

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

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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