

8/5/3/8

My Dear Mary

I have been every day talking of writing to you, but something has always prevented me, I assure you, my dear Boy, your Uncle and myself were much hurt to hear of your meeting with so serious an accident, but I am hopes by the time you receive this you will have got rid of most of the ill effects of it, you ask me Mary for my advice respecting your continuing the Navy, it is difficult to say what is best, but if your aversion is not rooted against the Profession, you know I always entertained a prejudice in favour of it, this you might rely on, your Uncle as well as myself would use every exertion in our power for your promotion if we live so long and have friends in the service after you have long served I am in hopes that we shall get John his Commission before next year is out, we have found friends lately that have I believe a little interest, your Uncle has quitted Somerset House he accepted a more profitable situation as Secretary to Capt. Ribbelle the Regulating Capt. of the General under Sir John Will, if he returns to Somerset House which is not yet certain it will be to his advantage still, we have lately received two or three letters from Ockney with some news, pray return

our thanks <sup>and</sup> love, I shall write your Mother  
and tell her I shall be glad whenever I can see  
her, I shall expect to hear from you soon  
my little girl grows very much, I would  
have named her Jane but Robena Kent  
an old and intimate friend claimed a prior  
promise, Ann and Henry desire their love  
Your Uncle joins me in the same, that  
you may be directed for your well doing is  
our sincere wish God Bless you, my dear Boy

Your affec. Aunt  
J. M. Taylor

March 16 1809  
No 5 Lambeth Road Surrey  
I wrote in such haste - you I fear  
hardly make it out

*Faint handwritten text, possibly including names like "Mrs. Mary" and "1816".*

*Red circular postmark stamp, containing the year "1816".*

