

Addressed to: Mr Joshua Johnston, Writer in Stromness, Orkney

From: Walter Hood

Canongate 10th April 1786

Dear Sir,

Since my writing you by Cap^t Houston I received your favour of the 11th ulto but not till it was too late to get the currant jelly & xxxxxx sent by him. I am sorry to hear that Miss Jeanie's disorder which has been of so long a standing still continues unabated. We consulted Doc^t Bell (Miss Hattie knows him) and read to him what you wrote me concerning her. He seemed to think her case very peculiar. He approved of what you gave her but would wish to know more, particularly if any fresh symptoms has appeared in outbreakings & then would have some things made up for her. The delay of time could not he thought be attended with bad consequences. A little sal nitre enfused in water or even vinegar & water will answer for gargling the throat very well. I shall send however the jelly as soon as possible or bring it with me and wish much it had gone by C Houston as the idea of its being so proper for it has frequently a wonderful effect, and shall observe your directions about the sorces (?) bread & bark^{gs}

We are happy to hear of Mrs Halcro's safe delivery and sincerely on that occasion. I have now the pleasure to inform you of Mary's safe delivery the 27 of 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^t pleasure I now acquaint you that she is nursing her and doing very well. It was the 9th or 10th day after birth ere the child sucked properly owing to the hardness of Mrs Hood'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 intend setting out for Stromness first good opportunity that presents and we hope to meet 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, dear father in law

Your most obedient humble servant

Walter Hood

Yesterday she (the child) was baptized at our house and named Katherine Mary after her sister and herself. It was her own desire.

[Top](#)