

Addressed to: Mr John Johnstone, to the care of Mrs Jean Johnston at N^o 54 Hounds Ditch, London

From: Mr John Moore, Stromness 1 Nov 1780

D^r Sir,

I first had the pleasure of hearing that your vessels arrived safe at Yarmouth and was afterwards inform^d of your being in good health by your letter to your father. I had not the pleasure of seeing you the morning you sailed and was much vexed that I did not, but I hope we shall, in time to come, see each other in a condition which neither of us has yet arrived to. Your attention at present will be so much attracted with the stateliness and splendour of so vast a metropolis, that I suppose if you was once more to arrive upon Baillie Graham's bridgestones and see such a picture of beauty as you know the Baillie is, especially in the morning with his night cape on, you would imagine yourself transported from light to darkness.

I may venture to say, and I dare say you think so too, that England is nothing inferior to my country, viz. Shetland. I am informed that London is fully as large as Stromness and that there are plenty of bonny, willing lasses in it. I would be glad if you would include a few lines to me, within your father's letter, when any convenient opportunity serves. Be so good as inquire for my good friend Mr Charles Macnab to be found at Mr Philpot's N^o 16 Wells Street, near Oxford Market, London, and pay my most respectful comple^{ts} to him and let me know, when you write your father, if you see him and how he is. I have not time, Sir, to write you a long and laughable letter but shall do that next occasion.

I am, D^r Sir, your ever loving comrade

& very humble serv^t

John Moore

Stromness 1st Nov^{ber} 1780