

Addressed to: M^{rs} John Johnston, Stromness

From: M^{rs} Ja^s Johnston, Quebec 8th Novr 93, rec^d 7th January 1794

Quebec 8th November 1793

My Dear Niece,

I have your verry agreeable letters before me of dates 19th March, 7th May & 25th August. I congratulate you with all me heart on the increase of your family and happy to find you make such a good mother by being able to nurse your little ones yourself. I am sorry to hear that your father in law was so poorly and likewise that you have had no answer to the letters you wrote your mother. My dear Mrs Johnston, you know too well the duty a daughter owes to a mother. Notwithstanding her behaviour, to refrain from writing to her perhaps repeated letters from her children with the blessing of God may in time open her eyes it is devoutly to be wished, but should it not have the wished for effect you will at least be found doing your duty. Write her if it is agreeable to your husband in as affectionat a stile as the state of the case will admit, indeavour if possible to rouse her sensibility for it appears at present to be dormant. It is a delicate subject but as you have requested of me as a friend I give you the saim advice as I think I would wish to follow were I in the same situation. It is impossible to foresee the effect your writting to her may have but I think it cane have no bad effect. Your mother has disposed of most of the furniture which she had when you left her and I believe most part of your sisters clothes in a private manner. How they make it out to live, God knows. Poor deluded woman she cannot see her oun interest. If she did she would consider that of her children's.

Now, I must give you sum news. There is two Quebec ladys married since last I wrote you, M^r James Grant to M^{iss} Cragy, M^r Charles Grant to M^{iss} Blackwood of your old aqwentence. Whou have laityly died is old M^r McCord, M^r Cuthbert Grant and M^r Bonfield. John & Anne are well and both gou to scool. Your uncle has had a bad cold but is getting better. Pleas to remember me to all our friends in Stromness. Wishing you and them all happiness. I remain, dear Neice, your affectionate

Aunt

Margaret Johnston

P.S. I understand your brother gous home in the fleet M J