

## Letter to Charles A. Alington, 26 May 1865

*Livingstone, David, 1813-1873*

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

[0001]

Burnbank Road

Hamilton

26 May 1865

Dear M<sup>r</sup> Alington

We cannot always  
follow our own  
inclinations and  
often that path  
we would prefer  
is not the best.  
I should have liked  
your company  
I think, and this  
I cannot say of  
anyone else Col O  
has offered - I am

[0002]

just writing a refusal  
to an offer from  
a Scotch doctor  
who says he can  
refer to the highest  
authorities. One  
of these being a  
character after a  
previous trial  
I suspect he  
cannot adduce  
so I decline to have  
him.

I should like  
the cot very well  
if very strong

[0003]

and all the more  
as coming from  
one for whom  
I entertain feelings  
of sincere esteem -  
- strength not

beauty, or rather  
strength is the  
chief quality  
required, beauty -  
though an advantage  
is not so necessary  
I am &c  
David Livingstone

[0004]  
My point for  
collecting luggage  
at before starting  
is, 19 Bucklesbury  
LondonM<sup>r</sup> Brownthe agent  
there takes care  
of my things

[0005]

Rev<sup>d</sup> Charles A. Alington  
Swinhope House  
Great Grimsby  
S. B.  
D<sup>r</sup> L.