

Addressed to: Mrs Jane Harris Johnston, Stromness, p^r favour M^r Gillies

From: Mr Henry Taylor, London 24th Nov^r 1795, rec^d 5th Feb^y 1796

London Nov^r 24th 1795

My Dear Sister,

Your favour of 17th was this day safely delivered to me by M^r Dixon & I with pleasure take the offer he has made me of inclosing this in his frank. I was much surprised at not receiving an answer to my last letter & intended going down to enquire about the man to whom it was delivered, & who I understood was going direct to Orkney; the fact is I did not think the old Scot would have gone so punctually as he really did, & sent the letter a day after he said he would sail.

My arm is, I thank you, as well as ever but I assure you I hope our correspondence will not be again interrupted from such a cause.

I am sorry to inform you of the death of Marshall Conway who went off suddenly last summer. John seems however to expect much from the friendship of Lady Ailesbury (the Marshall's widow), a lady of excellent character & who has desired that he would remain there as formerly. I am no less surprised than you at his not writing you but impute it rather to forgetfulness than any intentional omission. I shall certainly speak to him on the subject.

You mention nothing of America. I do not doubt, my dear sister, you are as tired of that unfortunate business as I am. I am in great hopes that it is concluded by this time as a letter rec^d some time ago by my brother from one of the experts gives me good reason to believe.

I thank you for the produce of your manufacture which came very opportunely to hand & congratulate you on your success in the acquisition, and I think they are much better than any I could have bought here both for strength & neatness.

Should there be any favourable news from Quebec you may depend on my informing you immediately. For the present I have nothing more to add than my love to your husband, son & daughters (not omitting the little stranger to whom I beg you will add one kiss for me) & to assure you

Dear Sister

That I remain

Your affectionate brother

Henry Taylor

Pray remember me to Cap^t Halcro & his family & to all friends & in your next inform me whether he has been in London lately as somebody called on me when out of the way who by the description I conceived to be him, tho I have seen nothing of him if it was.