

Letter to Unknown, 27 January [1857]

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

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[0001]

57 Sloane St.

London 27 Jan^y.

Private

Sir

I have been
requested by Mr Prout
to reply to a note you
sent to him respecting
my acceptance
of the Freedom of
the City of Edinburgh.

If I consult my
own inclinations
[0002]
I have not the the smallest
desire to recieve any
civic honours. I
wish to finish my
present work with
all expedition and
hasten back to my
men who now
await the fullfillment
of my promise at
Tete. The writing of
my work will occupy
me fully to the end of
April. I shall then D. V.

[0003]

pay my last visit to
my good mother
in Hamilton. If that
time would be suitable
and you see that the
gentlemen still feel
inclined to confer the
honour I shall come

but hope no public
demonstration will
be made. Those public
meetings in London
have all been against
my judgement for
I cannot help fearing
[0004]
if we protestants make
too much fuss opponents
who are now still
may be excited to spring
up against us. You
know the Portugese
are all Roman Catholics
If the gentlemen wish
to honour the cause
in which I am engaged
I must accede to
the honour and will
try to do it thankfully

Believe me Dear Sir

&c

David Livingstone