

D^r Mother

South Carolina Charleston Aug. 18th 1768

I must beg your excuse for not writing you before
 I left the Havana sailed from thence 15 July last on board Black
 Prince Valentin Brown Master bound for Pensacola & expected
 a short Passage there before writing until my arrival when I
 might be more able to acquaint you more fully, but by Capt. being ignorant
 of the Current & being wrong Course he was driven in to the Gulf of Florida
 After weaping many Perils by the Divine Providence saved here
 without Anchors or Provision expended Mails & being unseizable
 we Demanded our Goods to ship on board any ^{of} Capt. was refused
 unless we would pay Freight & Passage the Case was left to Arbitration
 who Decided it in our favour, so a Passage to Pensacola would be attended
 with great Expence I think to Refr. going there immediately and intend
 to trade betwixt this Place & S^t. Augustine until I hear from England
 as I had a little insurance made for me when I left due to the loss of some
 of my Acquaintance's is to write me a Particular Account from Pensacola
 that I shall be then more able to Judge which of the Places to settle in the
 fine Country is Pleasant & bounding wth ^{the} ^{best} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Country}
 situated for trade or at Pensacola which is supposed to flourish greatly
 and abound wth Riches in a few years on acc^o of its Situation for Contraband
 Trade wth Cuba & Spanish Main & is said to be situated in a fine Country
 Capable of improvements some of the most eminent Planters here
 to go there to examine the Country that here after write you most
 favour one wth letters & let me know how you keep your health & how
 the children & all friends particularly Sister Juana & her husband & how
 she is at home with you for it is critical to be in London as I am
 wth often crossing the Seas which is very Hazardous My love to you
 & to Sister & all friends wishing you all happiness
 Don't for me to care of Capt. Richardson
 on the Bay Charleston South Carolina he is now at London I lodge at his house
 his wife will take care of the letters for me
 at Forward them if it should happen not to be on the spot

D^r Mother
 Your ever dutiful & affectionate
 Son
 J^o Johnston

Brother to John Johnston
(H. A. 5)

Mr John Johnston
Charleston South Carolina

10th August
1763

The Widow Johnston of
Edin Johnston late Merch &c

in Shewnee
York Britain