

Dear Sir,

Dumfries, 6<sup>th</sup> March 1758

I know what a lazy correspondent you are, & have regulated myself accordingly. — Tho' silent, you had my good wishes, & wd they have served you as much as those that you corresponded with. It is with heartfelt anguish I tell you, that poor Tennant is now on the last Stage of his disorder, most likely ere this reach you, he will be no more. You know his virtues, & will feel for his loss, as much as I. — To you, it is needless to say more. I have often heard you say, that this rambling life was not to be permanent, that you wd certainly settle in some snug place, where you could enjoy retirement, after the bustle of your Travels. You also affirmed, that you wd prefer Dumfries to any place you had ever seen, if the encouragement were nearly equal. — Now Sir I hope you will forgive my hinting, that you might do worse, than to return to your former birth. — This has occurred to a few



few of your friends here, who have your happiness sincerely  
at heart, but we forbear hinting it to the public; till we  
have your sentiments of the matter — I am convinced  
the better part of the Town will receive you with open  
arms: tho' I was less free as to tell you, that many com-  
plain of neglect — This however will soon wear off. I  
hope you will find the Public ready to afford  
you every encouragement that their Circumstances  
will admit — Last night I consulted poor Tennent  
about writing you, upon the first hint he conceived me  
not to love a sport, as he must soon be gone, I he-  
knew there would be many applications — He spoke  
of this with an ease, that would have done honor to  
the greatest of your ancient Philosophers — He assured  
me that nothing could tend more to his happiness  
in this world, than the knowledge of your returning  
to your former charge, this both out of good wishes  
to you & gratitude to the inhabitants of Dumfries,  
to whom he considers himself under the most  
weighty obligations — Never never was the fate



of any Young Man's deplord than that of Mr. Tennent  
he was not more amiable in dispositions, than useful  
in his Station amongst us —

I should you be determin'd to remain in Ho-  
land, it will be necessary you give some directions  
about the Stowage of your Books — The next in-  
convenient may not be willing to want this space they  
occupy —

The late Lad Mr. Tennent had under his care  
for you, I believe his your nephew has been  
very attentive & made considerable progress, but  
now that they lose Mr. T. & no prospect of your re-  
turning, his Parents seem determin'd to take him  
from the School altogether — Mr. T. desires  
me to mention this, & thinks it a pity, that the  
boy should be lost, when he is got so far —

He also begg'd I would mention that a Brother  
in law who you owe a little money, has been  
long in ill health & unable to labour he means  
to take a small Harrow, but till you remit him,  
cannot venture upon any thing of the kind —



A certain young Lady under my care is  
very well. She a fine Girl & will in spite of  
all do honor to her Creator.

Determine as you may upon the  
different matters I have wrote about. I  
beg you may believe I have only your interest  
at heart, in the communications of these circumstances

I have to request you may for once ans-  
wer in course — I consider myself ill  
did if you don't write immediately — with  
Sincere good wishes for your happiness,  
Remain hearty but very truly,

Dear Sir,

Your most Obedt  
William Kelloock  
Butterworth is doing great  
things in Col. Georges to mention  
that when he left us - the writing<sup>g</sup> master's salary  
was curtaild & your augmentid. but I don't know  
the exact sum