

Canongate 10<sup>th</sup> April 1786

N<sup>o</sup> 15/3/2

Dear Sir

Since my writing you by Cap<sup>t</sup> Houston I received your favour of the 11<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> but not till it was too late to get the Curiant Jelly & Saff sent by him. I am sorry to hear that Miss Janes disorder which has been of so long a standing still continues unabated. We consulted Doc<sup>t</sup> Bell, Miss Kallie knows him and read to him what you wrote me concerning her. he seemd to think her case very peculiar he approv'd of what you gave her. but woud wish to know more particularly if any fresh symptoms has appeared in outbreakings & and then woud have some things made up for her. the delay of time could not be thought be attended with bad consequence. A little Sal<sup>t</sup> Nitri infused in Water or even Vinegar & Water will answer for gargling the Throat very well. I shall send the Jelly as soon as possible or bring it with me and wish much it had gone by L<sup>t</sup> Houston. as the idea alone of its being so proper for it has frequently a wonderful effect. and shall observe your directions about the dry Bread & Bark &c.

We are happy to hear of Mrs Halcro's safe delivery and I have now the pleasure to inform you of Marys safe delivery the 2<sup>nd</sup> ~~inst~~ inst a Girl, and both doing well. As she was very weak, and quite uncertain whether she could Nurse the Child. It was her desire I should decline writing you till we knew the issue, and it is w<sup>th</sup> pleasure I now acquaint you that she is Nursing <sup>her</sup> and doing very well. It was the 9<sup>th</sup> inst after birth the Child suckd properly owing to the hardness of Mrs Halcro's breast.

I am sure it would give you much pleasure could I inform you of my Affairs being brought to a Settlement. but No. the prospect has hitherto eluded my grasp. hope it will soon happen.

We are very sorry out for the first opportunity that presents, and we hope to visit our friends all well, and find that mutual inclination to benevolence and offices of friendship so pleasing at all times, especially betwixt such near Connections. I am always

Yours truly  
 Yesterday she was Baptiz'd at our House and named the said Mary after her Sister and herself. it was her own choice.

Dear father in law  
 Yours most Obedient humble Servant  
 W. Halcro



*Mr. John Johnson  
Master in  
Shrewsbury  
Dorset*