

9 Jan. 1792

Mr. James D. B.

8th Mo. Wood Street

Golden Square

London

D. Sir

Our Friend Mr. D. B. brought me
your Favour Mr. Cas. accompanied with
some of the Papers I had left with you. As
to those matters, you need not put yourself
to Trouble about them further than when
you light upon them to keep them at Hand
till I call for them. — Mrs. P. by the Search
after Long, has proved so trouble some a
- les. — Should you be able to meet with him, I
hope he will make us better acquainted with
the Country lying between the ^{River} Saguenay & Hud-
- son's Bay, as also with that between the Lake
Superior, Directions in which a practicable
Communication would prove of Importance

I shall be very glad to receive any Intelligence
Mr. Gouville Stange or Mr. Parker are pleased to
give you me with if you receive any Papers
from Mr. Parker, he pleases to let me know their
Cost, that I may order a proper Conveyance for
them. I beg my best respects to both these gentle-
men. I flatter myself their Endeavour to do good

will be crowned with success, from various boats
conspiring to rouse the Abolition spirit of Men
to their proper Objects & Interests.

I have been very much hurried since I saw
you, which has put it out of my Power to do
any ^{thing} on the Subject we talked of, & it is uncer-
tain when I may be able to think of it. All I
can say is that I think well of the Design & would
take pleasure in promoting it, if I could. I hope
you will enter upon it bravely yourself in which
Case, I doubt not of your accomplishing something
to your own Satisfaction & that of others. I shall
be very proud you are much in this Way, & would
be glad to get back to the Metropolis, if such there
was a fine Chance, & so for the present rest content
I set out tomorrow for Glasgow with Mr. D. B. &
I shall be glad to hear from you here. Direct for
me in Adams Court. Adieu & remain sincerely
Yr. Servt

Edinburgh: 1792.

Your Obedt. Servt
Harry Robertson

Dr. Sir

I am fav'd with yours 29th June. The

Field open'd to you is certainly immense, but it seems
 the Provision made for giving you fair. So of a kind, is
 far from being adequate, either in Respect of Emol-
 -ument or of Duration. This however much to
 be regretted, does not surprize me. Indeed I should
 I had my Accounts with some Part of my View in
 wishing to communicate with you before you went
 away, was to see whether I might not be possible
 to frame out a Plan by which an Association
 of private Individuals might be engaged to give
 you suitable Patronage & Support, upon a such
 Mode as that adopted in June 1788 by the Associa-
 -tion at the ^{in Africa} ~~St. James Tavern~~ for promoting Des-
 -coveries, whose Proceedings have been lately
 published in an octavo Volume by Mr. Beaumont,
 one of their Members. The Members are more
 than 100 & their Engagements to only £5 for 3 Years
 say £1500 per Year, to the best of my Recollection
 for you will observe, I write from Memory. As I
 think the Field you are about to enter upon must
 be thought much more various extensive & pro-
 -ductive, I would fear to be not very far able
 to hope for a Patronage equally respectable & liberal.

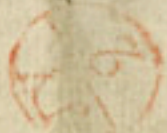
I shall be glad to have your Opinion of this Sug-
 -gestion. Your Friends will hardly admit of seeing
 a Plan conformable to it fully perfected, & it may
 in certain respects perhaps be creditable for your
 friends ~~upon~~ the Matter be agitated & fought out
 in your Absence. But it may require judicious
 delicate & faithful Management, of which you will
 no Doubt consider in the most advised Manner.

I hope to have the Pleasure of seeing you before
 you go away, but as this is at present not an abso-
 -lute Certainty, I must beg to hear from you by

quently, & to know whether my letters for you might
not be franked by going under cover of Jos. a Member
of Parliament of your Acquaintance, such as
L^d. Stormont or any other. - Direct for the box
as formerly & believe me D^r Sir

Yours sincerely
Henry Robinson

2 July 1792



My dear whole

Mr. James Dinniddie
No. 17 Suffolk-Street
Hay-Market
London



22 July 1792

Mr. James Dinwiddie
No. 17 Suffolk Street
Hay-Market
London

Ed: 22^o July 1792

Dr. Sir

You would observe by my Letter from
Glasgow 16th Inst, that I had some Expectation
of accompanying your Nephew to London, but
on enquiring for him at his Lodgings here on
Friday last, was told he had gone away on Satur-
day I enquired, for which there might be good
Reasons, but could not help wondering, he was
not pleas'd to notify his Departure to me, agree-
able, agreeable to a Promise he made me, &
for which I left him my Address, & in Case of his
forgetting, or mistaking it, desired him to have
Recourse to Mr. Ch. Guthrie, thro whom he
found me out here. — Your Nephew's to-
tal Neglect of all these Particulars, I must say
appears to me exceedingly strange.

His Debt; to me for the Eight Guineas
given him by your Desire, is to be forwarded this
Day to Messrs. Roberson, Book-sellers Pall-mall-Road,
to whom you will be pleas'd to pay the Money.

Wishing you all Manner of Prosperity I am,
Dr. Sir

Your Obedt. Servt.
Harry Robertson

15 Aug. - 1792

Mr. James Dunscombe
89. 17. Suffolk Street
Haymarket
London



D. Sir

Ed. 15th Aug. 1792

I recd: yours along with your Nephew's
of 27th Ult. - I continued to flatter myself with
the Pleasure of seeing you before your Depart-
ure, but now find it will be impossible,
which I regret very much, & by being so long
in Suspense; I fear this may not seem true
to overtake you in Britain, which I shall be
exceedingly sorry for, from an Apprehension that
my Silence might appear to you the Effect of
that Silence, which you may be assured is no
Manilla Case. - With Regards to your Nephew,
I perceive there were pressing Affairs both here &
in a Hurry, which with the Fluctuation of the
Situation of Affairs otherwise accounts for his Con-
-duct so naturally as would make it unreason-
-able in me to open my Mouth, especially on
an occasion no material, & no disadvantageous or
Inconvenience that I know of.

Your Nephew would no Doubt acquain you
that my Knowledge of China being very slight,
I could not presume to suggest any thing of Moment
unless it was in the way of wishing for order to provide
for a Supplement or Successor in to your present
Scheme, of which you would be enabled to form

some judgment. I hope the Success of your pre-
sent Engagement will make any Provision
of this Nature unnecessary, but if you should
judge otherwise, that anything, within the
small Compass of my Power can be of Use to
you at any Time, they you will freely com-
mand me. I shall in any Event, be happy
to have a few Lines from you, before you sail.
Some of the Prints have set down B. M. V. King
for the Command in Chief in India, after accom-
plishing a Embassy to China. I should think
true Heavens Train may soon be in India, & the
Change may possibly be for Good to all Parts.
Your Nephews would tell you some of my
Opinions of China & the Uncertainty which have
always & may still continue to attend Understa-
ndings in that Quarter of the World. On this Account
I am glad to observe you have been enabled to re-
serve your Salary. I believe, I should formerly
had in mercantile Affairs, I might be ad-
vantageable to act only as Factor or Agent, & in that Way
make sure of something, however moderate, without Risk.
Let me use the Privilege of my Profession to tell you, that
to play the Merchant is exceedingly dangerous to those
not practis'd in it, especially on strange Grounds.
Write to me here as formerly, To Care of A. Guthrie

No. 25. S. Bridge & from foreign Parts, be
pleas'd to address for me To Care of Messrs
Anderson No. 17. Philpot Lane. London.

My Dear gen. As me only to add my best
Wishes for your Health & Happiness & that I am
Yours truly
Yours truly
Harry Robinson

P.S. Compt. de part Messrs to your Nephews,



Wednesday Sept 1787

Mr. J. Derridie

N^o. 4. Northumberland
Coast

with a Map of
Open Parcel

Grand

D. Sir

Wednesday

Be pleas'd to receive with
this, a Paper Parcel containing
Two Manuscripts, being those
I mention'd Yesterday, which I
wish it may be convenient for
you to read before Saturday, as
I would then be glad to receive your
Observations on them. I leave with
them a general Map of Coets
Journeys, thinking it might be
of Use.

I shall look for you on Saturday
at the Northumberland Coffee-house
by Twelve O'Clock, according to Ap-
pointment. I remain D. Sir
your obed^t

Harry Robertson

Chilwell Lane N^o. 17.

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Sept - 1787

Mr. James Donnell

No. 4 Northw. corner of Court

Shrewsbury

Friday

Dr. Sir

I have given Mr. Di Buns Longs
Voyages in Canada, to be by him handed to
you for your considering it with a view to
the several purposes you speak of. - I had a
long conversation with Mr. Parker yesterday
which gave me an opportunity of explaining
many things to him; so that at your first
Meeting with him, your conversation may be
confined to such things as he may point
towards. I told him I had acquainted you
with a variety of things which had occurred
to me. - I shall be glad to be advised with the
possibility of what may pass between you & Mr.
Parker. - Now, are you need not take notice
to others of your communications with Mr.
Parker - I am just setting out on my journey
Oregard - Yours &c. H. D.