

Addressed to: (Jane Harris Johnston)

From: M^{rs} Ja^s Johnston, Quebec 9th Nov^r 1797, rec^d 16th Jan^y 1798

Quebec 9th November 1797

My Dear M^{rs} Johnston,

Induced by motives of friendship and I may say of affection, I have once more taken up my pen to write you a few lines hoping to have the pleasure of hearing from you by the first opportunity. I have been very much disappointed in not receiving a letter from you for these two years past and find myself much at a loss to devine the cause. Surely it cannot be that you have so soon foregot an old friend. No, I have a much better opinion of your disposition than to suppose such a thing possible. I rather think it must be owing to your dedicating the whole of your time to your children, a pleasing occupation it certainly is, but still remember that I must claim a little of your attention also if it can be spared from such a pleasing task, & a pleasing task it certainly is while they are blessed with health.

Your uncle keeps his health tolerably well. My children John and Ann have been both very ill of a feaver from which thank God they are now recovering. They send their love to you and their little cusins. I have the pleasure of anouncing to you the agreeable news of the long tedious law suits being near a close. It only remains now with the court to make a partage of the Estate which is expected will take place next tearm which will be in the month of Feberuary. God grant that it may turn out satisfactory to you all. O that I could likeways anounce to you the pleasing news of your mother's abandoning that vile man who has been the cause of so much trouble and distress but alas I cannot. They still continue to live in the saim way with this difference only that he is now turned farmer and they live on a small farm a little way beyond St Foy church.

I have no news worth mentioning. Your old friend, Miss M^cKord is still unmarried. M^{rs} Woolsey is very well and desires to be remembered to you. Pleas remember me to M^{rs} Urhuart and tell her That I have been unavoydably prevented from writting to her by this opportunity but hope it will not prevent me from having the pleasure of hearing from her next spring. You will please likeways to remember me to M^{rs} Halcro and all our friends in Stromness. Wishing you all health and happiness

I remain dear neice

Your affectionate aunt

Margaret Johnston