

Kirkwall 8 March 1783

Mr Joshua Johnston

Sir

Your returned letter of 12 January would have been sooner answered had I not found so many matters of greater consequence before my hand to transact which I thought could not be omitted with such propriety especially as the Acc^{ts} between Coubsters Representatives and me had been settled to our Mutual satisfaction - Includ^d I send you Extract of Coubsters Bond to me. Mr Keith would not part with the Original as you proposed I also ^{return} you includ^d Copy Documenting our Acc^{ts} with your Observes thereon interlined, of which I much approve - I also send Duplicate of our Acc^{ts} & another Copy thereof being in your possession - You'll please extend the documenting on the Back of each of these Acc^{ts} and you and Mr Johnston will subscribe them before two Witnesses - You'll please return both Copies to me and I will subscribe them both and return you one of them - You'll also make out such a discharge on the back of the Extract of the Bond as you think proper which please return to me for my Subscription - The Value of Kelp & Instruments deliver'd to your Order as Certified by Nicol & Slater & M^{rs} Robertson is £11.5 which you can send me with

th^o returned Insd^d the @ writes to make out any of the end as if it had not also can be all a whole a to have the Bond reply on stamp paper

your service — I am in all your commands

Sir

Your mo: obed Servt.
Thos Balfour

8/5/2/5

Thos Balfour
1783