

BALINAKILL
CLACKAN
ARGYLESKIRE

Oct. 28. 1879

Dear Mr. Sanford

I hasten to acknowledge your
note from Brussels dated 24th &
that from Paris dated 25th.

In reply to the latter let me say
that the Ry which has been engaging
my attention is one from ^{Portuguese} You in
India to connect with the
system of Rys in British India &
by a line from New Hubli in
British territory to thence to Bellary.
The negotiations are not yet
completed, but they are in a fair
way of being so altho' it would
perhaps be better not to say anything

of the affair in print until all
is settled. When this takes place
I shall tell you

You are however quite right in
saying that a Ry to connect
Delgoa Bay (Portuguese Lorenzo
Alarques) with the Transvaal
is projected and will probably be
constructed jointly by the Portuguese
and British Governments. This
line was arranged for 2 or 3 years
ago while the Transvaal was an
independent republic and a
conditional arrangement for the
construction of it was entered into
by a Belgian firm, which, alas of
course fallen to the ground.

I have nothing to do with this

line altho' it is a certain Connection
with the Georgia one which may give
me some little say in the management
of it.

I am not at all inclined to
do any work and only give a
helping hand because of the
kindly private promise brought to
bear on me. When we meet I
shall explain more fully.

I have read and now return your
lawyer letter about the Florida
Scheme. I am inclined to agree in
his view as to the way of handling
it. To enable you to make the
arrangements you think desirable
as a preliminary, I suppose a
private subn of 50^m to 100^m would
suffice. If this amt. could be got

in sums of £5000 to £10000 from
a small syndicate or combina-
tion should certainly be better
than launching a bigger company
at once. I shall turn the
matter over in my mind & be
ready to give ^{you} my views when we
meet

I have had letters from Stronach
about Col. Gordon and I have
promised to do my best to sound
him on his arrival as to whether
he would be likely to consider
favorably a proposal from the
King. A mutual friend with
whom I have communicated will
see him immediately he reaches
London and let him know that
there will be a communication

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from the King so that he will
not commit himself otherwise
until at least he has heard
what the King has to propose
He is different from all other
men. If he likes the idea suggested
to him there will be no question
of salary I believe. If he doesn't
like it no amount of salary
will tempt him to undertake it.
Endow with the means the King
could place at his disposal could
I believe control & verify all the
Chefs between the Seaboard &
Dunstaffnage in 2 or 3 years &
open up the whole country to
commerce and religion. He could

Weld the whole into an
organized Kingdom able to
defend itself against all
enemies. Possession of a Sealport
would be necessary to enable to
do all this.

Your suggestions as to Beardall
quite accord with my views
In writing Strauch last night
I mentioned 6 to 8 months or
thereby as the probable time
during which Beardall's services
would be required. Hope that
may meet the case as the
road work will languish during
his absence

Spem Carter would have to

buy his wild Elephants & sometimes
experience of left to himself.

Perhaps some arrangement less
expensive than buying Saunders
from India might be tried.

Saunders's predecessor is Deane
living in India retired on a
pension. He is said to be a good
man and perhaps might be
induced to go & remain three
months with Carter to teach him
all that is necessary. An ordinary
Steamer could bring one or
two Elephants, as we have begun
to run larger vessels (1500 Tons up
to 2000) & they all go thro' from
Bombay via Aden to Zanzibar
one or two deer animals would
be necessary.

Mr. Cadwellhead comes here every day
and leaves tomorrow. I have arranged
with him subject to confirmation
in Brussels to proceed by next
steamer to your center. Conditions
of agreement to be similar to
Center but Salary somewhat
less. He is a quiet sober minded
looking man of abt 30 but has not
anything like the physical vigor
Center has. They know each other
thoroughly I understand & have
been accustomed to work together
so they are sure to agree & the one
may help to tone down the other a
little

I hope to get tomorrow abt 5/6 AM
and will go to the Burlington Hotel
as usual as soon as I start from this
(for I am unwilling to leave) I shall
either telegraph or write you to Paris. If
you come across you will find the Burlington
Hotel convenient & comfortable
we must get kind regards to Mrs. Sampford
Myself believe me very frequently yours
W. Mackenzie