

Addressed to: Mr John Johnston, att Mr Sam^l Stephens in Upper Ryde, Isle of White

From: Mr Crafts Mackay, London, 29 April 1781

Londⁿ 29th April 1781

Dear Cousin,

I wrote you a few days ago ment^g my intention of forwarding your things the next eve^g but am sorry I could not find the opportunity before this evening. My last had the two letters inclos^d accord^g to your desire cont^d in the box. I forward this by post to inform you when you may expect you things at at the two Blew Posts at Portsmouth according to your desire. You'l find inclos'd in the box the book ment^d in your letter, together w^t several letters which you'l please deliver as directed, two for my Uncle James, the one f^r favour Mr Robison (the other my sisters which you'l deliver your self) w^t the two d^o for Uncle John, the one from Mr Rob^t Laing the oy^r from myself, one for my Aunt Irvin the other for Aunt Jeanie. I beg you will favour me wt a letter at every opportunity, before you sail or rather whilst you remain in the island or channel. I shall also expect a letter from you if I find you touch at Ireland or any where else in Britain, as well as by the return of the fleet. If please God you arrive safe at Quebec, and be as intelligent as you can in every respect, may God grant you a happy meeting with all friends in that quarter of the world. & if you are so lucky as to touch at Orkney I should be verry happy to hear from you.

I have seen Mr Brymer this morning, has had no letters for you. Those from y^r father for Quebec a inclos'd in or with his own. You'l receive y^r box cont^g 11 prs stock^{gs} & salts, cousin Jas's night cap, the book & letters ment^d, the shoes as you ment^d or rather the ½ doz prs in the brown paper parcel (I suppose just as you left them, I have not open^d them). I hope they will all come safe to hand & in good time. Have tied them together & directed them for you to be left till call^d for at the two Blew Posts at Portsmouth.

If you think proper to deliver the letter f^r favour Mr Robison to his care, I shall refer it to yourself, but nevertheless make offer of my respects. My love to Cousin James. I wish him a happy meeting w^t his mother & sister & all other friends. Tis needless to present any compliments to my Aunt Jeanie. Tis evident they will only be treated w^t contempt from her unnatural conduct at parting.

I shall expect to heare from you in return if this should be the last you may have time to receive from me. I conclude wishing agreeable news from you, a plesant & agreeable passage & a happy meeting with all friends, meaning uncles & aunts at Quebec, to whom you'l please to remember me w^t duty & love, in affection & gratitude, & ever I remaine D^r Cousin John, with love

Your affec^t cousin

Crafts Mackay

London Sunday eve^s 10 O'Clock

the 29th April 1781