

Addressed to: Mr John Johnston, Stromness, Orkney

From: Henry Taylor, London 15th Novem^r 1794, rec^d 30th Oct^r 1795

London 15th Nov^r 1794

Dr Brother,

I take my arm out of a sling for the first time this five weeks to have the pleasure of acknowledging your favour of 27th Oct^r by your old tenant Geo. Lesk & another of 27th May last p^r post covering one to John which I delivered to him immediately & which I am surprised you have rec^d no answer, as he told me he had written you shortly after. I condole with you on the loss of your worthy parent but it is with great pleasure I observe you have the very high satisfaction of finding him universally beloved & lamented.

With respect to your family affairs I am very glad to see you have so comfortable a prospect before you. It certainly is the wisest plan to endeavour to settle them amicably by arbitration & by that means to preserve what still remains from the grasping hands of rapacious lawyers, the dreadful consequence of whose interference you may have noticed in many instances besides the unfortunate one of our own family, which as you justly observed is very similar to the present case & which I hope will be of use to you for the regulation of your conduct in this business.

John is now at Henley (a pretty town thirty five miles from London) with Field Marshal Conway, an old gentleman who is very fond of experimental chemistry, & has a distillery for oil of lavender which John superintends, & also assists him in his chemical pursuits. The marshall is a very generous, friendly man & it will be a fortunate circumstance if my brother can acquire his patronage.

Irvine was in England last fall; he told me he expected to return here in a year or two. My brother has rec^d a letter from him announcing his safe arrival in Quebec but it mentions nothing of the family business.

I am glad to find Harry & the young lasses get on so well. Give my love to them & best respects to all friends who remain ever

Dr brother

Yours affectionately

Henry Taylor