

Tring
Friday, May 23/1903

My dear Macmillan,

I am waiting only for Smith. He is due on Sunday, & I hope to start on Monday morning. I am very glad to hear such favourable accounts of him from you & from Mr. Wilson. When his ^{first} letter came, I felt much puzzled how to act. We had arranged a very nice programme with a good summer's work, just the amount I knew we could carry out. It was by no means certain that a new member would turn out advantageous to work, and he might spoil all our pleasure if he were un congenial. — The pleasures of travel in Anatolia are entirely spiritual. — However a new recruit to the cause of exploration here was worth running some risk for, and I liked his letter. I have given him the

most deterrent account of what he will have to do & suffer and of my own personal character; I have given him clearly to understand that he has voluntarily accepted the risks & must abide by the issue.

I have bought seven horses, at a cost of £62; and we take four servants each at 3 per month. I was ready to start last Monday. I expect that we shall have enough with this £300 sent to carry us on till September, but perhaps in case of accident it might be advisable to send more on August 1.

Mommsen wants me to bring a large inscription down from the interior (a two-ton stone with an undeciphered Latin inscr.). The expense of this will be considerable, but will be all

refunded by the Prussian Government, as soon as we present our bill. I have told him that we will contribute our time & work, if they contribute expense of carriage to Berlin. The stone is covered with a thick incrustation deposited by water; and can only be treated by skilful marble workers & a Museum working at leisure. Perhaps after all it may be decipherable; so that the risk is great.

Given time & opportunity, nothing would please me more than to write a paper ^{as you suggest} for the Geographical Society on "Roman Roads & English Railways in Anatolia."

Yours truly
Wm. Rieu