

Dear Booby -

London Jan 7 12. 1771/1 N5/3/1.

I have seen yours of 21 Dec. to Mr. Hales & was
the affair to be settled in that manner, it would be right & approved of
but there is more artifice in the world I find than you imagine
and does not give it from under his hand. to H. that he agrees to
the proposals you set forth but he desires H. to treat wth Mr. Brown
who writes that A. bids him to permit as near to £200 as possible
and that on the strength of a £50 bill accepted lays due & is now
under Diligence & plainly says he will not permit the Money
upon a H. Bond. and unless Mr. H. signs the ^{irredeemable} dis. &
sends it down to he will not advance the Money, alleging that the
dis. is a better fund of Credit to Mr. C. than a H. Bond & adds that
he would advise Mr. C. to give £50 more - (Ambiguous stile) should
he not say on what? - by which when the dis. is signed they may
say £50 more than £93 or more than £200 it then rest with
their generosity to say either for £93 was the sum offered on the
dis. as completing the full price. - If you cannot see this this
I would advise you to get a telescope for Jam certain you will
not know your own house wth mere Spectacles. My Opinion
is of this Quert, either to get the lands entirely on the Advantage
of necessity or shuffle it off that it remains as it is. In my
last letter by Mr. Callow frank I told you to let it remain as
it was if not concluded before Precept but both Mr. Hales &
Self are sorry - as wrote, and as fortune favours him so
as not to be so much liable to be taken the Advantage of as
Mr. C. may imagine with respect to time you must now
trust your self without putting the least Confidence in
whatever he may say and get Mr. Laine or some other
to agree in order to get money in London for Mr. Hales
After you receive this you will still have a few days
to work upon - & submitted the like to J. & L. & that

a certain person has made a proposal offering £400
 the lands for at 130 x 9 x 93 to 50 makes only 282
 139 x 2 x 200 x 50 is 391 & more will be upward of the
 sum. now see the Equity of the first Proposal as the full price
 to 93 is but 232 Very fair & friendly indeed see 168—
 so much for first Curb in hand, now see for the next. all that
 fair & friendly. I take no tricks but, by a peculiar turn
 thro them in my Partners hand. We shall have them & I Com
 with Impunity. — Excuse yourself as a man or Depend on
 it you will loose your chance & then laugh at
 of your invitation to your daughters Frugality
 helps to enjoy latter time the better, but get the mo
 out that other assistance will not much seem
 have now I think sufficient Intelligence, in this
 to which Prefer all mind being your Obedt for you own
 & no other — I wish you all Happiness & Success & so
 D^r Wray

P.S. you may think this Yours affectionate
 an old stile but Consider Sir: Johnston
 it well before you utterly
 condemn it & you may find more in it than at first
 may appear

Mr Johnston
 Edinburgh 12 Jan 1771
 To Mr Joshua Johnston
 Bristol
 Edinburgh