

Letter to George Back, 17 February 1858

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

18 Hart St

Bloomsbury

17 Feby 1858

Dear Sir George

I am ashamed
of my manners
since my return
to England, I never
called nor thanked
you for your
kind gift, though
if you will only
[0002]

believe me I shall
tell you how it is
I have appeared so
unnatural. The
first part of my
sojourn in England
was so taken up
with the book -
the second with
the speechifying
and the third
with preparation
[0003]

for leaving that
I must have seemed
to those who do not
make allowances
as decidedly wanting
in common
politeness But
I can honestly say
that I deeply feel
the sympathy you
have manifested
for my work
and I thank you

[0004]

most heartily for
the friendship which
you and Lady Back
have shewn. If
ever I return you
will find me
a more natural man
than I have been
this time. If not
may we through
mercy meet each
other in Heaven

I am gratefully
yours

David Livingstone
[0005]

Sir George Back
109 Gloucester Place
Portman Square London