna sausage & a lot of raisins & a quantity of dried peaches as ours are run out. His servant was very reluctant as they had no other peaches but Major Browne said a lady must have them things. He wanted to give me lots more.

We expect to get a leader or driver from him as we are short for the night before we left Fort Victoria, Klein Jan & Solomon became afraid of going any farther so Klein boy is driving our waggon & Tom is leader. Major Browns oxen are so bad he can hardly get along & will be glad to save a man's rations & pay till Fort Salisbury & then we shall have done with waggon travelling.

Aug 12th Monday We did our night & morning treks & found ourselves in a very ugly bare place, endless & very windy. Mr Swan after a series of fearful grimaces at his rheumatism announced an attack of fever. Harry Jane & Alfred also rather ill. However all our party except I helped to make girths for the donkeys' packsaddles which are causing a great deal of worry. We also were very busy packing & preparing for our departure from the waggons on the morrow.

Mr Swan after having sat by the fire with his chair lined with the bath to keep him from draught was ordered

& bed before we started at 4.30 & at 6 we got to a very pretty place about 2 miles beyond from the post station of Makori, under trees. There was a wet night. We made a huge fire. Among the African lies we were told was that we should not find a stick on the way, & that the grass was burnt on both sides of the road so the oxen wd find no food.

Aug. 11th Tuesday. Very blustery & dull. Mrs Swan very painful with rheumatic or ague & in bed. So we defer our departure. The waggons are to go very slowly to Fort Charter & stop a few days wherever there is good grass. Mr King was also ill. After luncheon Mr Swan arose or rather descended from his bed & the two sat by the fire awful objects wrapped in blankets, heaps of misery. Theodore between intervals of nursing cobbled his boots, proudly saying "this is a class of needlework you can't do" & various other sewing jobs. At last there came a time when I kindly said I'd take a walk. I was handing a pannikin of water & a basin to Mrs Swan & Alfred was attending similarly upon Mrs King. Such is camp life in Africa where there is so much illness. In the evening I had to climb twice into Mrs Swan's bed & get up & only one stepping place between ie the break. & get on & take off mustard plasters. We hoped to start next morning Aug 12th but on enquiry Warringham was very ill with fever. The others better but We had to resign ourselves to another day. Just as we were going to visit Major Browne, whose waggons are 5 minutes

bel
behind us. He came & saw us & we took a walk together. He is in a dreadful state with his oxen & waggons & go men.

They can hardly crawl along the oxen are in such a wretched & dying condition. He has written & Mr Beit & sent him several fresh spans but at Fort Salisbury there are apparently more waggons than oxen. The ruin of them was saving £200 by trekking from Kimberley & Fryburg inside of coming by train as we did & losing fully £600 in wages, rations & £90 in broken trek-chains & repairs besides wearing out the oxen.

We are in a pleasant shady place.

Aug 13th Still here. Warringham not fit to start. Major Browne & Mr Armytage coming & dinner. In the afternoon I went & sketch the Red finger Rock & Mr Swan & I went too. Mr King ill. It is dreadful how even dull weather or the slightest chrysler knocks people down.

We had a very pleasant evening. our guests were invited for sundowners & really the 3 fires under the big trees make our camp pretty enough & help off a not very brilliant, though not bad dinner.

There is a koppje near with a curious rock on it. I have called it the Three Sisters after my own 3 sisters. It will be put on the map & probably stuck



It is very strange how so many of the rocks have others, larger, or smaller perched on them.

Aug 14th. Rose 5.30. Warringham was much too ill to come so I told Meredith he should come as he can talk a little Zulu

so can one of our men Marshek & so we can get on. Duncan also came as he understands donkeys. We did not get off till ab.t 10 after a visit to Major Browne. We went Chiefly over sandy ground among woods of sugar bush which has a large & lovely blossom of the palest tint of pink & crossed the rivers Umyambu, Shekakuzu, & Sebutu.

Our party consist of Theodore Mr. Swan Mr. King, Meredith, Duncan, Harrington, 9 blacks. 3 horses & 7 donkeys. All the blacks carry bedding or other things add to their weapons & pots full of a rich harvest of old tins & Vetfoot in divers dried shapes.

About one we reached the village of Katzana on a hill as usual. We pitched our tents & Mr King & Mr. Swan had one made of the outer fly of it & blankets. We had luncheon & then went up to the village. We could not buy anything. They are near enough to the road, but when they returned they brought us the usual things. No milk to be had as the Matabili had taken their cattle. Mr King had to go to bed & was hardly fit to start in the morning.

Aug 15th Got up in the dark & started 7.30. The scenery mildly pretty. Mimosa woods & over grass. Crossed the rivers Umpopotekke & Umteliqua, both rather wide but with comfortable rocks to cross on. About ½ past 10 sat down beneath the village Sikatu where we caused some excitement as we were thought to be Matabili. Pacifying shouts caused the chief Sindutu to send

a present of a large calabashful of very good beer & he came down to see us lunch. He & his friends drank a cup of the among them but refused more. They do not much care for sweet things but they love salt as it is very scarce with them.

After visiting the kraal we started at 3.30 & rode on till we came to a place near a swamp grass, rock & a wood We had prettier scenery all the afternoon We crossed the Umgapa R. & between the Ranguma & Matiti Hills. At once on arriving we put Wm King to bed. It was very cold & windy. We have to wait on ourselves as the 3 white men have to load & drive the donkeys.

Aug 16th Started 7.30. In 2 miles came to a small kraal Inviridzi of the Chief Inkonda We stopped at half an hour or less & 3 miles further came to Gowa the chief kraal of Gutu, a large place. The scenery was much finer & more mountainous & many fantastic rocks & koppjes were on all sides. We stayed till 1/2 to 1. All the village came down & sat round us as we lunched and bought meal for the horses & we bought several little things from them. The people wear brass disks on their necks We bought one made brass & copper We crossed a river & also the R. Divodi At 3 we encamped near the kraal Muchienda. I had to take quinine but got all right. Very dewy night.

Aug 17th. Started as usual. 2 1/2 miles passed the village of Katerabai. We stopped to rest, lunch, make bread & at 11. under some big big trees near a lovely river Sorti. One of the prettiest

with its woods, rocks & little fall
to be seen anywhere. On its banks is the
village Umeingyana. Chief Chingani
the first village we have seen on the
flat & unprotected by a stockade

We went on at 3.30 & passed amongst
a great many rocks & encamped above
the edge of a dry stream on rocks

Aug. 18th Started at 7.30 Lat. 10° 1' came
to the Chingika R. a wide one with such
steep banks that the horses looked as if they
were standing on their tails climbing it.

I was the 3rd to cross. Geography is a
clever climber. Just in front of me
was Mr. King on Beauty, who could not
manage it & fell back. Mr. King was
soon in the water with his journal on
his back & a rifle in his hand. He
got a good ducking but neither he
nor any of his possessions were the
worse of it. He undressed & put on
his pyjamas & we rode on. Geo & Mr
Swan missed the donkeys & wandered
up a rocky hill to the village of Mam-
ounonbong & had to lead over horses
down to a place where the rest of them
were unloading. Mr Swan who was
on foot led my horse & I meant to
follow him & see that all my load
was safe for I have a good many
wallets & my little camera hung on
& besides I had taken Mr King's shirt
& jersey & spread them on my waterproof
over my knee to dry. I followed & Geo
did not get down so fast. My horse
was unsaddled when I got down &
I at once looked in the waterproof
which I had loosely thrown on the

on the saddle with its contents. I enquired & was told Mr Kings things were hung in the sun & not till after luncheon did I find out that no one knew anything about the flannel shirt & jersey so they must have been dropped. Imagine my awful feelings for clothes are clothes in this country not easily replaced & we have as few with us as possible. but Mr Swan went back & found them just as a Makalanka lady was coming up.

A great many people came to see us as usual but as they are very unobtrusive we never mind. We bought food & snuffbottles from them

At 3.30 we went on through lovely scenery. Chiefly through woods & with distant views of mountains in every

distances. We went 8 miles to the village of Loutsi at the back of Mt Loutsi. People here have their hair much longer & in little curls raised tied up like little trees all over their heads & often have a 3 pronged Comb stuck in. We bought one it is tied to a diadem of plaited grass & has a feather stuck in it & a little snuffbottle hanging to it.

Aug 19. We started on foot & the men of Matemore said it was a quarter of an hour off. So we went to sent back for the horses. It took us an hour to get there. There was nothing to dig so when the plan was drawn & the building measured & the horses came we rode back. Meredith walked another way to look for a

buck. A herd of 16 or 17 Black Swart
White Pauuah
Wetpens. great large beasts
passed + stood + looked at us at
100 yds away - + no rifles with
us. Meredith wounded one but
then they were further from him
In the afternoon we travelled
7 miles when we came to the
R. Inyazatzi a great wide stream
bordered by canes through
which we had to squeeze. It
took a good long time & cross.
The donkeys had to be unloaded
+ their burdens carried by the
Makalankes. the horses sent
backward + forward. Mr Swan
waded + was so much pleased that
leg baths were immediately indulged
in by all. No crocodiles or hippos
came to disturb us. As soon as we
got well up from the river we encamped
No white people have been here before
I think.

We were sorry to leave the river. The
ruins were said to be a few 100 yds off
so we started off at 9 & leaving the
others to follow.

Aug 25th We went 6 miles + at length
saw the ruins looking very large + crowning
a large flat granite hill. The place
is called Matindila. There is quite
a grove of huge baobab trees growing
in the walls. We encamped in a sort
of court + the men on the granite
outside + the horses + donkeys in an
inner enclosure. We have our kitchen
fire for we do all for ourselves except
make Sarabout with ground rice as

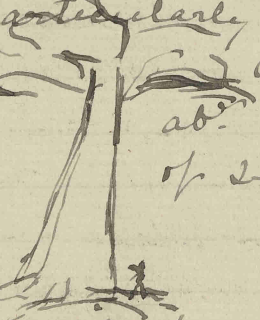
the 3 men act as muleteers. Duncan makes bread & we occasionally are given soup & we send them things too.

Theodore had a little fever. The rest of us walked to a village near but found it burnt down & ruined. Mr King found rather a nice quiver among the rubbish which he gave us.

We have to wash up. or most carefully overlook a black man otherwise nothing is clean. Kind Theo, glass went up so we knew rain was coming. We had it indeed most drenchingly but our tents being waterproof we were safe. Harrington was the only one who suffered as a sort of stream ran under him. I wonder when I shall hear rain calmly again. Here it strikes fear into one's heart as the fever stricken so often have a relapse or those hitherto well begin with it. All our party kept well & the day cleared up in a dull way.

Mr King is the Chief Cook & I am his prime minister & great were our consultations over the proper management of Major Browne's pig's face which was to be eaten with a pair of chickens. C & Mr Swan took measurements & plans. & we did not have our rock all day. Just after tea we had another torrent of rain, thunder & lightening. The chickens & Mr King had to wait in the rain, but our dinner was a triumph. When is the rainy season going to stop? We were told we

should see no rain after February
We had a little in the night & a wet mist till after breakfast & the day was never fine. However I managed to get my photography done
The floor of the tent gets damper as there is very little earth & the water runs in from the granite.
Aug 22d. It was so damp & misty in the morn.g that we could not start. The blankets which go under the pack saddle having been used as tents were wet & so we mailed till the sun came out & started at 1.30.
We rode through woods with mountains all around. Matendela is a splendid place for a fort. The view is very extensive & the panorama fine. We saw 2 kinds of grass trees & 2 cactuses, the tall tree & a low woolly looking one.
Before leaving an agreement was entered into with most of our Black companions & come round by the Sabi & on to Fort Charter for a blanket. but as an earnest of our good faith they each got a yard of limbo. Some went back & we got new ones.
We rode 2 hours & 20 minutes to the foot of Chibowewe, very steep with villages on it. There were a good many baobab trees, particularly one near the top with a smooth pink trunk like a stuck only paler. ab.t 30 feet high of scaling wax



I & Mr. Swan rushed up at once

Mr King + I settled our camp. We made tea - and drank it not expecting the others back so soon + we were well pitched into for this.

We had a windy night + moved on Aug 24th We had for breakfast some smoked salmon out of a tin, fried in its own oil + the crumbs of biscuit. We had soaked it all night in a soup plate full of water which was very oily. I gave this to a man who not believing me so generous dipped his hand in + wanted to rub my hand with it. But I told him it was for him so he delightedly anointed his head + he & a friend rubbed their bodies all over + their little leather aprons + carried away the rest in a calabash.

We started at 7.45 + continued through woods getting thicker + more up + down hill. At 9.30 we found a river, named + again with a big baobab on the bank. There were no particular features so after measuring + taking the plan we went on. Elephant steps + sign quite fresh were seen + a herd of zebras. Alas! none of our sportsmen have any luck.

We get no meat to buy, sometimes fowls + rarely milk or eggs - but plenty of the good Machona rice, quite pink + much richer than ours, rather sweet too. We begin dinner by a Stirabout made of rice meal as we can't have soup. We had to go rather out of our course & the Zambesi for the sake of water. We have no path, but

stopped at 11.15 - no shade here + very hot + I am writing in a very uncomfortable position

We had gone out of the way + too far N for water but it was needless as on returning S. wards we came upon a small river which ran under a range of hills on our left + did not do more than an hours journey. but Camped at 4.30 on a lot of burnt grass - rather nasty

Close by we found a very pretty pool overhung by trees evergreen + like rhododendrons + full of some creeper dead + grey. We bathed there which was delightful. All the sportsmen had gone after some zebras but nothing was got. The night was much warmer

Aug 25th Did not get off till 8.20. There was rather a row with the white men + also Geography ran off + would not be caught. I generally go to cater them as they are always thinking I do not have bread for them. As the 3 white men are busy loading the donkeys a black goes for them horses + he dare nit touch them but only chases them + when I have caught 2 he is afraid to take one + the 3rd goes off.

About 10 we came to a splendid river Mavirani with rocks + reeds + fan palms very pretty. I took 2 or 3 little photos. We led the horses + donkeys down but could not cross at the first place but at last found a place with a very uneven rocky bottom + 2 wide streams to cross but got over all right. I now know the way as we have no guide + there are no villages or paths so we guide ourselves

by hearsay, & mountains. Here we are having our midday halt very hot. We just struck into a path & hope to get to the Sabi this evening.

It is very weary going through the constant woods squeezing through with the horses & the long long grass hiding big boulders, & sometimes gamepits. I was nearly in one today but Geography sprang aside in time. They are very deep & narrow at the bottom so the buck can find no footing. Though we go through woods they are not shady. African trees have as small leaves as possible & now it is winter & the trees are nearly all bare though some have lovely autumn tints on them. I am now writing with blacking & water.

On the crossing the R. Nuanetsi we left the dominions of Chief Tegwana who joins Gutu at the Ngwenetsi. Now Jambiqi is ruler. We went on about 4 miles & at length reached the Sabi. It is a splendid stream & looks most lovely in the evening sun.

Great haste was made by all to get washing & bathing done & camp pitched before Sunset.

We were on a very black place with hard grass roots but 6 picked up those we were to lie on. We always have a quantity of long grass cut to lay under our waterproof sheets as the grass here grows like the wool on a nigger's head all in tufts & tussocks. We kept up great fires on account of the lions of which there seem to be plenty about here & are anxious about those rare & valuable

animals the horses. We have eaten so much that now on donkey rides loose he has no pack saddle. We find these saddles very comfortable to lean against as we have not brought our tables & chairs.

Aug 26th Wed. Wm Swan & Wm Kingwell along the hills while we rode along the flat. always the same kind of ground, wood varied by sheets of smooth stony grain to sometimes 50 yards across but now getting more quartzish. There were quantities of grass trees with their black burnt looking stalks & orchids on the trees now soon coming into blossom. The streams we cross are full of deep beds of papyrus & we see lobelia like our little blues but more purple.

We stayed for 2½ hours in the middle of the day just above a pretty stream on burnt uneven ground baking in the sun. We spread the blankets on the ground which the niggers will get in the end & which the donkeys have under their saddles.

We came on for an hour & a half latterly along the wide river Sabi with very large baobab trees on its bank. Took a photo. The niggers who were staring were in the foreground. We have a very nice one called Marlowandera who washes up & counts the spoons most carefully. He is delighted with the old milk tins we have made a pair of bracelets of & is wide by opening 2 canisters & drilling or punching some holes along the edge & tying them

them on. His neck is adorned by the lid of a 'bully beef' tin. All the time we rise are kept by our followers in nets of bark.

We are encamped above the bank of this great river Sabie. I arrived with a little fever as I was very busy as he could do nothing but go to bed. I dined in the other tent & breakfasted & we all lunched there & now we are soon going to dine in our own. Theodore is a little better. Mr King is a little bad.

I washed in the river, making a fire & boil a kettle. Mr Swan went up a hill. Mr King & I lied till lunch & the 3 men out & hunt. Meredith got a dyker or duker a small buck. We have a leg of it & are going to have a bit tonight. On account of Tsetse stayed here. We have not much food & hope to reach a kraal tomorrow night. We sometimes thought we were on a path but it is only a wild beasts' one. We met some Shangans hunting with bows arrows & dogs. They are a powerful race & dare the Matabili. The paths we do not find much comforts except as guides for they are so narrow that if worn down at all they are very uncomfortable for people who turn down their toes. Then they are overhung by thorns which do not tear either the clothes or the hides of the savages & are so low that a rider & his saddlebags have difficulty in passing.

Aug 28th We started at 7.35. We are always ready long before but the men accustomed & even seem to think time

is not very valuable. We continued along the Sabi crossed a kubaliari & had to pull up at about 10 as one of our Makalankas who is now in country he says he knows, says there wd be no water further on. We had as usual to endure a very sunny 3 hours. (At the time of writing this the great Induna Umtegaza is sitting in the tent door smoking cigarettes.)

We sat on the banks of the Umpsikwe under very thorny trees. Mr Swan cut some down to make a little place for us but we had no shade worth having. The niggers lay on their backs on rocks in the middle of the stream roasting. We went on 3/4 hours the road very up hill & down dale. We met with a lot of men, hunters carrying home a dead sable antelope.

We had some thoughts of buying some with beads but afterwards did not feel sure how long it might have been lying in a trap so refrained.

We camped rather in a marsh but on dry ground & none were the worse. We had buck-steaks.

Aug 29th Off at 7.25. Went 4 hours through woods & I was stupid enough to think I could bend under a long branch but finding I should only knock my head I pushed my 2 hands against it & Mr King's attention was attracted by the thud with which 11 lbs weight fell to the ground. I came on my side & only bent my leg & was up again before anyone

had time to dismount. We stopped on the banks of the Roquenji R. at the foot of a small rocky hill. The village of Zamopera the capital of the Inkosi Zambeji on a rocky hill also. It was a lovely spot with plenty of pretty shadeless trees. Found walking or moving very painful but as it was not dangerous we moved, as cared. As we were all tired we rilled & slept there + Duncan baked bread. I did not go to the village Crossing the rocks was in any case very difficult + as I could hardly hobble, impossible for me.

The blacks or rather browns excavated a place level under the rocks, banked up bushes round got a great tree in front of themselves + lit fires all along it + them made a kind of very stiff brown porridge in a pot. took it out + put flour on it + eat it in handsful. They were a most picturesque sight. All the inhabitants of Zamopera + Zambeji himself came down + passed the afternoon with us also took came to see us off in the morning. We bought plenty of rice, rice meal, eggs + fowls + milk.

Most of the inhabitants ran along Aug 30th way with us, shouting with joy when we trotted: they carry along the babies tied on their mothers' backs. The pumpkins + baskets of rice we + the fowls unsold + jars of beer.

We halted for midday ¼ mile beyond the village of the Chief Mafusa[ere] on the Unde. A crowd came down. I took many photos. Sat in as thick circle of starers who made kind remarks & smiled at me so I'd please them I took off my hat & then took down my hair as the day was windy and the hair had been washed in the Sabi & was fluffy it blew about in all directions up as well as down & loud were the shouts Leche! mashla! Morunko! Lungtiele! After that I played a little musical box. They leant forward most eagerly & hear that & when I did my hair up & held out the fallen hairs at their full length many were the pairs of hands & sizes each. Mr Swan took my little camera & photo'd these scenes.

We came through rocky country for a & passed a large village of Zambezis & over a high long march with lovely flowers in. gladioli, red lilies & with pretty wooded glades off it. The young leaves all red. We camped in the edge of a wood. A very violent cold wind was blowing. Theodore was feverish again.

Aug 31st It was very cloudy in the morning. We crossed the Ungwe about ¼ miles out. On our right left further on we passed a hill with a village of iron-smelters. We rested a little while. They all came down & very disagreable & wicked people they looked. They wear more hair now & are streaming

with monkey nut oil & must have a comb stuck in the hair - used for scratching as well as combing.

Many of the women have their hair passed through beads, red & white & it is like a mat in the middle 3 or 4 in. wide. The rest shaved off. I have even seen baby girls, a week or 2 old who already had this decoration.

Both men & women have little incised scars on their temples & body & now we do not see the stripes round the women's sides. We passed several villages including Kwenda's & halted among rocks left of the road on the bank of a very pretty river. We had a grass fire & it burnt the bottom of a tin saucepan. The reeds which burnt were quite green & a tree lying there is probably burning still. I washed over the clothes & blacked my boots.

We went 12 miles & it was just getting dark when we reached the small village of the great chief Urntegeya. We camped on some short bare grass just close to the village. It was very cold indeed & wood scarce. We did not get up very early as we were not to start till 2

The village is on the flat, protected by a stockade & surrounds a very queer pile of rocks filled up with stones to form a fortress. The village is small but there are many others close by. I took several photos & among others had the rare opportunity of doing a woman cooking in the

interior of her hut. The fact is the the lady is already making use of the hut which has been rebuilt before the roof is on. The granary standing in it is quite old.

We had a visit from the chief who sat in our tent & smoked cigarettes handed him by Mr. Swan & Tshewa him fire made with the magnifying glass. The old man was much pleased & said very softly "Tiyoona-Umtegeza" as I gave it him at once. It cost 4 3/4 also a bit of string with which he tied it & his dirty ragged blanket, not that we had presented us the morning. I also gave him a little salt & that delighted him so much that he departed. He returned at luncheon, but what ever we gave him he handed on. However when giving Medzwandera my plate of chicken bones to wash he manifested a wish for it so Medzwandera very respectfully gave it to him.

We were ready, but not so our men so we did not start till 1/4 to 3. We went 7 miles, crossing the Rivers Fetala Mouwsounko Tzidzidzi & Imbobo & passing Matimbi's Kraal on the left we camped under a little hill with a chief's grave on it. We were ab half an hour ahead of the donkeys A very cold night. I had a headache & went to bed after dinner. When Medzwandera came in with the

clean plates &c I told him to stop our minstrel who was uttering the most doleful shrieks by way of a song as I had a headache. He sat by my bed a little time making little groans & looking very sad. Oh! if I could have pictured this manly naked savage sighing over me, before I left home.

September 2nd We started ~~1/4 to 8~~ & we four hurried on 17 miles & just got to our waggons at 12. First we went to the miserable little fort now in command of Serg[t] Blank to enquire. All our oxen are in first rate condition. They came very slowly indeed & have been here 5 days. They have had great luck with game Warringham & O'Leary are still out but have sent back the greater part of a pig.

Major Browne is 20 miles behind Lord R Churchill's waggons passed the day before yesterday but only 4 They have lost 210 oxen on the way & Alfred says he counted 25 'Corpuses' in one trek on the road. Constable has 7 or 8 cooks & hens running about The donkeys & men did not get in till 3.30. One had come with us & food was ready for all.

Our provisions are running low & sugar must be economised We had to buy tea here. no jams & 2 tins of milk only & ab[t] 2 lb of biscuits. After all the tables & chairs are nice & I think I shall quite enjoy the waggon tonight.

Sep^{r} 24th Though we have considered waggon travelling roughing it, we could quite enter into Mr^{s} Swan's exclamation "after all it is nice to get back to civilization again!"

We did not get away yesterday till 6 p.m. sunset though it was the appointed hour. But our Constable was late with the dinner. We were busy all day arranging our things in the waggon & I wrote a letter to leave for Major Browne who is due only go 2 hours in the 24. How comfortable the waggon seemed & warm! Warrington & co did not turn up, but after we had gone ab^{t} a mile & a half a Kafir came with the blankets & Kleen Boy overtook us. We concluded Keary & W. W. passed the night at the fork & overtake us.

We had a very cold journey till 9.30 & at last put down the curtains of the waggon. When we stopped there was a most raging wind & biting cold & great difficulty about fuel.

This morning we are encamped at an equally bare place & very windy but not on the banks of a little river where we failed not to wash a little. The 2 hunters came in at about 9 ill having slept without blankets ab^{t} half an hour behind us & having lived 2 days on simple pig. Their coffee was finished & the messenger who brought the meat to our camp bolted with their head & one of Mr^{s} blankets.

We are told there has been a battle at Zimbabwe. Lkomo stole 70 cattle from Otter Mahalankas & as he was

not restore them the BSA stormed the place & 14 Zimbabweyans were killed. Ls Mashia is brother in law & Umgabe & Thomo he is anxious to go home. All the chocolate coloured people are gone now but 2 Mashanin is one name. & Jeruzon the other They wish to go to Fort Salisbury & we must have someone for the donkeys, also we are short of a 'leader', no offence is meant & Theodore

Sunday Sept. 6th Nothing particular has happened to us. We passed some waggons stuck for want of oxen & yesterday met a span of oxen going down to them. We meet many waggons going down empty and no good accounts do we hear of fortunes to be made. Yesterday we were on the Umpukie pretty wide. There were lots of blue waterlilies but we chose a more rocky spot for washing & bathing. It was very windy but much warmer & the last 2 nights too.

Just after it was dark last night we came to a wide river which all flows under a natural bridge. We wished we could spend the day there. A lot of waggons met us & not till we were past did Constable tell us that Corbett Tremble & Nettleton were with them discharged as the BSA are only keeping on 100 men. Will they want Warringham when we bring him? We hope to get to Fort Salisbury the day after tomorrow.

We hear waggons are going for nothing & being cut up into Scotch carts. i.e. ordinary carts such as we see in country roads at home. We have now a very limited supply of milk sugar &c & the men have no milk. I don't pity them. They

have been so extravagant + wasteful always throwing away middles + without really finishing them + as they have fed just the same as we have they have of course had larger shares of pickles sauces + jams than we have.

As an instance which amused us very much I asked one of them how he liked the Saccharine tabloids we had given them as they ran through their sugar before we did though they started with more than we.

'Very much' he said + I think it is more economical as you can drink your whole cup of tea instead of leaving a lot at the bottom because it is too sweet".

I said "It seems as if you put in much more than you want + did not stir it up. I hear a sack of Boer meal such as we make bread of cost £5.

When the men were at the Waneteri R. their Conductor went out + they heard no more of him so after waiting + searching they went on concluding he had been eaten by wild beasts or crocodiles. We shall take them the news that he was found + is alive after 43 days in the Veldt. He lived on berries + always kept parallel to the road + a Dutchman hunting found him. We are on a sandy place on the banks of a little river. I have made a sauce with much chocolate + little arrowroot + a little milk + sugar to surprise my three companions with their boiled rice which is all we are likely to get as a sweet dish.

Monday Sep.: 7th We travelled last evening

by a very winding, dusty road through very uninteresting country & this morning did not reach the Hanyani Rasowe hoped but went on for ½ hours trying & reach water. Meredith found some ½ of an hour off & when the 4th beasts c? be driven & we feel as if we were back in the Kalahari Desert as our washing had & be reduced & the most shabby proportions. I had happily some washed clothes not dried & wrapped in india rubber so I could squeeze a little drop on to my washing glove; the other 3 had a small quantity of water in a basin & between them made it very black & soapy but the dog drank it afterwards. Meredith found a nice puppy trying & climb into our waggon yest? morng. lost.

This will probably be our last day-

outspan. After all one is pretty comfortable now one has brought out of the waggon all the things required. but I hate the hour employed in packing when the tables, chairs & beds go & we are rooted up-

The weather is getting much warmer now. The road winds so unnecessarily. It w? save days if they straightened it but as only a few trees w? be cut down it would not be metalled I suppose there w? soon be windings round the quagmires that w? surely come.

Tues. Sept 8th We reached Fort Salisbury ab? 8 o/ a.m. A man was sent on riding & enquire where we were & stop for us hoped to be up and from the public outspan. We thought we sh? never arrive. We were half dressed & I was wrapped in a cloak. We drove

all through the trading part which is very extensive & consists of round huts, a few square houses being built waggons & tents of all sorts & boottes & bowers grouped round a long low wooded hill. Then through the camp & past the fort & on to the civilian part & Dr Harris said we were to outspan in that neighbourhood the hospital & nuns dwellings being beyond. Before we had stopped we were greeted by Dr Harris & Capt. Nesbitt and we & Mr Swan were invited to take our meals at their mess during our stay. This invitation is of great moment benifit to us, besides we could not get the food even if we did pay for it. Provisions are frightfully dear & scarce. Sugar 3/ a lb. milk 5/ a tin jam 4/ lb. ham 2/6 lb & everything is in proportion. A pair of common hinges 7/- ¼ lb tin tacks 2/6 - 1 lb paint 35/ As for meat it is very hard to get & a worn out ox just crawled up in a waggon is really so tough that one can't get one's teeth through it & those we left in our camp got none.

After breakfast we began in real earnest sorting our baggage, some for Eng. via Cape Town 2 to go down the Busi with us & be sent by B.S.A. waggons to Umtali's to meet us 3 to go to Matokos. 4 to be sold 5 to take to the Mazoe R. The Buckskin was made into a tent for packing but we were very much impeded & had to give up at times on account of the furious wind which raged all the time of our stay & brought layers of dirt into the baggage. All our white men sought places & all found them

Mr King is to open a store for the Co. at the Mazoe R. We stayed till Tuesday morning. We saw a great many friends two days I had tea with the missis also came several times to see us. Mr Stokes also and an old friend of Mr Swans Mr Macfarlane. Mr Swan + I had tea in both these huts. Major Brown had walked in the last 30 miles + we had visits in our tent all day One night (Thursday) we dined at the officers' mess. They had made the dinner table so pretty with Mr Coopers puggaree, yellow silk, + ostrich feather. The fatted calf had died + was served up in 6 quite different ways, cutlets tongue, roast, pie + 2 others. In the diningroom is a hat rack 6 Rhinoceros horns. !

Constable our cook was at Jumbabwe engaged by Dr Harris for the Civilians mess. He is behaving abominably to us. Instead of coming forward like an honest man + counting out our enamelled iron + kitchen things we have to wring them out of him cup by cup. When we ask for things he says they are gone & the auctioneers list the list shows the contrary. The last day he kept out of the way + on Tuesday morn: though we were up at dawn he had already cleared out. I suppose when we get back tomorrow eve! that there will be a row. The auction is for Sat:

Besides our own affairs there has been on last Sat: The First Annual Dinner on Occupation Day. Theodore was invited

The Pioneers hate Dr. Harris + Major Tye. The Chairman Mr. Bird made the rudest of speeches which Dr. Harris ably responded to + most pluckily. The Pioneers had many grievances but some must have been trivial indeed. One of them was that a notice was put up at Zimbabwe forbidding anyone to remove antiquities. No such notice was put up. Yet more than once it was complained of + one man said he had seen it. They managed to make Dr. Harris tell a lie for the pleasure of confounding him. When he said he had had official news from Capetown that Mr. Rhodes was coming by Tuli, they told him it was a lie for he was coming by the Pungwe. They having concealed the news from Tuesday to Sat. on purpose.

On Tues 15th Sept. we crammed a very few things into saddlebags + having sent on Meredith, Kleinboy + Mashanini with 3 donkeys + blankets over night + saying goodbye to Mr. King who would start in the wet with a waggon of stores, we rode off with Capt. Nesbitt Jon. who is Mining Commissioner + will live next Mr. King + who was going home + our way lay with his. We went to Mr. Fleming's mining camp + were lent a hut by Mr. Browning the only one at home + slept the night. On next day 6 miles to the Commissioner's where Mr. King's store is. He treated us most kindly, would not let us eat our own Bully beef or bread, but fed us with his own, gave us another tin. Lots of lemons. Wh. grow wild in that valley of the Mazoe + fetch

up our meal-sack. We had nine more miles to do to the B.B.P. camp of the Yellow Jacket mine. We wandered about a bit but found the way & arrived after sunset. Two miners named Hamilton & Brown kindly gave C & me their big bell-tent & having just killed an eland fed us & feasted us with steaks thereof. It was cold & frosty in the night. We had not many blankets with us having had to keep some to sleep in at F.S. The scenery is pretty but not very fine, there are plenty of water & lovely flowers. The object of our search was some ruins ab. 4½ miles off. So thither we rode & Mr Hamilton came with us to show us the way & incidentally it had been another round for Exhausted Mr S. planned. I photod & after 2 hours we retraced our steps about a mile to a lovely rocky shady stream where we made a fire & had luncheon. It was very hot but most of the time we were in woods. We went to the G.J. mine & saw the old workings & Mr S & Mr F went to the Blue Jackets but C & I went home. We supped out & at 10.15 in the morn. we set out to return to F.S.

Friday 18th. We had 30 miles to ride & having missed some water because we thought it too early had to ride ab. 24 before we got a place to lunch. We were hot & hungry & had no shade to sit in. We came quite a different road, by the Poort. Not that there was a road actually but a path. We reached our lonely tent 4.30 waggons gone. Meredith did not get back with the donkeys till next afternoon. At dinner we found the Bp of Bloemfontein added to the mess a delightful addition too. Capt. Neesbett lent us a mattress as grass is unattainable &

over floor roughs & let Mr. S sleep in his hut Sat 8th. Our sale took place this morns but we do not know the result quite yet. Some of the things seem to have gone high enough. Whiskey £2 a bottle & brandy £3. We afterwards were quite satisfied. Some people certainly got good bargains but then so did we. A qt. of spirits of wine & 1.10 10ds & bot champagne £15.

On Sunday I called on the nuns Mr. S Lade Capt. Graham & Turner were there & the Bp. now of Mashonaland. How he is hated! Everyone has something bad to say of him.

Monday we could not start for the saddles were'nt ready & we were waiting for a trooper named Pope who is to serve as interpreter & guide. He is out with a waggon buying mealies & not in yet. Tuesday we determined to start without him so rose betimes packed our bedding & Meredith said we need not hurry the pack saddles were not ready. However we condemned to pack, breakfasted at mess & said good bye to everyone & sat with all packed but the tent waiting. Hungrier & Hungrier we became as one & all approached & shd really shd have been ashamed to go to luncheon but kind Capt Nesbitt came & fetched us. Then we went to his tent to sit in the cool waiting till we saw our tents down. Up it stayed & by then found 3 donkeys were lost, & both they were till dark though our men were all over the place with the horses. So we eventually dined at mess. Mr. Blyth entertained us with accounts of the waste on Dr R Churchills waggons

Among other things the cook was praised for never sending a bad loaf to table. but the way he managed it was to throw away all the bad ones. At last we found it impossible to start that day so had to appear at dinner said goodbye again + determined to start after a cup of coffee in the morning.

Sep 23d. The packing took so long that Capt Hewat came + made us go to breakfast. so we kept the horses + let the donkeys go on + really started ab. 8. We came 10 miles along the Manica rd + stopped ab. 12 at a village of Padilekwa where we encamped. There was not much difference from other villages. We have Henry Alfred + Kleinboy + Mashamane + Kudya with us.

Sep 24th We started just before 8 + a little after 12 reached the village of Musingaikwa where we stayed. We bought some food. this last place was too near to Salisbury. It was very swampy all round + damp at night.

Sep 25. We left the donkeys + set out before them. stopped at a village on the way. The country pretty. We stopped on the left bank of the Nora. We made a fire + cooked luncheon We had only a very small saucepan, 1 dish + a tiny tumbler a knife + fork + no spoons Water was fetched in the saucepan. arrowroot blended in the glass with a knife. When the arrowroot was turned into the dish. more water was put on for tea + we sat round the dish to eat. I scooped up with the little tumbler. Mr Swan with a little tin lid + with the end of a fork. We had some boiled beef + I divided a few dry crusts of bread I had in my pocket for the horses between the others. Tea was boiled into the tumbler with the lid + so we lunched. The donkeys we came

in about an hour & Alfred by accident cooked us another meal which we were quite able to eat. We all bathed & washed clothes in the river & just ab. Sunset Alfred shot a reedbuck ab. ½ of a mile off some felt greatly set up in the way of provisions

Sep 26th We started meaning to go to the Inyagway & remain over Sunday but when we had gone ab. 6 miles we came to Kunji's village on the Inyagoubwe & on the banks thereof was the waggon of Mr. Fetherstonhaugh who is out here trading - He said there was no nice place at the Inyagway & advised our remaining here & forthwith prepared us a luncheon of tea, bread & "butter" i.e. elands fat, eggs & biltong of Eland. That is strips of flesh sundried & very good. Which was spread on a mat under some trees & as he did not think a lady should sit on the ground a box containing 10 smelly pigeons was kindly brought for me.

I forgot to say that the night before a BSA waggon arrived & I asked the individual in charge if he were Payne, & so it proved to be. I wanted him to come with us at once but Payne wanted to go to Salisbury so I said we wd wait at the Inyagway till Sunday night & on Monday morn. if he were not there turn S. to Makoni's & not attempt to go to Makoni Mutoko's whither we are bound to find out about their worship of a lion god & to give a present worth £40 from the B.S.a. The present is gone forward, but he should not learn much without an interpreter.

Payne has built some huts here for trading of the B.S.a. not yet inhabited so we are in possession & very comfortable, though I

anyone in Eng.d would think so. Mr F gave us heaps of biltong & a dozen eggs & a panther's paw & several other things. We gave him some fresh meat. There are two villages on rocks near here, one large & very populous.

In the afternoon we went to the Chief Gwadili's. He is Inkosi - not Induna - When we left he sent back for he had to give us beer. Most of the Chiefs do this. A monstrous pot comes bunged up with clay. I had to sit down & drink some. I don't care for it. Then the jar was sent to our camp. After that we all washed a little.

Sunday Sep 27th. Took our persons & clothes to the river to wash. I'm glad not to be a washerwoman, but it is better to wash often & little. Mr Fetherstonhaugh came & luncheon with us he goes away this eve. I am just going to take some photos.

It gives the niggers the greatest pleasure to see us trek & they beg us to do so & then shout with delight. They are quite unused to horses & the unbravelled ones have never seen them yet. The flies bite them dreadfully these days & they are streaming with blood. At midnight Payne arrived with a letter from Dr Harris saying as P. had had fever & could not walk Dr H had bought a pony on his account for £25. P. had evidently not explained to Dr H that he would have a share of horses 3/4 of the way wh. would mean his riding walking at most 5 m. a day. No one seems to like him but he is the only available interpreter. We are getting some more porters here. Nyagapanga Ca boy, here is travelling home to Umtoko's or Umtoko's so we have got him to wait for the waggon track bends very much S. & no one knows the other way. This delightful to travel in a white map & fill up

the gaps. We felt rather disgusted at Alfred bringing us cups of coffee as we knew that this betokened a late start - so I have plenty of time to write, but alas! my next volume got accidentally sold so I must write small.
We had a most interesting day, passing many villages, whereas on the other road we should have passed none. Paapa is a much better + more communicative interpreter than the others we have had, the scenery also very pretty. Before starting I photo'd the Inkosi Kuruzi who has won himself the chieftainship by force of arms. He has other territory near L. Victoria. He was once subject to Umlegesa. After a mile we passed the Inyagowie, plenty of water but not a nice place to camp. At one kraal we saw the girl who is engaged to become the eleventh wife of Kuruzi. She had on some large white fossil shells he had given her. They are considered a sort of charm + young men wear them to make themselves beloved. They seem common enough. At the we saw them smelting iron ore + I took a photo. We camped among some rocks in a wood close to Inyandoro's kraal. Many visitors had we, among others the very old + tiny chief Botshiko - 4ft 4in high all the toes of one foot had been cut off in a battle + one leg broken + now all crooked. He was a fine little thing + has 5 wives + lots of big children. Next morning there was the great surprise of Snowstorm's having had a little unexpected foal which was dead. The night was awfully windy. Snowstorm walked loose + we had a journey through lovely mountains + wearisome forest of scraggy medlar trees + sugar trees. We camped in a wood near a village with good pasture for the 15 beasts. It was dreadfully windy. Sept. 30th. We passed near no kraals

after quite the first. We had long forrests & saw very strange shaped mountains of granite, like thimbles & had very often to get down & lead our horses over bad places up & down ravines, across rivers or sheets of slopy granite – We camped above the river Mahoumi. Great fires were kept up for fear of lions & there is a general impression that something was prowling about.

Oct 1st Rode Snowstorm. Very wintery day. We stopped ab. 11. eat a little & waited for the donkeys & then went on & now here we are near a village with Payne & some of the blacks & no donkeys. It is getting dark it is cold & a few drops of rain have fallen. We have a little bully beef, biltong, tea sugar & arrowroot but can buy nothing & my jacket is on board the donkeys. We are getting very anxious. Well, we had a hedge of branches built round the fire I was dressed in a tippet of dusters & safety pins. The saddles were put as pillows & we were ready for the night when 2 donkeys appeared with Ts & my blankets & our tent so we were able to share blankets with Mr Swan & Payne.

In the morning Payne rode off to find a trader's waggon which had Mr Tokoi's presents on it. We made some thick arrowroot & tea & waited till ab. 9 when the rest of the party turned up. They had become foot sore & tired & had stopped 3 miles back. We then went on to Mr Tokoi's. His father conquered the Portuguese & he looks on himself as a very fine fellow. Mr Selous made a treaty with him last year & Payne was with him. They were the 2 first white men to see him. First we got to the waggon ab. 6 miles from our camp & about a mile from the village so we rode on meaning to stop near. When we got close there

was a tremendous row + we clearly saw we were
to go no further + thought it was for our own sake
as there w^d not be good camping ground. We
sat down waiting for the donkeys + there was
most tremendous shouting + they said we must
not be so near the village + the last M^r Coko
not let people be nearer than 8 miles off. They
pointed out a place a little further off + then
we thought we might stay so unloaded but he
sent to say we must go at least as far as the waggon
before sundown. So we cooked dinner + spent
the rest of the day + rode away + camped
on the playground of wolves. One came in the
night + was fired at. It appears that M^r Coko
has been expecting a great chief to come with
this present. When we came he hid in a cave
for it would not be lucky for a white man to
see him till his Indoonas have said it is all
right. Payne went to see him with men bearing
on their heads a piece of blue calico, a flask
of powder, some little round looking glasses
some gum caps 2 or 3 shirts as a preliminary
gift. He said he would see us tomorrow. This
the first white woman here + they think a good
deal of me as we are all ruled by a woman.
Payne was asked my name + as hesitation
would be ruin he immediately answered
'Umsingati' as he knew this to be a royal
name for it is that of a sister of Cetewayo.
'Home of the Buffalo' is its very extensive meaning.
Coming down last night we met a man going
up who told us his waggons were 15 miles away
He told the trader so. Now it is pretty clear
that he is a Portuguese spy making difficulties
for us. As he is not a 'great chief' he was allowed
to walk up + see the chief. This morning
Oct 3^d We prepared the presents for the
Indoonas + the Chief + were ab^t ½ mile on our

way with the parcel on many heads in front of them when we perceived Mr Toko & all his company about ¼ of a mile ahead so we retreated home. The chief sat down at 300 yards off & had the Spy with him - After half an hour, the Spy came & said the chief was glad to have the present but was frightened of it that the Inkosekazi (I) had been seen to go to the water & return & sprinkle some of it over the things & they wd be unlucky; he'd receive it but would give it to his uncle. I never reached the water & when I returned from my little walk the box was not yet in our tent. He said he wanted Payne to go to him but P. wd not go because the Spy wd hear all he said. After another hour the chief came nearer & wanted us to come We refused. Then 6 Indunas came & handed them each their presents as being the nearest very faraway representative of Her most gracious Majesty - Two red cotton handkerchiefs, a flannelette shirt a little round looking glass & a little tin box with a looking-glass lid - They were so pleased that they soon induced Mr Toko to come but he was afraid to come into the tents. A blanket was spread under a tree but he was afraid of that so sat on the ground Six sat on the blanket. P. the Chief Councillor & a man who has been travelling with us Benoudi & I sat between Mr S & T in front - The chief stared at me & had to clasp his hands he was trembling so. but at last he called for a raw potato which he ate peeled with a battle-axe - The presents were unpacked & shewed to the chief Councillor Boulogbow who seemed delighted He deposited them on the ground before Mr Toko who hardly looked at them but let

smiles flicker over his face. They all put their heads together + said "That man told us lies." "Some very civil speeches were made + then Boabooloo came + spread out the things one by one. A yeomanry uniform coat + trousers, blue + silver, a helmet 2 plumes of horsehair, a forage cap, belt sabretache, 1 doz red handkerchiefs, a piece of blue calico, many doz of gilt buttons, a knife on a chain, a knife + spoon a many coloured blanket &c. Next he rose + left the assembly saying he wished to speak secrets. I heard a good deal of talk ab. my hair + Benoola said they were anxious to see it. They shouted with joy + surprise all, at least whose mouths were not fixed open in arrangement. M'Toko said we might move up to the village but we should not do so. Before the chiefs got their presents we had been sent a goat + 20 lbs of meal + now a bullock has been sent. This is as valuable as a wife. All this took up so much time that not till 2 did we get our luncheon. We have reserved some things for the Mondoro. the priest of the lion. In the evg we walked up to a small kraal + went into a house very dark inside as the only light comes through the door + cracks. The mistress had nothing on but her necklace but before we came out she dressed. The women dress quite differently here they wear a sort sheet of bark cloth doubled + wrapped round their waist, lapping in front but leaving the legs out nearly entirely. It is bound on with a girdle like a fishing net. We were sitting on rocks outside when one of the Indounas came + was delighted to see us + told them C. was the Indouna who had brought the gift so we

were made to sit on a mat + given a basket of monkeynuts.

Oct.r 4th We went up to see M'Toko. He was sitting on a high rock at a fire surrounded by his friends + councillors + after a long palaver with Payne we were asked up. We all sat round the fire, in baking sun, intermingled with a good many young puppies We asked where Mondoro was to be found as no one could tell us. At long last they said we must mean Mondaoto. They did not seem pleased they said why had we not gone to him first M'Toko always has to take his advice as he is not considered old enough to rule alone (He is ab.t 25) + this adviser was bequeathed to him by his father. We excused ourselves by saying that the mistake arose from our not knowing the name correctly. They did not want to say where he was but we said we had a present for him so they told us, he lived at the village near which we had slept before coming there + then I knew he had visited Mondo. I gave him a packet of needles 2/3 + then he really beamed all over + grabbed at them with genuine pleasure + put them in his own belt. Truly they are a great improvement on a bit of grass. Next he said he wished my hair to come down he wished some women to see it, but as he had not seen it himself he became dumb with amazement + the Indunas who had seen it before held out their arms so I held out my hair at full arm's lengths on both sides + Ahh! Ahh! - resounded on all sides. + I was asked to turn round that all might see - I now wear my hair in a way that is easy to take down. We had violent wind these 2 nights. The white ants have been eating the shoes

which have to carry me to Umtali. Meredith which have set a trap for the wolf but early in the night he carried bait + all away so a new trap is being set. Alfred is ill -

This morning we rode back to that village which they call Zimbagoe. We waited some time outside while Payne went in + then went into the ruinous hut of Mondolo We sat on a reed mat + there was a fuss + gave him the present, a piece of limbo. 2 shirts 2 pocket handkerchiefs, which they use as aprons - a flask of powder, a box of caps, some looking glasses a bead coronet which however he would not touch. E spoke to Payne. Payne to Boulouloo, Boulouloo to another man + he to Mondolo. He said next time people came with a present they should come to him first + he would fetch M'Loko + it would save trouble for he was the head chief. Of course excuses were made + we gathered that the two are rivals + I should certainly prefer the older one as he is the most sensible + will die first + M'Loko is so ignorant + superstitious. They tell us they call any place where the chief lives Zimbagoe. There is a huge baobab tree there + some small ones We asked how old one about 10 ft. high or rather 8 or 9. was. They said it was born so for they never saw any change in it. Coo The hair had to come down again. Coming home we got separated + E + I were in a pathless wood with 3 boys of ab. 18. I heard a commotion behind + looking did not see E but heard his voice speaking to the savages. I pumped down letting geography loose + ran back as hard as I could, E was calling "Mabel come quick + she's on my leg" I found E + Snowstorm one heap. I did not look to see what had happened my first thought was to get up Snowstorm expecting great difficulty but

I had not the slightest for the moment I took her head she got up & I was also unhurt. Her right fore leg had gone right down a hole. The young savages had run off in a fright. It might have been a bad business but I could have sent them down camp for help. Mondoro, as we also heard it pronounced gave us a kid so now we have two.

Oct 16th Tuesday. Here we are still. Alfred is too bad to ride or walk though he won't stay quiet. He has a pain in the small of his back that we none of us understand. The trap was very successful. about 9 o'C a huge lyena was shot in the back of his neck. 5 ft long & 28" at shoulder & 24" behind his left hind leg is shorter than his right & they say that is also so. He is gray spotted with black. We promised a feast if possible & till any lions we might meet as the worshipped Mondoro is a spiritual being never seen. In the eve? Mr Swan & I went some huts ab. 5 minutes off & after sitting on a mat with a family of a man his mother 2 wives & some children, & buying the old woman's necklace of a few beads one a large solid copper one, we were shown a quantity of "Bushman drawings" on the rocks. There are great varieties of figures some much better than others. There are dog faced baboons, an elephant, a cow, I think a giraffe &c & a man with bow, arrows & assegai & many other things in blacks, red, & yellow. In the morn? I went up & copied some. We did not get away till 10 o'C. N'Konis is now our destination, Southwards. There is a Zimbabwe in his neighbourhood. After passing one kraal we came in 6 miles to Kallimarondas. He is brother to Mtoko, whose brother name is Gouroupila. But seems more in favour of Mondoro otherwise . He would not tell us any thing even when we said we knew. First he had

~~deluged~~ denied all knowledge of it & then he said he sh^d be struck dumb & get brain fever & many other things if he spoke so we did not get much out of him & after sitting ab^t an hour in a very small round hut we bridled up our horses & went on. We encamped in a wood near a small stream. We had a great thunderstorm & heavy rain

Oct 8^th. We climbed a hill about 2 m after starting covered with rude fortifications in stone & mud. Alfred rode Beauty so C & W^m S. rode in turns. We crossed the Inyaskadgi R. into the territory of Mangwendi & camped on the high bank & had another heavy rain but one it was over it soon dried up.

Oct. 9^th We passed through woods of sugar trees & crossed the Inyaniki close to Mt Rousourgue which W^m Swan ascended. We were very uneasy at not seeing Alfred & Meredith with the donkeys which arrived with Kleniboy, but at last M came in & said he was resting & w^d come on. We thought he had fever & gave him quinine & he soon was all right. We always start at 8. we cannot get away before though we are ready but Payne has not breakfasted & Meredith likes to lie in bed till 6.30. We generally reach our camp about 2. & then from our saddle bags produce tea, bread & generally meat & make a little meal. After the arrival of the caravan porridge is made of millet or rice meal with tea, then the tents are pitched & the kaffirs make a high hedge round their fire, cutting down ab^t 30 trees & we is made round our whole encampment then the horses & donkeys are picketted in the interior of the camp. There are also kaffir fortifications on Rousourgue.

Oct 9th. Camped under a huge tree near a slope of granite, a very pretty place near a stream. I had such a headache from the sun that I could eat none at dinner & we should have had none next day if I had not had two big slices cut off for my share & kept it for luncheon as that was the last of our bullock.

Oct 10th Camped beyond the Inchabanga not far from a village, whence people brought us meal but nothing else, so we had porridge, bread & tea for dinner with a little anchovy paste, no butter or milk & a most stinted allowance of sugar as we are running short. Then out with the candle for it can only be afforded for dinner & going to bed. Still we don't feel starved.

Oct 11th As Payne said it was only 9 miles to Mangwendi's & only 4 out of our road we thought we should like to see so great a Chief & hoped to buy provisions. Payne rode ahead, lost his way & all we could do was to follow his tracks a very long & winding way. We had just crossed many deep branches across right paths to guide us out of them & sometimes we had to seek up many to find his horse's tracks & push branches for others. Once we led our horses up a fearfully steep & smooth granite hill & then C left me & went to search with Baboon for it. Then called to me & I led the horses as I could not have found footing for us all 3 side by side. very hard to get down one behind the other & brought them down & we went on & at last met 3 children & we asked where Mangwendi's was so they guided us a great round, backwards. When we got to the wide river that flows below Mangwendi's hill we saw to our joy Mr Swan beyond it & knew Payne had arrived

we were just going to cross when Snow storm fell sitting in a rocky hole & we could not get her out alone as my strength was of little use so we sent for the Morounka & Mr S. came & her tail was dug out & she was lifted first off on hind leg & then off the otter & got up all right. We lunched that side of the river as there was shade & then rode up to the post station where a hut was left us the 'rooms' in the roof are riddled down pouring & there'll be rats. There is no door but it saves pitching our tents. The donkeys & carriage by the same long road we had taken, always followed by our track. At the 2 villages we passed at first people ran screaming "that one is a woman! that one is a woman!" & some must have heard of my hair for they asked to see it I am sure they take far more pleasure out of us than we do out of a circus. They rend the air with cries of joy over such a daring equestrian feat as a trot of the most gentle kind. & I think they some of them consider me rather brave to touch such a dangerous animal. The other day I was unsaddling my horse & I asked one of our own kaffirs to help me as I can only push the saddle up on one side & pull it down the other, but he shrank away

We went up to the village, a very steep climb. It is very pretty indeed here. The village has 2 stockades round it. We were taken to the Inkosi Manguendi. I asked him if he were Manguendi? & he seemed delighted to see us & shook our hands, grasping them like a Morounka & led us to the topmost rock & made us sit down & sent for eggs & I gave him a packet of needles. He is such a very pleasant refined intelligent looking man. He has 10 wives & is engaged to 2 more young ladies whom he has bought. & has 18 sons & 15 daughters

A missionary (black) from near Delagoa Bay, who speaks English very well came & told us many interesting things, amongst others that the reason they like blue beads so much the best is that it keeps off devils. I am sorry & tell you that for a long time I behaved in a very unwomanly way, clapping my hands like a man instead of a woman. At last Tourouka the enormously fat unmarried daughter of Motoko's Mondoro laughed at me & explained my error. The way friends greet is to touch hands & then clap. The men clap straight, & the women half close their hands & clap crossing one hand over the other with the thumbs held close.

Oct.r 12th We are now going on & Mr Kovis's have come very much out of the way. We have new porters from here. The missionary came & say a lot of women wished to see me so I went out they told me the ornamental scars over their bodies do not hurt at all. Their skins are certainly thicker than ours. We had a most uninteresting journey over bare high veld which as usual was swampy. Likewise bare. We camped under a hill called Nyanejera covered with cactuses & kafir trees (kaffraria erythrina) with large scarlet flowers, & inhabited by baboons. There are graves in all directions, rough heaps of stones & in a cave there are bushman paintings on the wall and a tidy wall surrounding a tomb in the rock, of which there are several cemented in. There were a lot of new sticks on the top so huts are going to be built.

About a mile off is the village of the chief Cherchanjo. There we got some beer & told them to bring some (inkoukou) fowls down for the donkey party but they refused to buy them as a shirt each was wanted. The people seem to be quite spoilt about here. I fancy last winter

the white people were out of cheap things and had to give dear ones. Whereas we used to find people satisfied with a cotton blanket which cost ab. 5/- now they want a woollen one which costs 24/4
Oct 14th Sept. we had a very pretty journey through "park-like" scenery after that village + camped by the Chikamond a very nice stream of varied character rocky, marshy + with large pools with blue waterlilies. After our luncheon of tea, milkless, arrowroot + 3 potatoes we washed clothes + bathed. We had no bread being told the wood at Nyanjeru would not be hot enough! for 3 meals. In the night we had a great thunderstorm. The thunder seeming to roll backwards + forwards under us. No one got wet for foreseeing it waterproofs had been prepared. It is quite fine this morning
Oct. 15. Again a pretty journey having got among rocky hills. Camped under Mr. Ruandrolth shady trees. We had great rain in the evening A locust which one of the men caught in his hand was the only meat for 6, but very welcome as we had had only one pair of chickens since the 9th. It was very cold at night + in the morning we dressed ourselves Oct 16th warmly + still were bitterly cold the wind was so high + yet the thermometer was
. About one o'C we reached Mr Chipadzi's other wise Chipunza's village. Having passed Makenyoro where the people danced + shouted with joy beforehand at the pleasure they should derive from seeing us brot. We found a place for our tents which owed it to the exposed situation that the wind had swept it clean. Payne threw himself down to rest so I said "Are you very tired Payne?" "No" "Will can't you bustle about + help to get a fire." "I'm not your servant that I sh'd do

anything for you" said he "I told you I said I, that if you wd make yourself useful I should do you something." "I don't care to do anything." to which I said "I wonder you are not ashamed to see a lady work!" but there he stayed. Lost! he saw me unsaddle my horse, for I was busy with his & Wm Swan up Mr Ruanda & then gather sticks while I unpacked the saddlebags. I said "Payne does not seem to care much for tea as he does help." so I said "We won't offer him any." I had to help the others as sticks were scarce but we were cheered by becoming soon possessed of much milk. There is plenty of food here.

Later we went to visit Chipeunga bearing a gift of half a piece of limbo, looking glasses handkerchiefs &c & hoping he would tell us about the Zimbabwe said to be just as well built if not so extensive as our Zimbabwe. He led us amid much handclapping to an inner sanctum, passing under a doorway ab. 2 ft. high in a wide wall ab. 10 ft by 20 & bounded by huts & rocks. Here we all sat down Chipeunga who is a most respectable old gentleman at one end. They appointed speakers & after polite speeches & the present being given a messenger was hastily sent out & soon there came a woman bearing a gourd of beer, a foot high & about as wide she came in in a crouching way till ab 6 ft from the chief & there she knelt down & presented the pot with her newly shaven head bowed low. He said to her "Taste it" so she did & then on her knees she took the pot to him & he tasted it & having thus assured us there was no poison it was handed to us to take each a draught & afterwards as is usual carried to our camp. He likewise sent us a small kid As to our questions ab Zimbabwe, & where Chipadzi's tomb is, where they worship (for Chipadzi, like Motoko, & Umgabe is adopted by chief after chief)

or where Chitlikette the former stronghold is they would not tell & no one W. Guide could believe could gather from their faces that there are such places. When we got down the tent was pitched, we wanted to do it before for the wind was so cold & violent that one felt as if one must be on the cliffs at Scarborough instead of in the tropics in the beginning of summer. We were prevented by Mashanani's not having turned up with the tent poles & when he did he was quite drunk. I believe it was from smoking dokha or Indian hemp or hachish. He rushed at with his knobkerry, cut his legs on the rocks till the blood streamed down & was very wild.

Yesterday was windy & sunless & we, though on the banks of the most comfortable R. Rovuapi could not wash ourselves our horses & our clothes. We 3 went out on foot to seek Zimbabwe, a round of at 6 miles. We went to a deserted village & up a hill of very steep bare granite & several places vainly. Mr S & I went out again in the afternoon. It was so very cold last night great rain in the night today they are out on horseback & Payne in another direction. I have lent my Geography to Mr S. as Beauty's back is bad. They say ladies always give horses sore backs but though I have had J since March 1 he has never had one. It seems so dreadful to think that no letter will get home before those we may post at Lisbon & we shall have no letters till Cape Town! How far off we are! but now we have our faces turned homeward. We have no more books to read & after today no sugar. I think Constable stole most of the #40 lbs we were to have with us. We have been so stingy with it for long. They all 3 came back with nothing very satisfactory to recount. First Mr S was who had ridden about & came to the conclusion the situation was the deserted village. Then I who had

been to a village + got a man to guide him to Chillikette + who took him also to the deserted village. Then Payne came + said he was sure they were humbugging us. After lunch they went off on foot in another direction + it was settled Meredith + Payne should go & M'Konis to find out. We had a sharp frost in the night + suffered all very much from cold. Things were covered with rime in the morning. The horses all lost so those 2 could not start & M'Konis left after lunch & found they had never tied up the beast at night. Only 2 horses were found at first but now the other two are. We all had a tremendous big wash, sheets &c + got back to luncheon of tea with milk, bread + potted meat. No meat to be got + we have had no bread since the day before yesterday as we could get no meal. In the afternoon we went to Chillikette. It is quite modern. We made a fire + roasted monkey nuts.

Payne + Meredith went to M'Konis + it is evident there are no native tribes there. Dr Sclater's river is an [illegible] & we rather have compared the two M'Konis says Pamba Lake with the river Lindi & the terminus Rovuma Rapids

Oct 20th Pretty night We left Mr Chipunga's + had a very pretty journey getting among hills + having to get off + push the trolley up & down them. We got to a village where they said there were no men & the women were very frightened & ran away. There another village in the middle was in full view so we got a lot of milk there. M'Konis very high up. The people were very wild + afraid of us but we bought some things from them & carried + a necklace of leather. The Donkeys had been going another way, shorter. There were lovely views of mountains, 5 ranges which we were to plunge down + thread our way through. We got to a village Chigomos about 12 + sat down in full view by a stream surrounded by a crowd + kneeled. Cold rice + tea

& a little bread & plenty of milk. We could get no meat or eggs. We rode on through woods & I was the last & trotting on when shouts arrested me as I was passing & everyone white & otherwise seemed to enjoy the joke amazingly & I think the horses & the donkeys too. For the first time in my life I enjoyed the very great & oft wished for pleasure of going home straight into the tent which was ready pitched among the trees under the smooth & pointed granite peak of Gwamani. I am afraid such good fortune will never befal me again. Mr Swan went up to a village at the top of a hill now tremendously fortified but I don't know how the inhabitants could get water. I forgot that the day ~~before~~ we got to Chipunzas we came upon a low rocky hill, all the inner part was walled round & an underground passage abt. 110 yds long to water. Mr Swan got a kid & afew eggs & a hen so we felt very well off.

Oct. 21st Ink all dried up. Hen too tough to eat. Rode among hills. I had a weary time as I had a toothache or neuralgia & felt many a time as if I would tie my horse to a tree & walk. We found no water for a long way. Ridge after ridge we climbed always hoping for water in the next valley. At last, having left the track Frank & I said "we must go back to the last water." But I cried "Anything but to go back. I don't care how far we go onward to Beira." "Very well we'll go on." said F & he turned to go when I saw some blessed flags growing & cried to F but with hunger & pain &c. I hardly speak. Mr Swan who was near fell down to look & then Beauty went to drink & the sound he made was delicious. Mr Swan said it was stagnant. But he called F & so we agreed to stay, as there was probably water near, & so there was a

little post. Where we were was a clump of flags ab. 6 ft. [illegible] + you had to open them to see the water. Good trees were near + I was soon lying with my head on my saddle while C made fire + Mr Swan fetched water. We had tea + bread + cold rice + eggs. Being a lady + I was previleged to scrape the sugar-bag - but it was very like scraping bits. Meredith had shot a hartebeest + Klein boy or Geography + 2 donkeys + some kaffirs went back for the meat. We had some kid for dinner. Meredith's Gladstone bag had been hidden in the grass while they went after the buck + is lost. We think we saw 3 kaffirs with it. Four are gone after it this morn? + we wonder M is not gone. but he don't like riding till 6.30. He went ab. 9. They are going to follow the tracks of those kaffirs. The 4 from Mangwendis, + Mashanani + Igouzou are coming with us all the way so we can pay the porters of Umtali's with 6 of our own. Meredith came back with the bag. Some kaffirs had it + said they were going to bring it to us. As they had not touched a pot of food of our kaffirs which they also had + as we have never been robbed I am inclined to believe them. After all this extra going about + mens, horses + donkeys tired + wet the buck to dress, we decided to wait till after luncheon. A lot of biltong is being made. ie the meat cut in long strips + hung to dry in the sun + so you eat it + very good it is. We started at ½ to 2 + saw no water till we saw plenty in the Odzi which we reached at 3. When we saw how deep it was + that the donkeys must be unloaded we knew we could get no further as it w. never be worth loading up again for the short distance we could get by sunset + there might be no water. We halted, I with my parasol. The sand was too burning for our feet. Then we made tea, milkless + sugarless

& the donkeys arrived ¼ to 5. It took fully an hour getting all across. Now we are in Manicaland

Oct.r 22d. 6 & I rode on to M.r Casa's. Mr. Swan went up a mountain to take sights & had a tremendous walk. We crossed water 6 times. We halted in the bed of the Zangora a bower of greenery, unsaddled our horses & tied them where they could get good grass & eat cold rice & monkeynuts & tea. The cold rice is a great standby in the absence of bread. We hoped to get meal here & milk but failed. We waited 2 hours & then the donkeys came & they hustled us crossing the streams which was full of bushes where it was not deep enough to drown them & very hard to guide them. My saddle was laid on & the bridles thrown on equally wrong & I got up & took 2 horses through during the minute I was out of the water to go up a very steep bank to a nice clean grassy place where we camped. The mountain above is full of villages each surrounded by a palisade stockade so that you cannot pass from one to the other & the way may go down & a good way round to get there. The people do not wear one bit of leather but are all tied up in dirty pieces of various kinds i.e. cottons & muslins, even the women which we never saw else where. They said Senhor & Senhora to us & stared most fearfully crowding almost into the tents & having to be driven away with sticks. They have long been in contact with the Portuguese. This is where Gouveia a chief & Andrada were captured. M.r Casa's son was helping the Portuguese. He made his men sit down & made a speech to them, saying it was better to fight for the strong than the weak & the English were the strong so they'd fight for them. When we were settled I went & bathed. Crowds of kaffirs came down to see.

Oct. 23rd. Mrs Swan was not well, the effects of the Udzi mist. We went up to the village & took a photo & something happened to the slide so I had to carry my camera down the rocks myself home with Igonyon. The chief is ill we saw his son buttoned into a waterproof cloak. He looked much finer when he removed it as he afterwards did when C & Mr Swan had got into some very private fortifications & were driven out with bayonets. They said they could not let them in in Mr Cara's absence. In the evening C & I bathed.

Oct. We are now off to Umtali where our main baggage awaits us among some civilization & whence it only takes at 11 days to get to Beira.

Sept. 25. Umtali. We arrived yest. about 130. The only event of the journey worthy of mention was the crossing of the wide & dangerous R. Udzani. The bed is all polished, shiny, slippery red granite, awful to behold. We led the horses walking as far as we could over the rocks & hopping over water to save our feet from the burning rocks & then had to divest ourselves of our gaiters, spurs, shoes & stockings. It was so hard to get along. The horses were panting in terror & anxiety & stopping & when we pulled them we nearly came down ourselves. It was pitch as Udy under water & the cold stepping in at first made it even more hard. Geography fell down but got up again & we had to gird up our clothes above our knees. I watched Mrs Swan's long legs disappearing to judge how far mine w. go. We were thankful to get over so safely & strolled about to dry our legs as we had no towels & wondered how the donkeys w. fare. They tried to take them through loaded & the first 2 fell down & were nearly washed away so they had to unload. Beauty had to

be hauled skating all the way. We went first to Mr. M'Glashan the Mining Commissioner to whom we had a letter & to whom we are to give up Geography. He asked us to rest in his hut & there we stayed some hours. We were sent luncheon from mess. When I saw bread & butter I would eat nothing else & the tea with milk & sugar was delicious. Really meat, milk, bread & sugar, books & ink are great luxuries to us now. Butter we don't think of; & coffee too we are glad to have again as we drink it or tea 3 or 4 times a day. We are camped on the high bank of a stream with plenty of wood handy.

We have succeeded in getting a Scotch cart. This having wheels put to it & Meredith is going to work some miracles with the girths of our pack saddles to make harness. There is great difficulty about bearers & of course harnessing the donkeys will save great trouble in loading & dividing loads - & we shall take the donkeys through the entire fly.

Our joy was short lived for Capt. Bruce who is in command here called in the afternoon & positively said he wanted the Scotch cart for service of the Co. but I think I was the first who put it into his head to repair it. We also had Mr. Edghill, Mr. Coventry & Mr. Digby who is clerk & Mr. Hopper the Storekeeper. We had a sad evening thinking how we sh. get to the coast, bearers are scarce & we must go through all our great quantity of luggage (which would all go on one cab) & leave all but merest necessaries. I could not bear speaking over things by things & said "Wait till we are sure how we shall go & then do the things wholesale." Rainy night.

At breakfast a bright idea occurred to me & I told I he must go & represent that we are not common people with ordinary baggage but a Scientific Expedition in the

service of the Co + not only burdened with our clothes + food, cut down to the barest dimensions at Fort Salisbury but we have a quantity of things for the Machonaland Exhibition. Scientific instruments for and photographic requisites besides Mr Selous's maps. So C went + made a fuss about us + the Scotch cart being proved to be heavy + also rotten. He came home triumphantly + gave us the very cheering news that a vehicle is obtained. It has an axle + a framework which supports the floor composed of little rods as thick as my 3rd finger. They are rotten + will be replaced. Then sides must be put to keep things in a new pole + C has hired wheels from a waggon. £10 to be paid if it is not returned + a guarantee that it shall not return loaded - except with Meredith's luggage of course. The thing is now at our camp + all the improvements being done by our men. We have to cut up Hamlets + even keep the halters of our horses to help the harness. Geography + Snowstorm have now been given up to the Company.

We lunched at the Military mess. Mr Armytage also being a guest. There were Capt Bruce. Mr Coventry + Mr Nesbitt. Afterwards we went to see the guns. mostly captured from the Portuguese. I fired off the Maxim gun 5 cartridges + it. I hit the tree it is because it had been well aimed at before. Yesterday we went up to visit the hospital nurses. Misses Blennerhassett, Welby + Sherman very pleasant they were + lent us some books today they + also Mr Digby came + had tea with us.

. Rainy night + very hot day. C very busy going about the cart + Mr Swan at maps I at home till 5 when I went to visit the nurses

Very stormy night. Our Kaffirs are much occupied here, indeed they always are doing something, but here there is many remains of oxen that they are cutting strips of skin & drying round their ankles & necks. Wm Swan gave one a young a black hat & he has pierced feathers through it & tied a rag round it & gummed on one of those red & gold paper labels off a piece of calico. He gave Mackenzie a pair of boots but all he valued were the eyes & he has taken them out & stamped them through his leather kinder apron. Wm Swan tried to imitate the dress of the country & began by leaving his shirt open in front but having been burnt quite as badly as if the sun were a hot iron & scalding water poured & tried again. He has retired into his clothes & buttoned himself in. Wm Digby invited us to lunch at the other mess in a little grass hut. There were besides himself Wm McGlashan & Wm Hopper. We much enjoyed it. Capt Bruce was to come to tea but could not. As Beaucly is not cold I am going to leave him in pawn & borrow Geography as far as the fly. She carries the saddlebags better & that will keep me off my feet part of the way.

We hope to start the cart off tomorrow & leave ourselves early next day over the worst part by a way that they warn us may make us giddy & that horses can't go, but we are not giddy people & no one has had a horse to try & the way to Massikessi is much shorter. The cart will be 2 days. We were to have put up for the night at an old man's called Argus who keeps an inn - on the floor but Wm Scott who has been here this morn kindly invites us so when the tent is carted off we go to him.

I requisitioned 2 pkt of 6 compo. candles & a piece of salt more than we wanted at 10/ worth so he got a trader to change for 2 pots of jam & if it were not for the mosquitoes

he wd. not have made the exchange. What an advantage to finds it sometimes to have a Nieces!!

Oct 30. We travelled to Wm Fortts before luncheon & had a hut given us. Stayed in all the windy afternoon & read Don Quixote the only book to be had. We were all invited to dine by Wm Mauch Wm Williams & Dr Sauer, a Dutchman who we had met at Fort S. They are going to the Coast with pack donkeys. We had a feast of many courses where besides the familiar Buck-ox as tough as ever, we had quails, asparagus & Champagne. & a pie of Jar-travelled apples.

Oct 31st Wm Fortt who was delightfully kind to us persuaded us to stay till we had had a good breakfast & very well for us we did so. The first thing was that on my mounting Geography Mr was very fidgetty so Pat over got down & found her back very sore & the fat saddlebags which held all our food & things were hurting her. I had to walk & then

fort. at a mile crossing a stream in a deep ravine, hard to pass in the rain. I was afraid I was going to have to take Snowstorm. She was brought & Beauty came up & for the last time I gave them bread & I was padded up so we were at last able to start away into the mist. We had 2 kaffirs with our blankets Chinganie came & Jomo & a trooper to take back Geography & Pat from Chimoio where they fly begins named Glover, who seems to be a gentleman

We wore our waterproofs, topped most ludicrously by our pith helmets. We had no other way of carrying them in our small baggage. We had a dreadful journey through lovely scenery which we could only guess at I had to walk a great deal, the way was so greasy & slippery & we all fell down several times. We crossed numerous ravines most difficult to climb up & down. Once the trooper was leading Geography & had to run down (45°) slid down all in one piece. And once slipped. Knocked off Topee & sent him

on ahead, another time Mrs S fell back
on Geography + sent her back. I was executing
a glissade in a sitting posture but Mr Swan
caught my shoulder. We sat down to eat
our luncheon in a lovely glade of tree ferns
+ bananas + mist. No fire + so no tea. We were
told there was a very comfortable inn so we
did not delay. The last thing we crossed was
the Zambesi. First there was a very steep
bank down which I walked + the horse came
down alone into the water + there by throwing
myself I could just reach one hand to the
saddle + jump on + cross. I thought we should
go backwards getting up the straight face for
back. Then off again + up a steep bank. +
I walked on to the hotel full of hopes
of a fire. There was a little mud store
with a counter + a floor between that +
the inner containing meal sacks on which
2 people could just lie down. The portuguese
who was not the owner Lourenco was very
civil. We soon were all drinking brandy +
water + found we had no chance of a fire
Mr had dry socks though I had begun
to pack them once but C + Mrs S could buy some
Fortunately had dry gaiters + we ate tinned
stores. We were told dinner wd be in 3/4 of an
hour but 2 1/2 was more like it. Then we pushed
on our wet shoes again + went to a small
grass hut. I was last + found C + Mrs S seated
at a small table with a stranger + in one
of the 3 stretchers was another sleeping. My
skirt was so very wet nearly up to my waist
that I took it off + made a kilt with a blanket
After dinner the sleeper was aroused +
removed to the store + the 3 stretchers cleared
They had come across them + we 3 made them
up with our bedding. There was positively not
room for Mr Swan elsewhere + every one seemed
to respect this. The grass walls were very thin
+ there was no particular door + the whole
appearance of the place was like an outhouse

but we are not used to soft beds + slept dry + warm + at 5.30 a black-man came + administered a cup of coffee to each + we had an excellent breakfast + in some gold panning basins we tried to clean ourselves. The Foo: is away but Col Bettencourt a French man sent us a message last night to invite us there today. C + Mrs Swan are gone to call. We are out our cart. We now take an interest in many parties high + low who are all going to try + catch the steamer of the 8th about which the greatest uncertainty prevails. It is sunny + warm today. but not safe looking.

It remained quite fine + we went up to the Commandants. M. Bettencourt is quite young + so is the Custom House officer who eats with us. Both speak French. They are most kind We are in an enormous round hut: very high also there is a partition running partly across it behind is where we sleep. They apologized for having only boxes to sit on + other deficiencies + it made us feel quite at home because when M. Bettencourt was at Umtali for some business of the frontier he dined at mess + all from the chairs to the food was Portuguese both. After luncheon we went down to Bonnafoux to get our luggage + leave Glover, horse + kaffirs there got a portuguese boat + could understand it quite well, helped by Spanish Italian + French + they taught me the pronunciation + after dinner they talked Portuguese + we English which they are studying + got on all right. Then they said good night + all retired + it then became evident that it was intended that Mrs Swan should share the hut so we did.

Mr Swan went down in the morn: to find out if there were news of the Cart. I had a headache + could not rise + after a cup of tea I was carried to Machekesi or Machequesi in a machila, ie a hammock. I could

I could easily have walked + waded the river but I wished for this experience + the + smelling yelling blacks tore me off at a run. We went + the head of the Mozambique Co. In there a Frenchman + + the store other Mr Swan bought boots + home + luncheon. It is such a perfectly lovely place among the mountains. It is curious + near Umtali called Mozambique here but every place which begins with M. is so. Some begin it Um + some Mo Umkoni Moukoni + so on + the L + R are perfectly interchangable + so you may correctly say Umtali, Umtare, Mutali, Mountare. If you did not know of this you would not recognise Mutare in the Portuguese newspapers.

Nov 8th. We left the Godin hut after a cup of tea. The Comm was not up. We went + our camp + make arrangements. Then + Bonnafoux + had breakfast. + up + say goodbye + took photos of the Comm + the Customhouse officer. + at last departed at 10.30. We were behind the cart + had not gone 100 yds before it capsized + tried + time over again, breaking harness. After that we got on very well 10 miles + the R. Mtenene + remained on the further right bank. Two waggons were outspanned on the near side. They are going to Chimoyas + had with them 2 Kopjes + Carry on + Mr Pandais. as you can go no further than Chimoyas for the fly. They were going empty + fetch barrells + make the pont over the Odzi + so several people have been allowed + go in them. We might have gone if they had known about us in time but I think we shall be there first. Cr Minister" + a Mr Jerome invited us + we were soon sitting under the waggon with cocoa, scones + jam + after that set about + cross the Mtenene very slippery + deep in parts but beautiful + look at. When I had waded up + my knees Mr Swan picked me up + lifted me over the deep water. There was

great difficulty with Jeog. We fell on her side. In the afternoon washing & bathing.

Nov. 4th. I photo'd the river & we had no adventures but that Jeog, who had had to return to Masoikessi & had not much time for food or rest, & a sore back besides, visiting me & get down & neither being able to speak, now wishing to kick me off in vented quite a new plan & at most gently down in the road. I took the hint & walked.

We arrived at 11 at a place with many tall palms & shall stay till 4. Soon after starting we came upon Mr. Maunde, now travelling alone & Mr. Williams, now with Dr. Sauer, also Capt. Leonard who had left the mixed company on the waggons, which are ahead. They all passed us but had only just begun to unpack when we reached the bank of the Loucika where we all camped for the night.

Nov. 5th. We had a great scare in the night for a hyena, which set the donkeys yelling & made us all get up thinking it was a lion as there are plenty about. The others were off first but breakfasted only 3/4 of a mile beyond them. They lost two donkeys. We picked them up, each party on a different side of the road, above the R. Mohango where we thought we would sleep. I & Mr. Swan halted & I unsaddled my horse but before I got my clip the cart came up & we decided to push on to the next water so I had to catch Jeography again & we are a mile & 3/4 further on arriving at 5, just pleasant time to get settled. We were in a forest all day, with fine trees & lovely flowers & sweet perfumes not very pleasant & stuffy. We were threatened with rain & the dew did not dry up till 12. We now get up in the dark.

Nov. 6th. We were just outside the forest & kept lots of fires. There were footprints of many hyenas & panthers & lions near. We rode or rather I did & reached the outspan for Chimoyo. There we found

the aforesaid waggons - just unpacking. We arrived in the very nick of time. They had some fresh meat, sable antelope & gave us some steaks & I asked if they could sell us any milk or jam so they very kindly gave us a milk & 2 jams

They are in a dreadful state as they can get no carriers so they fear having to abandon things. Now I am off Geographic's back for the last time. We are at the edge of the flyde where I go back & I shall have a donkey & walk a good deal. Chimoyo's is a kraal off the road & we see nothing of it. The water is very bad. We have taken refuge for shade under an empty waggon. The parting from poor dear Geography was sad & grievous indeed. We found her lying down very sick, having eaten some poisonous. Her eyes were not very bad & so we said her given an emetic of salt & water & had to go without knowing whether she lives or dies. If the latter the B.S.A. with take Beauty. My saddle is padded out with blankets & with a straight setting I am a donkey called Lina very well. Once when I was off & she was going down a very steep place it slipped so that she looked as if she had a bonnet on. We had to go on till after sunset for water. R. Tembani is a lovely place full of jasmine & so sheltered that the banana leaves were hardly torn at all.

Nov. 7th We reached 0.15 Masoura R where we found Mr. Feltham & co breakfasting. They offered to make some for us so we stopped. They had brought their waggon that far with their baggage, the last step they dared go & sent them back & now were sorting out their most indispensable things & going to bury what they could not carry. We have an empty donkey so we loaded that & put a pillow & blanket on another & the cart has gone on. E. Mr. Swan & Mr. Ricks drove us about 4 miles to the Masoura & now some will be

put on our cart as far as Mondigo's where we all sleep & they wait for bearers. Two men have passed who have 3 donkeys. They had 3 from Unitale & Maanikeesi & found them such plagues. they sold them & took bearers They prepaid them £1. 10/. 10 & they had nearly every day to give them a rouppee & for them so horrid they swapped them with Mr. Williams for 3 donkeys. He was tired of donkeys. It is so dreadful having to pay in advance but some people never paid at all so now the rest suffer. Otors were shown their blankets & they were left with Meredith's thing but at the Menene 3 of ours having heard terrible tales of the dangers of the way started & so but came back to enquire after their blankets, & finding they could not get them till his return to Unitali they came on. All the rest of the waggon people are here. Jane the only one not bathing. I think there is not room for me. No one comes up with us but few articles of clothing that have been washed - Little & often is our motto in that respect & the bushes are draped all around. We went on to Mondigo's where we found some of the waggon party. They number 7. & one of them Mr. St Leger gave us cocoa. They had sent 5 bearers back for the others but their things came on with ours. These bearers would not helped them as far as the things that Mr. Feltham would have buried & which they could not have found. We slept the other side of the river Mwerera. very damp it was. Our tent was pitched straight across the King of Portugal's high way, a footpath We climbed a little hill before we got there It was so nice & cool & I lay in deep shadow between rocks with my ears empty of all the croaking Creaking squeaking shrieking cawing hooting sounds we hear so constantly night & day & there was nothing to listen to but the wind coming from far & getting louder & louder till

till it seemed to break over one like a delicious wave of the sea towards which we are toiling & struggling every morning glad no wild beasts have eaten any of our donkeys, & every day that no breakdown happens & every evening that no one has fever from over exertion for everyone is very tired now & limp from the heat & damp. Theodore mixed quinine & brandy & began giving us some every night & the donkeys each got a handful of salt & they are & have ammonia over them tonight. There is no road now only a very bushy path. We rested for the hottest hours at the R. Umsatwa. The vegetation is very rank & we have passed the remains of many oxen. We were having tea when Mr Fetherstone, Crowe, & Eike joined us & partook. We had only gone 3½ miles when Klemboy came shouting to stop us & say we must remain at the first water. The pole was broken & away he ran with a kaffir. We were at the river so stopped there, by great good fortune we had not crossed & also the kaffirs were with no means of being ahead. We made both tea & horrid plans for getting on in case of the smashing of the cart or the death of the donkeys, either from poisoned grass or the fly, then having got tea ready for the cart's arrival, set the kaffirs to get a good supply of wood, water, grass & lay under us & put on water for coffee. - decided if where we should sleep if the cart did not come for we all had our blankets. Quite at dusk arrived Lord Dear hunting from Umtali. We had some tea & sat & talked a bit & said if he shot a buck tomorrow he'd have some for us & camped in the very bed of the river. It was quite dark when the cart arrived. Meredith had made quite a new pole & Klemboy as he passed some dead waggons, as I call them, picked out some nuts & chain which came in well & I do not think their owners will have begrudged them in our great need. Meredith says when he goes back he shall get a break. We have passed quite 1,600

Mr. 7 who had been back & Quinine is brought the very good riding that he had seen Geography early the next day.

worth of waggons abandoned. We had the tents tied & the carts ab. 2 feet off on one side & Wm. Swan's tent on a rope over tied to a tree on the other & every man & beast very close together. The party lost 11 donkeys out of 12 by lions.

Wed. 9th Very rainy morning & as the bushes over hang the path very wet travelling. We met a Horseman & stopped of course & made enquiries on both sides as to the state of the road, distance & quality of water, about lions, the tsetse fly, & food. He gave so bad an account of food at Sarmento that C. exclaimed in tragic tones. "We shall be completely out of food tomorrow" & added "We have & give the Kaffirs the meal we want for bread.". The Solitary Horseman said "I have more rice & biscuits than I can need & my donkeys are too heavily laden so I'll give you some." We thanked him gratefully & when C offered to pay he refused & gave us a note for his servant. He is Lord Headly. We breakfasted at a beautiful river with huge bamboos, papyrus & every other tropical thing as often before discribed "by abler pens than mine". The two poor men were there. We waylaid Lord Headly's donkeys (I was just going to write in bongolas but I don't think you wd. understand) The donkeys came down to the river with our carts all in one slide & then the wheelers fell but were up at once. It is a fearful slope. Lord Headly gave an unpleasant account of the uncertainty of the steamer, there have been several wrecks. We did not go more than 3 miles for about a mile after we left the carts could not be dragged up from a very bad smelling stream for 1½ hours It was so steep & slippery & long the ascent The donkeys were on their knees. Alfred who was leading had one hand on the ground The Kaffirs & Wm. Swan had to be fetched back & by unloading it was got up. We slept in a pretty glade with bad water & rain in the night, so started very wet. It rain into the tents being hastily pitched on a slope. At ab. 7 miles

we stopped near at bad water. Lord Deerhurst was there too. Of course our men always speak of him as Deerhurst. He told us funny stories of L^d R.C's auctioneering &c. Ces instances happened & something & a misfortune happening directly after. Soon after he left came up Mr. Rollist of a Fr. Diamond Co. & Wm Hoffmann who had come to join with Mr Bent, very short of provisions. We did 15 miles & did not get to water till after dark but fortunately the moon near R. Mucumbezi helped us. We were now only 4 miles from Sarmento where we all roped & fed food. Mr R's party came after & L^d D was already there. Every one was footsore & some had sprains & all were tired & all our things were so damp. We discarded our sheets, as one but & have any. & we had ants & mosquitos in the night. A lion roared close by. We had a sunny morn / Nov. 11th & came on to Sarmento. Went to see the Gov. & ask for help as to food. We only got 12 pens, no meal. & a little maize but not having more than one bottle C^s only have that filled. We hear awful stories of the lions & are going to keep good watch, & Crocodiles in passing the river so shall go the longer way & avoid crossing. This is the 3? day of Tsetse & I have killed several on my ass Dena but today, they dress Hood. I had a bottle of toilet vinegar & put some on. How good it seems to see the Pungwe at last! This really is an anxious journey. We have passed lots of mozungo waggons. a scotch cart. a Cape cart, & now we sit under the shadow of 2 splendid coaches beautifully painted with pictures & arabesques "Pungwe River & Mashonaland" & how they'll rot. They look brand new & were built in America. We went on ab^t 1. & soon stopped at a village, off the road, on the Pungwe. The Chief is Chaboko. Joe were lucky enough to get lots of meal, Kaffir corn, not suitable for bread. We were glad to be able to give some to the two poor men who could get none.

About 2 miles from our night halt we came upon a troop of zebras. Meredith shot one. I

all rushed off to see the beautiful beast + I felt so sorry it should have been uselessly slain till the kaffirs manifested great delight + said they would come back in the eve. for meat. So they did + the result of it was that our bedding did not arrive in time to get dried, but we passed this damp night without harm. We had a big camp the poor men, Mr. Rolliots + Lord Dreshers to party 2 donkeys in all. The lions roared around + there was a great scare in the night but all passed off safely.

We rested at a pretty long pond, like a reach of a river + at evening came first, we 3 & the R

We had such a shadeless journey in the afternoon, through palms + were so thankful to see the shadow on the river bank waiting & sick. as in... In the morning it was lovely. Such beautiful glades in the forest with palms + other trees + we saw a herd of 40 or more zebras quite close they moved about. then stood + stared + I photo'd them + then again when they galloped away. We saw quantities of game buffaloes + pigs + deer. The river was so quiet + still when we arrived but in ab. ¼ of an hour it was a busy lively scene enough. There were all the same parties, but instead of 2 Deerhurst we were reinforced by a trader from Umtali with 20 kaffirs. Lions again were heard only + one more day we take us to Umpandas. A few miles out we found one of the poor men lying under some palms, unable to crawl on with fever. His friend had gone on with the donkeys now heavily laden. for one was lost. I administered brandy + gave meat lozenges + told him to try for a lift on the cart which he got + though rough it got him on + saved his friend's returning. We rested ½ of an hour at the river but thought it & early to breakfast so took a bottle of water + pushed on to the very last shade on a sloping sandy hill + made tea. The heat was torrid, like a furnace puffing hot air + quite shadeless The only thing to do was to push on as quickly

as there was no place to rest. Mr. Hoffmann had got in first & there came we & found Dr. Sauer's party, the Waggon party & Mr. Maund here still. The steamer said to start on the morrow. We were soon sitting outside kind Herr Bopparts store drinking vinho tinto & sherbet, tea & anything else we c^d get & gradually all the weary footsore travellers came limping in all declaring they c^d not have come further but one always shuts off steam at the end of a long journey & I have no doubt we c^d have gone on if we must. There is no hotel but Herr Boppart has a partly finished house mud floor & walls. Here all the travellers had slept but now. Dr. Sauer, Capt Lennard & his party have gone in a lighter, & all the rest sleep out C & I in with numerous rats & mice so we have to burn a candle all night. Mr. Swan & d^o Deerhurst in our tent. I think I am a great bother but they are all very kind to me & bring me cups of tea & books & bonbons & newspapers & Mr. Bop. brought me his last ½ bottle of beer & some bananas soon after. One person drank 1 day of beer yest^y. My bedroom is full of pack-saddles & the baggage of others & which they have constant access. We all take our meals off any packing case handy & now I am, sitting on my bed, on the ground leaning against a pack saddle while Mr. Maund Mr. Tetlow Mr. Rollett & Lord Deerhurst & Mr. Boppart play Nigh.cr.un at a packing case they have brought in, sitting on biscuit boxes. I am the only woman here so I was easily disposed of when they all bathed as I sat on the river bank with my back turned. Shallow mud is the bath as above or below it is crocodily. Now we hear the "Cyrus" has come & the Capt going shooting so shall have to stay till Tuesday at least. You will imagine it is pretty rough & we are anxious to be off to the "Norseman". "How's your poor feet?" was in various forms one of the most usual questions & is still

& the next day after our arrival many were limping about in stocking feet. Capt Andrews came up with a Mrs Rush who is going to her husband at Massi Kessi.

On board the "Forest Rights" off Beira Nov. 19
I must go back to the 14th. the day after we got to N'Pandas. A horrid little Polish Jew who bears the worst character in Fort Salisbury had bought some donkeys with some gambling money, & being aware I suppose & get another accused a Mr Nimble of having stolen one of his. Mr W denied the P.J. called him a thief & liar. Mr W punched him & off went the P.J to Vasco Ferreira 5 miles off to the Portuguese who came & marched Mr W off with fever & with bare feet, not giving him time to put on his shoes. Somehow next morn? he was told by the Gov. of Massekessi who was there that he was free &c. so as he took leave of him & left without saying goodbye to the Gov. of N.F. This was made the ground of another accusation & imprisonment the Sky. were furious & a court was got up & D. who is a J.P presided. Mr. Bobbert Crown prosecutor Mr. Maunde defended the P.J. but gave it up when he found that the P.J. said a he ass had been stolen & claimed a she ass. He was sentenced to be ducked & Mr Deerhurst very kindly told him to take off his clothes. He did not & cried & roared for Mr. Beet to save him. He had been crying & telling his pitious tale to C & Mr. S the day before. We thought him drunk. He is the meanest coward. After his ducking Mr. Bobbert warned him away but he would not go & in the night a good many boys carried & with great discretion took 3 of his donkeys. The camp was 100 yds from our tent. The donkeys were quite near ours. tied up. The lions hid quite near all day & the P.J. went to N.F. again & soldiers came carried off Mr Nimble & a man called Kyle who when drunk certainly insulted the soldiers & the P.J. & all his baggage but what Mr. Bobbert detained for debt. There was a fight with lions

& Meredith wounded one, for it bled very much & he had a narrow escape himself.

At 2 next day we rowed in a boat with ab. 25 others to the "Agnes" at N 7. Found ashore & it is a pretty place. Saw the Govt. a fat gouty man. Was to have come to speak French with him for Mr. Wimble but he understood not a word & occupied the time while we were there in a very undignified way. We went on board ab. 6, There were only Mr. Maunde & ourselves 1st class but we were not sorted into classes at all & masters & servants black & white all eat at the same table in relays for the saloon is very small & cockroachy. At 8.30 the dozen mattrasses were carried out & I rigged up my hammock & we all slept on deck. I went to the saloon & held up my dressing gown for them were people & undressed & in the morning made my toilette in the same way. We started at 9, to stop at 12 but at 11 got stuck on a sand so had to stay till 8 when the tide rose. We reached Beira ab. 12. The river is not interesting though here & there there are pretty huts nestling among palms, bananas & mangroves. We saw many rhinoceroi & only one crocodile. We crossed what seems a lake to get to Beira, a most horrid place with few houses & much sand. Here we found not only all the passengers who hoped to start by the "Norseman" on Nov. 18 but those poor people who had been waiting a month for the "Limpopo" Oct 28 She has not yet come. One passenger is dead of fever. No one knows when either ship will come. They belong to different Co.s No kind of lodging ashore save 'out of doors' is crowded. Many are in tents but we are indeed "Fortunes Favourites" in being allowed on board the old ships where the Consul lives. Mr. Cocorage who is away. Here we are quite alone, a halfcaste very nice man in charge & some

black sailors. Most of the partition + fittings are gone from this once American ship. The day before yesterday Mr. S was sent ashore with Alfred to see about water Alfred is the last remnant of our waggon days. He goes to Port Elizth with us. We parted with Meredith + Kleinboy at Mr Pandas. Water is the most awful difficulty, 5 a crown a bucket + hard to get. They had to go begging about to get it. The sea water in which we wash seems quite gummy + does not clean one. We had no communication between the shore + this ship yesty. Now C + Mr S. are gone for food. The Portuguese took the mate + steward of the Cygnet for firing at bottles in the water + 9 soldiers came in charge of them. They have a bad time here. If they strike a nigger who wont work the Portuguese puts them in prison. Eventually all the charges were dismissed but Fife's + he will go to Mozambique, but he deserves it.

23° In the morning with a rush + a dash + a swish, splash over us + our bed rushed the rain! A perfect torrent fell + the whole day was spent by the sailors collecting water + we washed clothes + ourselves with great joy in fresh water. In the afternoon the Norseman came in. We did not go on board till next day at 11 as she was not to leave till the following day.

S.S. Norseman Nov. 24th We were so much taken up with the anxiety caused by the great difficulty in obtaining a boat that we fortunately knew nothing till afterwards of the serious danger we ran of being left behind. The Lisbon has never come so her passengers have come to this ship. and curiously enough there are on board the saved passengers from no less than 4 wrecks. There are a great quantity of Kaffirs as deck passengers and no more 3d class beds. There are

are ab. 150 Black Africans waiting at Beira + as the acting Consul is anxious to get rid of them he said he wd. compel the Capt. to take 100 + for safety's sake leave 100 white behind. Three petitions signed + it was at last demonstrated that the business of the whites was the more important + if it were safe to take 100 blacks the whites c. go with equal safety in their place. We are much crowded but all have had too much hardship lately to care + are all good humoured + the Captain + steward are pleasant. I has given up his bed + lies on my floor on many blankets. I have the little slip of a waiting room at the ladies bath + we are quite happy in that respect.

I never was on a steamer where I knew nearly all the passengers in various classes before. It is very pleasant for we have if not been "in the same boat" so long been very anxious to be so. One of the people who went down the Pungwe in a boat met a Portuguese steamer coming up, struck on a sandbank They said "Here we are + can't get off + are short of provisions + have no water on board, can you give us some?" We are drinking the river water "was the answer so they put a pannikin overboard + to their surprise found it quite good They had thought it was salt.

We reached Durban Sat. and stayed 4 days at the Royal Hotel where we were most comfortable. One day Mr. Jonsson the proprietor took us a drive in his dog cart with cream coloured ponys and took us to tea in an arbour at the hotel at Umgeni

The Govt. sent us an invitation to stay at the Govt. House at Maritzburg but though they had been enquiring for us for a month, our arrival was not discovered till too late, in the newspapers so we could not go. Landing at Durban was very exciting it was so very rough we feared we should have to stay out all night

On Thursday 3rd Dec. we came on board the ship Tyrian very clean & comfortable. The Tugs in which we crossed the bar is like a cradle with a top of a shaped hood in the bow. We all crowded in there to avoid shoreboatmen & then were taken on board in a basket with the crane. We did not land at East London but did at Port Elizth yesterday the 5th & were interviewed by several newspaper men. One came & showed us the sights, & took us to the park & gardens.

6th Surely our journey home is very like an obstacle race! Here we are rolling in Fish Bay (we have rolled from the moment of embarcation, in every port) having put back & shelter from a gale. There are 2 other ladies on board but I am the only visible one.

Dec 1891