

Addressed to: Johnston & Purss, Quebec

From: William Brymer, London

London 3rd April 1786

Dear Sirs,

Since I did myself the pleasure of writing to you the 5th August last, I have had that of receiving your sundry letters to 9th Nov. last inclusive.

Brymer & Belcher of Halifax have remitted to me on your account £68.10s stg as Mr Bridge has not paid the three last bills you drew on him, together £732.11.5. I have caused him to be arrested but can do nothing more with him until the term begins the 3rd May next. I am told he has property but that by his avarice and irregularity, he keeps himself short of money. He offer'd to give me the key of a warehouse, in which he said there were goods to a considerable amount, but I declined that, as I was not a judge of the goods, and as I have known that goods have been often taken out of a warehouse, without the knowledge of the possessor of the key. I have not heard any thing of Mr George Geddes of Phil^a, nor of Capt Aitkin. As to Col. Jessop, I cannot find out that he has any means of paying you, until he gets money from Govern^t. He says he now stands so forward on the list of claimants, that he has no doubt the commissioners will soon examine him.

I know nothing about chemists & very little more about chemistry, but shall enquire and advise you. As you intend Mr John Taylor for that business, it is a pity he has not gotten a tolerable share of classical learning. In April last, I bound my youngest nephew to an ironmonger in London, for seven years, & was obliged to give 400 guineas with him. I can do very little in Scotland, as the only connexions I have there are a poor old male cousin & five old women to whom I give annual allowances.

I thank you for the cranberries, but I would that never any had grown, rather than that my old friend Mr Johnston had been re-afflicted with the rheumatism.

I have written to Mr Cumming, & to the Orkneys, that as soon as I receive money on your account, I shall remit to them, and the truth is that I have not any unappropriated money at present, having given away about £3000 last year, therefore it will take some time to make me flush of cash.

In the parcel with this you will find 17 letters rec^d from your friends, & a fan for Mrs Taylor. I remain, d^r Gentlemen

Your most obed hble ser^v

W^m Brymer