

No: 1093/94.

To The German Consul ^{C. No. 10,}
Singapore
July 29th 1894.

Auszug.

My dear Prof. Bastian.

Letters received from the Prof. R. Virchow
and yourself by last mail.

The situation stands thus - A month ago in Penang I wrote to Herr Grimwedel, that I could not any longer hold out, as my money was entirely exhausted, and that, as there did not appear to be any signs or hope of more being obtained, I was absolutely compelled, - (though I was grieved beyond description at being forced to do so) - to leave this country and try and borrow money enough in Singapore, where I was invited by a friend to stay for a couple of weeks, to take me to friends and some employment in Australia. Every cent of the money I have received from you from time to time (excepting the M. 100 you so kindly sent me a little while ago) I have spent in the researches entrusted to me, not reserving a cent of it for my private uses or reserve profit. My friend in Singapore had to send me up the money as a gift, to pay my ship-passage down to that town. I am living since then with him, but just as I was on the point of sailing, utterly dependant as having to leave the work unfinished, a letter was placed in my hands from the Penang branch of Messrs. Behn Meyer & Co., which to my surprise and delight, intimated, that £140 was in their hands, to deliver to Mr. Morstadt, the Vice-Consul for me, in order that the researches might be continued. I at once went to the Consul, but he declined to take the money from Behn Meyer, stating, that he had no advice personally from Berlin Behn Meyer & Co. could not pay me direct as their instructions were to deliver to the Consul. Under these circumstances - - I went to Singapore in acceptance of the invitation I had received, but now
I remain.

with very different feelings, for instead of being the prelude to a retreat baffled and broken, it was only an holiday to recruit strength for a renewal of the pursuit. I at once sent off a brief letter to Herr Grünwedel cancelling the former one under the altered circumstances and awaited Mr. Morstadt's pleasure to receive & pay over the money.

A month passed by, the Consul at Singapore, Mr. Eschke had been interviewed and had tried to get Mr. Morstadt to transfer the cash to the Singapore office but unsuccessfully for some reason unknown, when the matter was ended by Behn Meyer in Singapore cashing your order direct to me.

I wished a transfer to me to Singapore for the following reason: - Herr Virchow had written saying that he wanted skulls & measurements of the mixed people as well as the (claimed) pure ones.

I have been so badly shaken by my last illness, that only the induration of years of "seasoning" to the fever saved me. I was not expected, for some weeks, to recover, indeed I thought myself, that I had made my last trip on earth.

Messrs Behn Meyer paid me 1317 dollars and 65 cents in exchange for the £140 order you sent.

Now I have gone over the calculations many times, before I wrote you that it would cost 1800 dollars to make the round trip and to visit and secure what was required from each clan or settlement. In making up this calculation I had taken in consideration the help the various Rajahs & the resident Europeans would give me in avoiding the outlay of dollars. Were it not for this help, the trip would cost double the amount I have named. I had carefully calculated the lowest possible, using the utmost economy and awaiting myself of help I knew I could count

certainly upon and I am absolutely certain that I am correct & that it cannot be done for anything less. Even at that I shall not have a single dollar left after I have sent the skulls and other results on board ship on my return, nor can the journey be cut short in part, through want of the full amount, without rendering the expenditure & the attempt almost worthless in comparison. It will mean, "crippling" the whole, if I cannot obtain the full amount of \$1800, I asked for, and it will be such a loss in results to you, that I fervently hope, that you can arrange to send the other \$500, to enable me to carry out my design, which has been carefully thought out and considered as I know that upon my success in this depends my reputation and future with you.

You stated in a foot note, that the sum of £25 was held in reserve for emergencies. Added to the \$1313 I hold this will help toward the total of \$1800 materially. I beg of you to try and raise the remaining 250 dollars (approx £30).

Knowing how you have endeavoured out of limited resources, to send me all you can, I would not ask you for this additional did I not know most positively, that I have calculated matters so closely, that even ten dollars short of the \$1800 will mean incompleteness and loss in results.

For the next few months instead of Penang, Singapore will be my base of operations, so please address letters there to the German Consul.

I most earnestly hope, that under the circumstances I have pointed out, you will be able to arrange for the additional dollars, before I have reached so far North as to require them.

I write to you regarding this money matter, be-

cause of your foot note in your last letter, where you inform me of the £ 25 for extra emergencies being available Herr V. Weisbach (for the Comité) placed R.M. 2000 & the Virchow-Hilffung R.M. 1000 of that money I have just received but as I do not know from what source the extra and further dollars I ask for to make up the 1800 can be derived I appeal to you to aid myself & the united interests by endeavouring to obtain it from whoever is able to afford it. From your letter to me it seems as if it had been your intention to supply me with the 1800 but that some miscalculation as to the number of dollars contained in the amount voted for me had occurred.

I am by this mail acknowledging the letters from Herr Weisbach and Prof. Virchow and at the same time drawing their attention to the hope I entertain that the carefully thought-out-plan "for this final trip" may be enabled by the addition of the further amount of remittance be carried out in its integrity, as knowing what is required and the cost of securing it, I have so carefully gone into the subject in your interests. Both gentlemen I have referred to you for explanation of any points I may not make clear as you have followed my movements and understand the position of affairs.

Prof. Virchow hopes, that I shall be able to reach with the money sent the Eastern coast and the wild Pangghan. I am most eagerly hopeful, that you can manage to supply me with the additional dollars asked for, as I know, that with the full 1800 I can reach it and obtain what Herr Virchow desires thence. If I do not reach it this time the comparative loss to you will be far greater than the additional money represents, in the incompleteness of results in comparison.

H. V. Stevens.

No: 1093/94.

August 4th. 1894.

Auszug

To The German Consul
Singapore.

My dear Herr Grünwedel

As this is to be the final trip in the interior I am very anxious to do all that I can in the opportunity and have planned a trip which will I trust enable me to retrieve last years disastrous loss.

But to do this 1800 dollars is absolutely necessary on the closest calculation whereas for the £140 sent I received in exchange 1317 dollars 65 cent.

Prof. Bastian has £25 in reserve for emergencies. If this be added to that I have in hand it still leaves some £30 (250 dollars approx) short and I feel so strongly, that the success of the trip depends on the full amount being available, that I have written to Herr Virchow, Bastian & Weisbath laying the situation before them and appealing to them to enable me to carry out my entire plan, if it can by any possibility be arranged.

I shall be in a considerable "fix" as the Americans say, when I have done this trip. Every cent of the money voted will be used for the trip and when I return & have shipped results off to you as far as I can see at the present, I shall be simple penniless. How I am going to pay my way after is more than I can see, because I take no portion of the money sent as my own personal profit or "stand-by" in reserve. Still, whatever follows, I am determined to go on and trust blindly to chance favouring me with something unexpected. Nothing venture nothing have and if I waited till I encircled the future the trip would not be undertaken. I have often been in "tight places" before, in much the same way and always "pulled out" somehow and perhaps it will be the same when I come back.

I much fear that the collection of objects of Natural history I am asked for will be beyond my power now. My obligations toward the Museum interests to expend the last rose in the most-profitable way will as far as I can at present see prevent my hampering myself with packages and their bearers the cost of which would have to be taken out of a fund which is already as I have said in the early part of this letter too small for the successful carrying out of the obtention of the desiderata specially and urgently required. Had funds been sent for me to draw upon the case would be different; but, as you know I now have not a dollar of my own to advance for this or any other purpose, unfortunately.

For some three or four months at least I shall within easy reach of postal facilities and will keep you informed from time to time of all matters interesting to you.

With good wishes etc.-----
H. V. Stevens.