

Alex. Copland

27 Sept 1790

Dunfermline Septemr  
27<sup>th</sup> 1790

Sir

Madam

I present in account of your Nephew  
William Jardine. I took him into my  
House about 6 years ago & have maintain-  
ed him in a proper manner ever since  
except his Clothes which his Father &  
Mother settled a little in & have been  
at every other Expence, It is true his  
School & Education has mostly been given  
him on your Account & in one or two  
instances at my Desire gratis.

He has got a compleat Education as a  
Surgeon & Apothecary & had every opportunity

Mr  
Mr James Dundas  
Laird of Green & Portman  
Alec Copland Esq  
Alec Copland Esq



given him by me to improve himself that  
any other Apprentice ever received. He is  
a good Linguist, knows more of both Latin  
& Spanish than most young Men who  
follow our Profession. Has gone suffi-  
ciently far in Arithmetick & Mathematicks  
for the <sup>complete</sup> prosecution of his Studies in the  
medical Line; writes pretty ~~well~~ good hand  
& I have lately given him a little dancing.  
In short he is now set for either going to  
prosecute his Study farther at some Uni-  
versity to be preferred on in taking the  
Charge of a Ship's Crew or in some other mode  
of contributing to his own Support & Advancement  
in the world. He is now come to that Time of  
Life that something ought to be done for him  
& He appears exceedingly <sup>desirous</sup> that something of that

that Kind should be done immediately.  
When first took Charge of him I was  
told by Mr. Wait & others that as soon as you  
had it in your power you intended to assist  
in getting him forward in the world, this  
induced me to give him a better Education &  
be at more Expence about him than other-  
ways would have been. From some Circum-  
stances at present it happens that I have  
not so much occasion for him this winter as  
formerly not from any fault of his for no young  
Man ever had gave me more constant Satisfaction than  
for he expects that you will as soon as convenient  
let me know your Opinion as to this matter  
& how far it is in what Manner you now  
intend to further his Advancement. In  
the mean Time I remain  
Your most obedient Servant  
Alex. Copland.

P.S. I don't hear from you  
yet Days I will spare will  
send me word, as letters may be sent