

10, Downing Street,  
Whitehall.

Nov. 4. 72

Sir,

Mr Gladstone desires me to convey to you, in reply to your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst, his regret that he is unable to comply with your request.

The rule, to which your application would seek to make an exception, is rigid.

I am to inform you that Lord Franville & Mr Gladstone have quite recently been



compelled for the same reason  
to decline honours  
offered to them by the Emperor  
of Brazil. I am,

Sir,

Yr<sup>o</sup> ob<sup>t</sup> servant

J. Godley

W. H. Dixon Esq.