

Letter to Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), 6 January [1857]

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

1/157 Mission House
Blomfield St
London 6th Jan
1856

Dear Sir

The time which
I can spend in England
is so very short
I am obliged to decline
all invitations of
the kind you mention
and even were it
otherwise I am unfitted

[0002]

for lecturing in
English by long
disuse of that tongue
and a firm conviction
that my sphere of
usefulness does not
lie in public exhibitions
at all. I hope then
you will kindly
make my excuse
to the young men's

[0003]

christian association
some of them may
yet be missionaries
themselves and
may be able to
supply at some future
time my lack of

service so the £ 5
need not be
back though
cannot come, yet
I dont say "Give it."

[0004]

wishing the association
much success &
thanking you most
heartily for your
kind offers of
hospitality

I am
Dear Sir Most
Sincerely your

David Livingstone