

Sir Jos. Whitworth

Manchester 19<sup>th</sup> July 1859

Sir

Absence from home had prevented my replying to your letter respecting the loan of a rifle. By this post we write to Mr Evans of Darley abbeys to say that we have one ready to send him, and no doubt he will be happy to allow you to see it. I should have had much

pleasure in sending you one  
but we have so many gentlemen  
anxiously waiting, whose names  
have been in our books for  
more than two years, that  
we cannot possibly spare one

I am, Sir  
Yours truly  
Joseph Whitworth