



**Inventory**

**Acc.9942**

**Papers of Sir John Kirk, GCMB KCB**

**and**

**Lady Kirk, née Helen Cooke**

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**Papers of Sir John Kirk GCMG KCB (1832-1922), and Lady Kirk, née Helen Cooke (d.1914). 62 bundles and volumes. 1850s to 1970s.**

Physician, administrator, naturalist, photographer. Kirk was born at Barry in Forfarshire in 1832. After qualifying as a doctor in 1854, he volunteered for medical service in the Crimea and subsequently became Dr. David Livingstone's chief assistant on his second Zambesi Expedition, 1858-1863. In 1866 Kirk was appointed Medical Officer and Vice-Consul of Zanzibar. He became Assistant Political Agent in 1868, Consul-General in 1873, and Political Agent in 1880. He retired from the consular service in 1887.

Kirk's period in Zanzibar coincided with the dramatic decline of the slave trade in East Africa, in which he played a prominent role, and with the extension of European interests into the interior. Upon his retirement to Sevenoaks he continued an active involvement in East Africa for some years. He was British Plenipotentiary at the Brussels Conference on the African Slave Trade, 1889-1890, a director of the Imperial British East Africa Company, and chairman of the government committee for the construction of the Uganda Railway. Moreover, he was frequently asked informally for advice on East African questions. He died in 1922.

Helen Cooke went to Zanzibar to marry John Kirk in 1867, and remained there until her children's education necessitated her to return to England in 1883. Throughout her time in Zanzibar she assisted her over-worked husband with his correspondence, and as a result certain political letters were addressed to her. Some of her personal letters and two of her diaries are also included in the collection. Lady Kirk died in 1914.

Upon his death, Sir John's papers were left to his son, Colonel J.W.C. Kirk. Colonel Kirk loaned them to Sir Reginald Coupland, Beit Professor of Colonial History at Oxford for the purpose of the preparation of a biography of John Kirk. Three works by Coupland drew heavily on the papers, *Kirk on the Zambesi* (1928), *East Africa and its Invaders* (1938), *The Exploitation of East Africa: the Slave Trade and the Scramble* (1939). The papers were returned to Colonel Kirk in the mid 1950s and a few scholars used them privately thereafter by his courtesy.

Colonel Kirk began transcribing his father's diaries and correspondence, and after his death, when the papers were inherited by his daughter, Mrs. Daphne Foskett, the transcription was continued by her husband, the Rt Rev. Dr Reginald Foskett. Dr Foskett published *The Zambesi Doctors: David Livingstone's Letters to John Kirk, 1858-1872* (1964) and the *Zambesi Journal and Letters of Dr. John Kirk* (1965). Much of this published material was then sold by Charles Sawyer in 1966, and a number of letters to Kirk from David Livingstone and other well-known correspondents were sold at Sotheby's in the same year. Nineteen of

these letters were purchased by the National Library of Scotland. Other letters were sold by John Wilson of Whitney in about 1979.

Colonel Kirk, and subsequently Dr Foskett, arranged Sir John and Lady Kirk's papers and numbered some of them. These arrangements have now been superseded. Dr Foskett was preparing Kirk's Zanzibar diaries for publication when he died in 1973, and for this purpose he had accumulated copies of Kirk's correspondence from various sources.

Mrs Foskett deposited much of her Kirk archive in the National Library of Scotland in 1989. After her death, this deposit and other Kirk papers which remained in her possession at her death were sold in 1998/1999 to the National Library of Scotland with the generous financial assistance of the **Heritage Lottery Fund** and a grant from the Friends of the National Libraries.

**Note:** This inventory is based firmly on one composed by Dr Anne Thurston in 1982, when the material was still in private hands. The file numbering keeps to her file numbering, but files 39, 45 and 50 were never available to the NLS either for deposit or purchase. There is some variation between the contents of Dr Thurston's lists (especially as regards files 1-16) and the material now in the National Library of Scotland.

### **Contents:**

- A) Largely original material, but also containing some copies: 1-54
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## 1-18 Mainly correspondence:

### REEL 1

1. 15 original letters from David Livingstone to John Kirk, January 22 1858 – 30 May 1869, with also a typescript of the last. (Part of a series of letters published by Dr Foskett in 1964 covering Livingstone's periods on the Zambesi, at Newstead Abbey, in Bombay and in eastern Africa.)
  - ff.1-2. 22 January 1858. [Foskett p.34.]
  - ff.3-4. 1 September 1864. [Foskett p.80.]
  - ff.5-6. 21 October 1864. [Foskett pp.84-5.]
  - ff.7-8. 3 November 1864. [Foskett pp.85-6.]
  - ff.9-10. 27 November 1864. [Foskett pp. 91-2.]
  - ff.11-12. 12 December 1864. [Foskett p.95.]
  - ff.13-14. 13 February 1865. [Foskett p.98.]
  - ff.15-17. 14 February 1865. [Foskett pp.99-100.]
  - ff.18-20. 24 March 1865. [Foskett pp.106-107.]
  - ff.21-22. 27-28 March 1865. [Foskett pp.108-109.]
  - f.23. 28 March 1865. [Foskett pp.109-110.]
  - ff.24-27. 13 May 1865. [Foskett pp.115-116.] f.26 mutilated at the right-hand edge, with some loss of text.
  - ff.28-31. 8 June 1865. [Foskett pp.117-119.]
  - ff.32-34. 1-7 January 1866. [Foskett pp.132-133.] ff.32 and 34 slightly mutilated, with some loss of text.
  - ff.35-36. 30 May 1869. [Foskett pp.138-139 and illustration.]  
Signature excised, with loss of text.
  - ff.37-38. Typescript of the 30 May 1869 letter.
2. Typescript copies of 20 letters, 29 November 1859 – 14 July 1863. from John Kirk to his brother Alick, and one original letter from James Kirk to his brother Alick Kirk, 24 September 1861.  
Copy letter of Rear-Admiral Frederick Grey to John Kirk, 16 November 1858, with a copy of a letter of the Governor-General of Mozambique to Grey, 19 October 1858, and a copy of a letter from the Governor of Quillemane to the Mozambique administration, dated 9 September 1858, praising Kirk's medical labours on the Zambezi.
3. Letters from Charles Cooke to his sister Helen, 5 January 1860 – 17 October 1864. Cooke was a sheep farmer in South Africa and died on 6 November 1864. 31 letters (some incomplete) and five fragments.  
Accompanied by a printed notice of Helen Kirk's funeral service, 1914.

## REEL 1 cont

4. Letters from John Kirk to Helen Cooke, 9 January 1866 – 21 February 1867, and n.d. From London, en route to Zanzibar and from Zanzibar. Subjects include Kirk's relationship with Livingstone, Livingstone's expedition, UMCA missionaries, Zanzibar business community, Kirk's relationship with Sultan Sayyid Barghash. 35 letters.
5. 6 letters, 29 October 1867 – 22 October 1868, from Captain T.M. Sabine Pasley to Helen Cooke. From HMS *Highflyer* while patrolling the Indian Ocean. Subjects include slave trade, political discussions in Bombay concerning Zanzibar.  
Fragments of two letters [1867] from Helen Cooke to her family.
6. 2 letters from George Percy Badger to Kirk, 8 October 1872 and n.d.  
3 letters from H.W. Bates to Kirk, 7 September 1872, 8 November 1872 and 20 November 1872.  
Fragment of a letter from Archibald Churchill, British Residency at Zanzibar [c.1865].  
3 letters from L.S. Dawson to Kirk, 10 September 1872, 20 September 1872, and 6 November 1872.  
Fragment of a letter from Baron von der Decken, mid-1865.  
Letter from H.A. Fraser to Kirk, 19 July 1872.  
Letter from Bartle Frere to Kirk, 15 November 1872.  
Letter from C. Gonne (?) to Kirk, 18 November 1872.  
Letter from Agnes Livingstone to Kirk, 28 August 1872.  
3 letters from W. Oswell Livingstone to Kirk, 3 July 1872, 12 October 1872 and 5 November 1872.  
9 letters from Sir Roderick Murchison, President of the Royal Geographical Society, 8 April 1867-3 February 1871.  
3 letters from I.W. Rawlinson (?) to Kirk, 15 December 1871, 8 August 1872 and 20 November 1872.  
Letter from Ross (?) to Kirk, 23 November 1872.  
Letter from Smith, Fleming and Co. to Kirk, 1 August 1872.  
Letter from C. Vivian, 12 December 1871.  
Two letters to Kirk from E. Wedderburn [c.1869] and 4 June 1871.  
  
Letter from William Henn to Mrs Kirk, 9 October 1872.  
Engraved letter from the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society to Kirk, 7 September 1871.  
  
Draft report of Kirk, marked 57 of 1872, 26 January 1872. Incomplete.  
Draft report of Kirk, to C. Gonne (?) marked no 35/147 of 10 April 1872. Incomplete.  
Two documents in Arabic script (printed).

## **REEL 1 cont**

Typescript of a letter from Kirk to Lieutenant Freer Smith [c.1872].

Typescript of Kirk's Administration Report of the Political Agency in Zanzibar for 1870.

Letter from Sir Hamilton Freer-Smith to J.W.C. Kirk, 12 December 1925.

## **REEL 2**

7. 42 letters from Kirk to H.W. Wylde, January 10 1868 to 24 March 1886.  
4 letters from H.W. Wylde, Head of the Slave Trade Department, Foreign Office, to Kirk, 9 May 1873 to 11 February 1875.  
Subjects include negotiations and actions concerning the slave trade, Egyptian invasion, German and French involvement in Zanzibar, Kirk's relationship with the India Office and with various European officials.

Letter to Holmwood, from WFP(?), Bushiri, 18 May 1876.

8. 7 letters to Kirk from George Percy Badger, 21 March – 20 November 1873.  
2 letters to Kirk from H.W. Bates, 24 June and 22 July 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from Henry Burley, 9 July 1873.  
3 letters to Kirk from Verney Lovett Cameron, 3 March 1873, 6 July 1873, 19 May 1874.  
5 letters to Kirk from C.B. Euan-Smith, 7-21 April 1873 and n.d.  
3 letters and part of an envelope to Kirk from Sir Bartle Frere, 3 February – 26 September 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from C. Grey, 29 August 1873.  
8 letters to Kirk from Clement H. Hill, 20 January 1873 – 22 October 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from W. Mackinnon, 28 March 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from Thomas Maclean, 7 April 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from Cecil Murphy, 19 February 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from R.W. Playfair, 2 September [1873].  
2 letters to Kirk from Captain W.F. Prideaux, Acting Consul General at Zanzibar, 7 November 1873 and 14 January 1874.  
7 letters to Kirk from M. Schneider, Political Resident at Aden, 23 May 1873, 1 July 1873 (enclosing a telegram from Lord Granville, 17 June 1873), 15-17 July 1873, 14 August 1873, 9 October 1873, 4 December 1873, and n.d.  
2 letters to Kirk from W. Lee Warner, 28 August 1873, 17 October 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from F.R. Webb, 29 November 1873.  
Letter to Kirk from ??, Zanzibar, 14 January 1874.  
3 letters from unidentified correspondents, 24 May 1873, 18 July 1873, 28 August 1873, 14 October [1873?].

## REEL 2 cont

5 letters to Mrs Kirk from Sir Bartle Frere, 2 April – 5 September 1873, the last incomplete.

Letter to Mrs Kirk from an unidentified correspondent, 7 July 1873.  
Incomplete.

Letter to R.W. Playfair from Sir Bartle Frere, 22 August 1873.

Letter to "Waller" from Sir Bartle Frere, 29 August 1873.

4 miscellaneous documents.

Subjects include Sir Bartle Frere's Special Mission to Zanzibar, the Second ("Cameron") Livingstone Relief Expedition, slave trade, Lady Kirk's visit to London, possibility of Kirk's visit to London with Sayyid Barghash, steamship concessions and mail services on the East African coast.

9. Letter to Kirk from Lord Aberdare, 30 July 1880.  
Letter to Kirk from Sir Charles Aitchison, 15 March 1875.  
Letter to Kirk from H.W. Bates, 3 May 1882.  
Letter to Kirk from Hassam Corjee, 28 April 1885.  
Letter to Kirk from Lord Dufferin, 30 May 1885.  
Letter to Kirk from V.O. Dunne, 31 December 1875.  
Letter to Kirk from Lord Granville, 24 August 1881.  
Letter to Kirk from A. Gunther, 30 May 1880.  
Letter to Kirk from H.H. Johnston, 5 October 1884.  
Letter to Kirk from A.C. Lyall, 30 May 1880.  
Letter to Kirk from Munster, 2 February 1875.  
Letter to Kirk from Lord Northbrook, 27 January 1882.  
Letter to Kirk from W. Gifford Palgrave, 15 July 1885.  
Letter to Kirk from Lord Rosebery, 21 February 1883.  
Letter to Kirk on behalf of the Royal Geographical Society, 30 April 1882.  
Letter to Kirk from Lord Salisbury, 11 July (?) 1879.  
Letter to Kirk in the name of Lord Salisbury, 22 September 1885.  
Letter to Kirk from Lord Salisbury, 27 January 1886.  
2 letters to Kirk from G. Shergold Smith, 31 August 1877 and 14 October 1877.  
Letter to Kirk from C.T. Wilson, 7 May 1878.  
Letter to Kirk from Sir Henry Yule. 16 July 1882.

Draft of a letter to Sir J. Lumley, 4 February 1882.

Printed letter to Lord Hartington from Lord Ripon and others, 7 March 1882.

Memorandum on "Roc's Quills".

## **REEL 2 cont**

2 copies of a translation of a letter received by Emin Pasha from the Mehdih [Mahdi], 29 January 1885. Translated, 9 June 1888 by Sir J.W. Redhouse.

Typescript of a letter from Kirk to P.T. Carnegy, 10 February, 1876.  
Letter from Kirk to Hill, July 1885.

Notes by Kirk on slave porters.

Copy of a letter from Kirk to Rosebery, 30 June 1886.  
Fragment of a letter from an unknown correspondent.

Subjects include affairs in Uganda, Egyptian invasion, collection of natural history specimens, German involvement in Zanzibar and East Africa, Emin Pasha, slave trade, conferment of a knighthood in the Order of St. Michael and St. George to Kirk.

10. 5 letters, in French, and one telegram, from King Leopold II of the Belgians to Kirk, 6 February 1879 – 31 December 1892. Subjects include Belgian relations with Zanzibar.
11. Family letters, 1883-1915:  
Kirk to his eldest daughter "Mkubwa" (Kirk's eldest or biggest child, Marion Kirk). Subjects include work load at Zanzibar, the Brussels Conference. 4 letters, 11 October 1883, 9 June 1885, 31 May 1890, 24 October 1915.  
Kirk to Helen Kirk. Description of return to Zanzibar, relations with C.B. Euan-Smith, Consul General. 3 letters, 21 February, 25 February and 17 July 1889.

Letter from Lloyd Matthews Consul General, Zanzibar, to J.W.C. Kirk, Kirk's son, about proposed visit, 8 September 1901.

2 letters from H.H. Johnston to J.W.C. Kirk about proposed articles on Somaliland and expedition to East Africa to examine grant of Jewish Homeland, 9 September and 3 October 1904.

12. Kirk's record of texts of telegrams sent and received at Zanzibar, 23 September 1884 – 30 June 1886. Subjects include H.H. Johnston's scheme for protectorate over Chagga, Portuguese claims to Mozambique, Delimitation Commission to determine extent of Sultan's dominions, German claims to Chagga, Witu, Dar-es-Salaam, etc, murder of Bishop Hannington, movements of Emin Pasha and other events in Uganda, strategic value of Mombasa.



### REEL 3

13. 22 letters, 30 January 1885 – 19 March 1899, and n.d. (3 being copies) from Kirk to Charles Allen, Secretary of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. See also /58

Letter from Kirk to W. Baxter, 22 June 1899.

2 letters of Kirk, 27 April and 25 August 1920.

Subjects include slave trade policy, legal aspects of prevention of the slave trade, provisions of the Brussels Act, Gerald Portal's role in Zanzibar, assessment of slave trade in other areas of Africa, Mrs. Hinde's representations about the Masai (1920).

14. Letter from Sir Charles Aitchison to Kirk, 25 February 1892.  
5 letters W. Percy Anderson to Kirk, 16 May 1887 to 12 November 1890  
Letter from H.H.W. Anstey (?) to Kirk 1 October 1887.  
Letter from J. Bryce to Kirk, 7 August [n.d.]  
Letter from Lord Goschen to Kirk, 24 January 1892.  
Letter from Sir A.E. Havelock to Kirk, 20 March 1889.  
Letter from H.H. Kitchener to Kirk, 12 July 1890.  
Letter (copy) in the name of Lord Knutsford to Kirk, 17 September 1891.  
2 letters, in French, from Lamberton (?) to Kirk, 29 November 1890 and 18 January 1892.  
Letter from Lord Lothian, plus typescript copy, to Kirk, 24 February 1892.  
2 letters from F.D. Lugard to Kirk, 29 June 1891 and 14 October 1891.  
Letter from E. Newman to Kirk, 28 May 1887.  
Letter from Julian Pauncefote to Kirk, 2 May 1887.  
Letter from Augustus Ponsonby, plus typescript copy, in the name of the Queen, to Kirk, 22 October 1890.  
Letter from G.H. Portal, to Kirk, 2 November 1889.  
3 letters from Lord Rosebery to Kirk, 28 July 1887, 23 June 1888 and 20 July 1888.  
2 letters in the name of Lord Salisbury to Kirk, 18 June 1887 and 20 August 1887.  
3 letters from Lord Salisbury to Kirk, 17 September 1889, 20 June and 5 July 1890.  
2 letters in the name of Lord Salisbury to Kirk, 9 October and 21 October 1890.  
Letter, in French, from E. Hanning(?) to Kirk, 4 May 1891 (adhering to previous letter).  
2 letters from Lord Salisbury to Kirk, 10 December 1890 and 2 June 1891.  
Letter on behalf of Lord Salisbury to Kirk, 23 September 1891.  
2 letters from Lord Salisbury to Kirk, 31 October 1891 and 20 April 1892.

### REEL 3 cont

3 letters from Lord Vivian to Kirk, 26 January 1890, 7 July 1891 and 4 April 1892.

Memorandum of Sir John Kirk on the slave trade, 20 November 1889.

Copies of various letters of Lord Salisbury to Lord Vivian and Kirk, 1890, with notes by Kirk.

Typescript of memorandum of Kirk on the Slave Trade Treaty of 1873 with Zanzibar.

Opinion of Kirk on the status of slavery at Zanzibar and Pemba, 11 October 1888.

Notes, mainly typescript, [by J.W.C. Kirk] on the Brussels Conference on slavery, 1889.

Document relating to Kirk's superannuation [1887].

Letter, printed, from Sir John Kirk to the Foreign Office, 20 August 1889.

Subjects include Kirk's retirement, the Brussels Slave Trade Conference, the Brussels Act, the Sultan of Zanzibar's relationship to the Consul General (1889), Imperial British East Africa Company (brief mention by Kitchener), conferment of Knight Commandership, Order of Bath.

15. 2 letters from F.D. Lugard to Kirk, 30 December 1891, 6 April 1892. From Uganda about conduct of Imperial British East Africa Company affairs, possible withdrawal from Uganda, future of Uganda.

3 letters from Kirk to Flora Shaw, 8 December 1893, 27 December 1893, and 13 February 1894. Subjects include Uganda and the Freelanders Association.

Typescript copies of letters and memoranda between the Imperial British East Africa Company, the British and International Freeland Associations and the Foreign Office, 1893 and 1894. About the neutrality of Zanzibar and ports held by the Company and the Freelanders Association.

Letter from W. Kingsly-Godfrey relating to the Freeland Association, to the Foreign Office (?), 3 March 1894.

16. Letter from A. Allardyce to Kirk, 8 June 1895.  
Letter from Francis Bertie to Kirk, 15 October 1902.  
2 letters from Lord Cranbourne to Kirk, 21 and 22 October 1901.  
Letter from Charles Dilke to Kirk, 11 July 1896.  
Letter from A. Doughty (?) to Kirk, 17 June n.d.  
Letter on behalf of the King to Kirk, 23 September 1902.  
Letter from Lord Goschen to Kirk, 7 September 1896.  
Letter from H.H. Johnston to Kirk, 10 March 1899.

### REEL 3 cont

Typescript copy of a letter from H. Kitchener to Kirk, 23 October n.d.  
Letter, with typescript copy, from Lord Lansdowne to Kirk, 25 September 1903.  
Letter from Lord Lothian to Kirk, 5 April 1895.  
Letter from James W. Lowther to Kirk, 28 May 1894.  
Letter from A.C. Lyall to Kirk, 3 May 1894.  
Letter from Francis Mowatt to Kirk, 27 April 1901.  
Letter from Henry M. Stanley to Kirk, 18 September 1900.  
Letter to Kirk from ?? on the back of a menu, n.d.

Letter from J. Chamberlain to F.D. Lugard, 18 June 1894.  
Typescript copy of a letter of Kirk to Sir J. Scott Keltie, 2 February 1917.  
Letter, printed, of Lord Lansdowne to the Vice-Chairman of the Uganda Railway Committee, 17 April 1903.  
Letter to Lord Brownlow from Prince George, Duke of Cambridge (?)

Subjects include thanks for assistance, requests for advice, mention of the Uganda Railway and of the possible amalgamation of the Uganda and East Africa Protectorates.

17. Ten letters, some fragmentary, in Arabic script, mostly from rulers of Zanzibar, but one from the Mahdi, 1885, mainly to Kirk, c.1856-c.1890. Two letters from Tipu Tip to Kirk, 1890 and 1893?

Typescript English translations of these 12 letters.  
Manuscript translation into English of the last letter.

Typescript copies of 8 letters from Kirk to Seyyid Hamoud, 6 April 1899 to 8 July 1902.  
Typescript copy of letter from Kirk to Seyyid Ali, 7 June 1905.

Subjects include coastal history, Livingstone's movements, Kirk's freedom of movement, slave trade, fall of Khartoum, treatment by Belgians, Stanley's false accusations.

18. Typescript copy of a letter from Samuel Baker to Kirk, 7 March 1867.  
Typescript copies of 2 letters from Sir Richard Burton to Kirk, 26 January 1872 and 12 October 1876.  
Photostat of a letter from J. Chamberlain to Kirk, 1897.  
Photostats of 3 letters from Emin Pasha to Kirk, 20 August 1887, 3 September 1887, 2 November 1887.  
Typescript copy of a letter from F. Fowell-Buxton to Kirk, 4 February 1869.  
Typescript copies of 2 letters from Charles Gordon to Kirk, 23 November 1879 and 7 May 1880.

### **REEL 3 cont**

Photostat of a letter from J.D. Hooker to Kirk, 18 August 1868.  
Typescript copy of a letter from J.D. Hooker to Kirk, 4 September 1870.  
Photostat of a letter from J.D. Hooker to Kirk, 12 November 1872.  
Typescript copy of a letter from H.H. Johnston to Kirk, 8 September 1903.  
Photostat of a letter from H.H. Kitchener to Kirk, 23 October n.d.  
Typescript copies of two letters from H.M. Stanley to Kirk, 12 December 1899 and 7 February 1900.  
Typescript copy of a letter from H. Yule to Kirk, 15 February 1884.

Typescript list of letters to Kirk which were sent to Sotheby's on 25 October 1965, with a note that not all were sold.

### **19-20 Subject files:**

19. "Arab History of Kilwa"; "Rough translation of History of Kiloa": notes and comments by Kirk on an Arabic manuscript, with a rough translation. With a letter to Kirk from H.J. Goldsmid, 13 December 1894.

The manuscript History was originally written in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Kirk acquired an abstract by the scribe Sheikh Muhui-'I-Din ibn Sheikh 'Abdullah al Khantani and deposited it in the British Museum in 1895 (British Library, Department of Oriental Manuscripts, Or. 2666). The manuscript was published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1895, edited by S.A. Strong. A translation was published by G.S.P. Freeman-Grenville in *Medieval History of the Coast of Tanganyika*, OUP, 1962.

20. Material relating to Bibi Salimah, sister of the Sultan of Zanzibar who married a German and fled Zanzibar. See: *Memoirs of an Arabian Princess*, East-West Publications, London and The Hague, 1981.

Typescript (2 copies) of "The story of Bibi Salimah".  
Manuscript account of the life of Bibi Salima (different text to the above).  
Copy of Bibi Salima's letter to her brother the Sultan, [noted on the translation to be c.1876, but in reality c.1883] and two English translations of this.

Letters relating to Bibi Salimah:

2 letters from Lyon Playfair to Kirk, 9 and 10 May 1875

Letter from R.W. Playfair to Kirk, 22 June 1875.

2 letters from Lord Stanley of Alderney to Kirk, 9 June 1875, with a pencil note by Kirk, and 17 June 1875.

Letter from Lyon Playfair to Lambert, 17 June 1875.

### **REEL 3 cont**

Letter to Lord Ampthill from Crown Princess Victoria of Prussia, Princess Royal, 22 April 1883.

Letter from J.H. Sanderson on behalf of Lord Granville, 30 April 1883, relating to the previous letter, 30 April 1883.

Envelope bearing Arabic script, addressed to Kirk.

### **21-38 Diaries and notebooks:**

John Kirk's unless otherwise stated. Kirk tended to keep diary entries and notes in the same book and the functions often merge. Sometimes he kept several types of information in one book over a period of several years, and the dates of the diaries frequently overlap.

### **REEL 4**

21. Notebook, March-October 1858 compiled on the Zambesi Expedition. Largely botanical observations with some sketches. Typescript copy of title page of book taken on the expedition in 1858. Three loose pages from a notebook, dated 21 - 25 March 1859.
22. Notebook, 9 May–12 November 1860, compiled on the Zambesi Expedition. Includes barometric observations on the journey from Tette to Shesheke (9 May – 16 August), meteorological observations at Shesheke (16 August – 4 November), account of canoe accident (12 November).
23. Notes, 24 February – 3 June, 1 - 11 November 1861, compiled on the Zambesi Expedition. Written in two Letts diaries for July and September 1858, and on 21 unbound folios. Also a plant specimen on a separate sheet. Includes botanical observations with some sketches, vernacular vocabulary identifications, natural history notes, account of visit to the palace of Queen Jambi Fatima in the Comoro Islands.
24. Notebook, 6 August – 27 October 1861, compiled on the Zambesi Expedition. Narrative account of a journey up the River Shire commencing on 6 August 1861.
25. Typescript transcripts of Kirk's Zanzibar diaries (1866-1875) by Dr. Foscett. The text, which is not complete, was prepared with a view to publication, and in some cases diary entries have been re-arranged in chronological order. 114 folios.

#### **REEL 4 cont**

26. Notebook, 25 April 1866 – 5 October 1868. Zanzibar. Embossed on cover in gold letters “Dr. Kirk No. 1”. Subjects include account of visit to Bagamoyo for news of Livingstone (October 1867), account of visit to Lamu (November 1867).
27. Helen Kirk’s diary, 13 March 1867 – 12 August 1869, Zanzibar. Subjects include visitors and visits, ships calling at Zanzibar, Kirk’s various trips, visit to Lamu (November 1867).

#### **REEL 5**

28. Notebook, 21 February 1870 – 29 November 1871. Zanzibar. Largely administrative notes. Subjects include evidence on unequal taxes on coastal imports and exports, outbreak of cholera, customs revenue figures, composition of coastal settlements including Khoja population statistics, Zanzibar ships, slave export figures, death of Sayyid Majid, departure of Consul Churchill, sailing patterns of Zanzibar dhows, financial estate of Sayyid Barghash, financial position of English mission.
29. Notebook, 30 November 1871 – 29 September 1873, January 1899 – December 1902. Zanzibar and England. Comprises journal entries and administrative notes. Subjects include customs duties, slave trade, slave export figures, relationship with Sayyid Barghash. Also includes personal financial accounts kept at Sevenoaks (1899-1902).
30. Notebook, 5 March – April 1873, 5-29 November 1875. Zanzibar. Embossed on cover in gold letters “Dr. Kirk No. 4”. Subjects include visit to Bagamoyo (March 1873), preparations for joining Sir Bartle Frere (very brief notes), visits to Tanga, Merca, Geledi, and Brava to issue proclamation of freed slaves (November 1875). See also /32 (visit to Tanga and Brava).
31. Notebook, 16 August – 3 November 1873, May 1876 – 15 October 1880. Zanzibar. Inscribed on cover “Rough Account of Expenditure for Slaves Captured after 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1873, on the Instruction of Sir Bartle Frere”. Subjects include visit to Kilwa (August 1873), visit to Mombasa, Kilifi, Malindi, Lamu, Manda Island to issue proclamation of freed slaves (October-November 1873), visits to Dar-es-Salaam, with mention of William Mackinnon, Keith Johnston, Joseph Thomson and the Dar-es-Salaam Road (May 1878), visits to Mvasani Bay (May 1879) and Formosa Bay (September 1879), visit to Mombasa (October 1880).

## REEL 6

32. Lady Kirk's diary, Edinburgh, 12 August – 20 September 1874. [From other end] Zanzibar, 1 January – 10 April 1877. Subjects include visit to Scotland (1874), visitors to Zanzibar, ships calling at Zanzibar, visit to Mombasa (March 1877).
33. Notebook, October – 2 December 1875. Zanzibar. Inscribed on cover "Notes for Administrative Report, 1872". Visits to Tanga and Brava. Subjects include customs duties, Egyptian position on the East African coast.
34. Notebook, 17 January 1876 – 4 September 1877. Zanzibar. Embossed on cover in gold letters "Dr. Kirk No. 6". Subjects include visits to Lamu and Kismayu (January 1876) and to Kilwa (May 1876) to issue proclamations prohibiting slavery, barring of slave caravans from entering Kilwa, visits to Mchinga Bay (January 1877) and Mombasa and Malindi, with shooting expeditions at Malindi (March 1877), visit to Tanga and Magila (August-September 1877).
35. Unbound notebook, 3 February 1876 – 27 May 1884. Zanzibar. Subjects include export statistics for slaves, ivory, copal, hides, cloves, etc, customs duties, Consulate General expenses, Admiralty cases heard, Stanley Expedition (1877), coffee at Zanzibar, Indian population statistics for Zanzibar, Mombasa rainfall figures (1875-1877), import figures, natural history collecting expenses.
36. Notebook, 17 October 1883 – 1 September 1884. Zanzibar. Subjects include hunting trip to Wami with Sir William Hewett and trip to Mombasa (November 1883), journey to Lamu with Jack Haggard (February-March 1884), collecting old china along the coast, inspection trip of coast including visit to Mombasa region and to Malindi, foot safari to Lamu, observation of mosques at various points (August-September 1884). In pocket at the front are 11 loose pages of a diary recording a march from south of Kola (?) to Dar-es-Salaam (no year, 16-31 March). 1 volume.
37. Notebook, 29 January 1883 – July 16 1884. Brussels, London, Zanzibar. Visit to England with trip to Belgium, departure from wife and children in England and return to Zanzibar (July 1883), visit to Lamu with Jack Haggard (February 1884). Some pages loose.
38. Notebook, 31 August – 20 November 1884. Zanzibar. Subjects include arrest in Lamu of slave dealers, return to Zanzibar via Malindi (September), inspection visit of Kilwa, with mention of mosques, photographs taken, old china, hunting, Sultan's debts.

**40-44,  
46-48 Photographs and sketches:**

**REEL 6 cont**

- [39. 1843-c.1854. Scotland. Photographs by Kirk. Subjects include parents and sister, family home and church at Arbirlot, resident staff at Royal Infirmary Edinburgh, Edinburgh buildings. 40 prints, 1 album. NOT RECEIVED BY NLS.]
40. Album of photographs taken, 1858-1863, on the Zambesi Expedition by Kirk. 26 prints plus 3 much later copies from watercolour sketches. Subjects include vegetation, boats, house in which Livingstone and Kirk stayed at Tete. With typescript explanations of the photographs (method of production and scenes shown) and a map. Original backing materials conserved in a separate box.
41. Zambesi Expedition, c.1858-1863: photographs by Kirk. Also includes photographs of sketches made during the expedition by C.A. Drew and T. Baine. 12 prints (2 of which are much later photographs of watercolour sketches) and 10 paper negatives.
42. 18 pages of sketches by Kirk, Zambezi Expedition, c.1858-1863. Includes 9 pages of botanical illustration and 3 sketch maps extracted from Kirk's journals. Subjects also include huts, hairstyles, weapons, and local objects.  
Also 3 photographic copies of sketches.  
Also engraved map of Lake Nyassa region "from the M.S. Map by Dr Kirk", Murray, London, 1865, with two photographic copies of the same, one a reversed negative.
43. Album of photographs by Kirk, Zanzibar, 1866-1874, illustrating buildings, wood carvings and vessels. Includes, in a folder, an analytical table (4 sheets) describing the principal classes of native vessels that visit Zanzibar and East Africa. 51 prints.
44. Album of photographs by Kirk, c.1866-1880s, Zanzibar. Subjects include the harbour, Kirk's country residence at Mbweni, the Agency, island vegetation, groups aboard HMS *Forte* and *Daphne*, local dress, sand cliffs. Also includes Vice-Consul Haggard and his household at Lamu, Mombasa Harbour. 46 prints.
- [45. 1884-1885. Zanzibar. Mombasa, Lamu, Kilwa. Photographs by Kirk. Subjects include the British Agency at Zanzibar, Kirk's residence at Mbweni, ruins and other scenes on the East African coast. 45 prints in 1 album. NOT RECEIVED BY THE NLS.]



## **REEL 6 cont**

46. Album of photographs by Kirk, 1884-1888. Zanzibar, Mombasa, Lamu, Kilwa, Wavertree. Subjects include the British Agency at Zanzibar, Kirk's residence at Mbweni, ruins and other scenes on the East African coast. 70 prints.

47. c.1870s-1915, n.d., c.1964. Various. Loose photographs.

Portraits: seven of Kirk, including a photograph of a portrait by Alex H. Kirk (c.1880-1915); Kirk's three daughters at the Brussels Conference (c.1889); Sir Richard Burton, with appended signature (n.d.).

Photographs by Kirk: Swahili tombs near Dar-es-Salaam; sand cliffs south of Zanzibar town; Zanzibar Harbour (large panorama); three photos of East African trees and other vegetation.

Other photographs: Zanzibar Museum (n.d.); photographic copy of sketch of Kirk's house at Mbweni (c.1964). Sayyid Barghash and his entourage; Drawing Room, British Consulate at Zanzibar.

19 prints.

48. Album of photographs by Kirk, 1895-1897. West Africa and Cornwall. African photos taken largely during inquiry into disturbances at Brass River. 41 prints.

## **REEL 7**

### **49 Appointments, awards and honours:**

49. 1858-1902. Various commissions and honours. Includes consular commissions, warrants, honorary degrees, letters of recognition and membership by scientific societies, letters accompanying honours. Includes an honorary G.C.M.G. for the Sultan of Zanzibar, and a reference for Kirk by W.J. Hooker relating to a professorial chair in Kingston, Canada, 23 November 1857. Detailed lists (not totally accurate) in file.

- [50. c.1886. Scroll expressing gratitude of the Indians of Zanzibar. Presented upon Kirk's departure. Includes several hundred signatures. NOT RECEIVED BY NLS.]

## **51-54 Printed material:**

### **REEL 7 cont**

51. Album of newspaper cuttings, May 1871 – July 1874. Subjects include East African slave trade, Stanley-Kirk controversy over shipment of supplies to Livingstone, Sir Bartle Frere's Special Mission to Zanzibar.

### **REEL 8**

51. Album of newspaper cuttings, May 1871 – July 1874. Subjects include East African slave trade, Stanley-Kirk controversy over shipment of supplies to Livingstone, Sir Bartle Frere's Special Mission to Zanzibar.

### **REEL 9**

51. Album of newspaper cuttings, May 1871 – July 1874. Subjects include East African slave trade, Stanley-Kirk controversy over shipment of supplies to Livingstone, Sir Bartle Frere's Special Mission to Zanzibar.

### **REEL 10**

52. Album of newspaper cuttings, 1885-1932. Interviews with and articles about Kirk, obituaries from various papers.
53. File of loose newspaper cuttings, 1858-1922, 1929, 1932, 1959, 1973. Subjects include Zambesi Expedition, Livingstone's subsequent explorations, "Cameron" Expedition, German involvement in East Africa, Kirk's life, obituaries. Also includes obituary of Lady Kirk (1914).
54. Published material, with many illustrations, on the natural history of East Africa, relating mainly to flora and fauna made known outside Africa by Kirk, c.1864-1960. Includes the Royal Botanic Gardens *Bulletin* (No.2, 1922) with a list of plants received from Kirk.

## **55-61 Mainly correspondence:**

55. Photographic copies of 11 letters, 7 September 1858 – 1 November 1871: nine from Kirk to Livingstone and 2 from Livingstone to Kirk. From the National Archives of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Relate to the Zambezi Expedition and Kirk's period at Zanzibar. With typescripts of the first two letters from Kirk.
56. Typescript copies of 3 letters from Kirk to James Young, 22 May 1870 – 27 February 1873. From the originals in the Rhodes-Livingstone Museum. Concerns his communication with Livingstone and the Frere Mission.

## **REEL 11**

57. Photocopies of a letter from Kirk to Livingstone, 20 October 1870, and of three letters from H.M. Stanley to Livingstone, 20 March, 25 May, and 27 May 1872.  
Photocopy of a letter from Kirk to W.D. Hooker, 18 February 1873. From the collections of the Linnean Society of London. Concerns copal specimens.
58. Photocopies of 22 letters from Kirk to the Anti-Slavery Society, largely to Charles Allen, Secretary, 21 July 1882 – 27 October 1896, and of one letter from Helen Kirk, 4 December 1883. Originals in Rhodes House Library. See also /13.
59. Photocopies of 14 letters from Kirk to Devaux, 20 February - 6 June 1883; photocopies of copies of 3 letters from Devaux to Kirk, 21 March – 19 April 1883; photocopy of one letter from King Leopold to Kirk, 1 March 1883; draft of treaty articles, 30 April 1883. Originals in the Royal Archives, Brussels. Largely about drafting of treaty for Belgian trade in Africa.
60. Photocopies of 9 letters from Kirk to the Universities' Mission for Central Africa, 29 October [1887] – 13 November 1892, and n.d. Originals in the collection of the United Society for the Promotion of the Gospel.
61. Typescripts of letters from Kirk to Lugard, 3 July 1889 – 17 September 1897, and extracts from Lugard's diaries of entries concerning Kirk (1896-1897). From the originals in Rhodes House Library, Oxford.

### **62-65 Miscellaneous:**

62. Extract (1973) of an entry from the Register of Births for John Kirk, father of Sir John Kirk.  
Photocopy of the will of the Rev. John Kirk (Sir John Kirk's father), 1858.

## **REEL 12**

63. Copies of published articles, letters, reports and speeches about or by Kirk, and some relatives, 1856-1972. Includes extracts from the RGS *Proceedings and Journals*, and the "Report by Sir John Kirk on the Disturbances at Brass" (1896).

**REEL 12 cont**

64 &

65. Copies of photographs taken by Kirk. Called the "Crimean War" album. First album contains figures, and the second places visited, including scenes of Rome and Constantinople.