

## Letter to John F.W. Herschel, 11 February 1858

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

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[0001]

heartily for your kind & cordial invitation  
and if I can come from Liverpool I certainly will

David Livingstone

18 Hart St. 11 Feby 1858

My Dear Sir

With very

great regret

I find myself

literally com-

pelled to forego

the pleasure of

a visit to you

[0002]

I fully hoped

to have had my

arrangements

so far completed

as to admit

of my going to-

morrow but

they thicken on

me the faster

as time comes

near the end

[0003]

I am very sorry

for this as

I have always

had a wish

to see you ever

since I went to

Africa. I carried

a note from

you to D<sup>r</sup>

Buckland in

which you requested

me to examine

[0004]

the gradual desiccation  
of the country and  
I felt sure that  
you might possibly  
turn my attention  
to some other point  
equally interesting  
your hint led to  
all the observations  
I made on the climate  
& geology for it  
stimulated me to  
studies in which I  
would not have taken  
so much interest  
I thank you most