

Robt Blair

24 March 1787

M<sup>r</sup> Dimwiddie

Northumb<sup>er</sup>land Court

No 4 Strand

London



Edinb<sup>urgh</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> March 1787

My Dear M<sup>r</sup> Dimwiddie

I am surpris'd you did not drop me  
 a line on your arrival at London. You know how  
 much I am interested in your welfare, especially  
 in the place which has engros'd our attention,  
 for some time past. I did not think you  
 would be so unjust to <sup>me</sup> as to neglect informing  
 me of your success. Had it not been for  
 D<sup>r</sup> Luriniaga who wrote his friend Weira  
 that he saw you, I should have been at  
 a loss to know whether you were in  
 Heaven, on Earth, or in the Deep. — Let  
 me then hear from you. You <sup>had</sup> not fear a Night  
 — mad.

I have a favour to ask of you which

Let me know if there be any thing in London for the young Scotch Dominie



I expect you will not fail to grant me by the first opportunity. The substance of it is as follows. — Do<sup>r</sup> Laurusaga has written to Don Neira to inform me, that he has been applied to by several English Noblemen for a Master in the Spanish Language to whom they would not grudge any Salary, & that if I incline the employment he will recommend <sup>me</sup> Lord Walsingham is of the number. Now the favour I ask of you is, as soon as possible to call for Do<sup>r</sup> Laurusaga, give my best Compl<sup>ts</sup> to him, with grateful acknowledgements for his Goodness, & inform him, that if he thinks <sup>the above</sup> an object of such a nature that it will be worth my coming to London for, & not of <sup>so</sup> precarious nature, so that I should get immediate employment from those Noblemen, I shall accept with Gratitude & cheerfulness the honourable recom-

—mendation he is so kind as offer. From the Testimo-  
—ny books of Do<sup>r</sup> Laurusaga & Don Neira have given me <sup>my</sup> of the knowledge of their Language, I flatter myself I am capable of the Employment. I intend to write Do<sup>r</sup> Laurusaga a Spanish letter on the Subject. but as I have not leisure at present, & there is no delay because he will be soon leaving London, & if the above succeeds it will be necessary for me to be in London <sup>before he goes</sup> I thought proper to trouble you on this occasion as a person whose friendship I have oft experienced, & on whom I rely as on my own. <sup>This Affair</sup> I can as much rely as on my own. <sup>your</sup> friendly information after enquiring about <sup>that matter</sup> me this will save me much trouble & expence, as <sup>it</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>all</sup> disagreeable to go to London on perfect uncertainty. Direct for me to the Care of Bailie James Dickson Bookseller Cross Street Edinburgh. I shall anxiously expect your answer as soon as possible. Be very punctual to your Engagements with the Spaniards. Laurusaga mentions to Neira he appointed a meeting with <sup>you</sup> & did not see you till 10 days <sup>after</sup>. You certainly could not see him sooner. This hint is meant to serve you — I have the honour to be your most sincere Friend & obliged Serv<sup>t</sup>. Robert Blair

If this affair don't succeed I wish you would enquire whether they would be an unreasonable price for my copy, with you in called. I hope you will favour me with the trouble of your own.