

Δ15/3/5
J^h Andrews 9th July 1820. —

My Dear Mr. Johnston

In the declining condition of my health, of which D: M. has given you a very incorrect idea, few things could have administered so much pleasure to my blunted Feelings as the kindly Epistle by which you recall, what I recollect with delight, the reminiscences of an early day — You will not doubt the Interest I shall ever take while I exist, in whatever can tend to promote either your happiness or your Interest, and I pray, and trust, that the failure of ~~no~~ Earthly projects may ever so much affect your tranquility as to shake the balance of a Mind whose resources are drawn from the Fountain of Good. —

I regret my debility by which I am pre-vented the exertion of seeing you in Edin^g; but

still possessed of a bag, I trust my care & my God
I shall hope I may not quit the Stage without an
Opportunity of giving to my ever valued Friend
the Assurances of the warmest regard

With every good Wish for the prosperity of
your Family, & for all a every blessing that can
increase or amend your Happiness -

I am My Dear Mr. Johnston

Your Friend
whole.

L. Gillespie

there can be no dissimulation with a friend
and the pleasures of friendship are not peculiar to
scenes of cheerfulness no in the absence of every other
consideration it softens the asperity of misfortune and
renders even anguishes delightful

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My Dear Maria

Your few but most affectionate Lines give me great delight
many thanks for your kind invitation but I must excuse myself that
happyness from the season ^{being} so far advanced and all circumstances considered
I think I had better immediately return to Ed and assist for Mr Justice
may God put in his mind to befriend us altho I have but little reliance
on it as the expences of his tour must be great it would have been if
~~possible to have~~ I could persuade him to advance a few hundreds
I should take a house
and house James and Letsy here they might get in some situation
but I have some hopes to get him to advance fifty which will clear
the law suit and give us some hundreds excuse me for allowing my
to intimate my ^{own} opinion believe me it is not for want of fortune
I bless God the ^{men} a uncommon strength of mind
but desponding it be the natural consequence of so
long a series of unhappy lot as mine has been I trust
I am sorry I have not the miss address for
long a distance to go for it but shall have it
I have not yet got my dear Parents first letter but
refer it as I expect one from Oathney and cannot take
& receive his supply I had but one note when he left me
to tell him I said I had and think how I must wish ^{to get from}
London I had flattered myself to get some at Greenwhich I will
have the power to my dear Parent ^{I forgot to} please tell him

STANDREWS
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M^r J. Johnston

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1820

N^o 13. Squerr's Lodge
Mill place near Richmond Square } Edinburgh

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