

Addressed to: Mr Joshua Johnston, Stromness, Orkney, with two small parcels

From: (Walter &) Mary Hood to Joshua Johnston

Dear Sir,

I received your esteemed favour of the 5th Ulto and I have to return you my sincere thanks for your friendly and good advice.

I have now the pleasure to inform you that as the difficulties that presented in the way of our marriage appear'd so knotty that there was no untyeing it, and as a state of suspence and hope deferr'd you know (particularly to Mary's sensibility) maketh the heart sick, we came to the resolution of cutting it and in consequence were married the 14th inst. And we hope that, with the little Jean draw for her industry & rigid oeconomy, and above all a dependence on God's providence, that we'll be happy, and as I look for my friends return Mess^{rs} Turnbells this Spring, I hope to have a settlement of my affairs entirely to my satisfaction. I trust it will be so.

I have not a doubt of obtaining your blessing on us both and friendly advice on all proper occasions, which we will esteem very highly. I have only to add that I wish you and all your family every happiness and many agreeable returns of the approaching season, in which my wife joins most cordially. She writes you below this xxxx with the truest esteem.

Dear Sir, your most obedient and most humble servant

Walter Hood

Edinb^r 17th Decem^r 1784

Mr Joshua Johnston

Dear Father,

You will se buy Mr Hood that we hav determined thes metar in hoops the event well turn out well resorting to providence for it bay whom the feet of all man is determined both hear & hereafter. Mr Hood is a gentleman (?) & can acuit xxxx xxx in xx my cosins & is the man according to my xxxxxxxx. I hope you will recommend him in the strongest tremes to my Uncoll & brothers as we are to visit to them very soon. we will wet for you

leter which you will send to xxx what news from qabeack. I will writ you mor fully next
toym for which I refer you & I remen your affect & honest daughter

Mary Hood