

# Letter to George Back

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

Published by Livingstone Online ([livingstoneonline.org](http://livingstoneonline.org))

[0001]

Pearl - Mersey

10<sup>th</sup> March

1858

Dear Sir George

I have always  
been sorry that  
I failed to respond  
to your polite  
attentions in  
person, but though  
I scarcely deserve  
your forgiveness

[0002]

I hope you will  
allow me to explain  
that I have been  
for a long time  
in a very unnatural  
state and it will  
be only when  
I get away into  
the quiet for  
which I long  
that I shall be  
able to pay those

[0003]

attentions to my  
friends which  
they assuredly  
merit. We are  
now fairly started  
having lifted the  
anchor at 1 P.M.  
today. We are  
well and well  
provided for .  
The launch a

photograph of  
which will be

[0004]  
sent you is safely  
stowed in three  
pieces on deck  
and we hope  
that by God's  
help & blessing  
we shall make  
a good use of  
her. Our kindest  
salutations to  
Lady Back .

I am &c

David Livingstone