Letter to Mrs. [?] Williamson, 18, 19 September 1864

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[0001]

Bath

 18^{th} (Sept^r) 1864

My Dear M^{rs} Williamson

It gave me great
pleasure to recieve a
letter from you
some time ago.
It was laid aside
to be answered but
I never have been
able. I now seize
a moment just
to say thank you
for I am in the throes getting ready

[0002]

a speech to be delivered this evening in the theatre. I never was intended for a public speaker & never like to hear myself speaking so you may judge I am not in a proper frame of mind for answering a lady's letter

The limited time I have to spend at home & some work I have to do prevent my

[0003] acceptance of your very kind invitation but I beg that you will present my warmest sal- utations to your husband and our young friend

I am &c

David Livingstone

 $19^{\underline{\text{th}}}$ the speech was got through somehow [...]

[0004] you but want of time as I must work as much as I can now my steamer being out at Bombay & seven black men waiting for me. I know Sir John Richardson & would be glad to meet him anywhere. I have that pleasure this evening at $D^{\underline{r}}$ Watson's.

Begging that you will kindly excuse me. I am &c. [...]