Letter to Lady Elizabeth Eastlake, 30 May 1857

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Hadley Green

 30^{th} May 1857

Lady Eastlake

I am both ashamed and sorry on account of having entirely forgotten your most kind invitation for Wednesday last [0002]I was employed during the greater part of last week in trying to get away from the bustle of London, then the beginning of this, was spent in removing from town to Hadley Green, and the privilege you had most obligingly [0003]placed within my reach, of meeting the Bishop of London and the Editor of the Times, never once flitted across my mind until M^r Murray enquired the reason of my absence this morning.

If your Ladyships says "Well he does

[0004] not deserve my consideration, or notice" I cannot say a word in my defence. I only confess my fault without any attempt to justify myself, and though you may never forgive me I shall I shall never be able to blame anyone for it but myself. I am &c

David Livingstone