

Letter to William J. Hooker, 16 May 1857

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

The Portuguese Government has
ordered my men to be supported by Mosambique
Province

57 Sloane St

16th May

1857

Dear Sir

I fully
intended to accept
your very kind
invitation today
but I feel for
the first time
since I came home

[0002]

the effects of
overwork in
great lassitude
and a feeling
of illness. I attended
the Anniversary
of the London
Missionary Society
on Thursday and
have hurt my
throat in trying
to speechify to

[0003]

upwards of 2000
people a work
for which I
have always
believed I was
never intended
It is not the speaking
so much as the
sitting sweating
in agony about
what you will

say for hours
beforehand. I would
be ashamed to

[0004]
meet Lady Hooker
in this state so I
now (4 O clock)
beg you to allow
me to come next
[^] [Friday or] Saturday instead
~~of this~~ We shall
be sure to come
on either the one
day or the other
Please do not trouble
yourself to write
again, but accept
my hearty thanks
for the invitation D. Livingstone