

## KINDROCHET BOX

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1808 Alex Stewart to DR (Duncan Robertson of Kindrochet) announcing death of Maj A Macdonald, Dalchosnie  
1818 D Stewart, Derculich to DR re financial matters  
1821 Jno Stewart Findynate to DR. grats on birth of Sophy. Helen R is dead.  
1823 W Stewart Dalchalloch to nephew DR. Please sign this bill  
1824 Aire Pas de Calais, Sept 30. Strowan thanking for influence  
Dall 23rd June 1830. J ROBERTSON re clan relics  
Dall 15th Nov 1830 J ROBERTSON Thanks  
Elgin April 18th 1831 Strowan thanks now that property suit is finished  
Elgin July 13th 1831. Strowan re estate matters  
1832 Elgin Jan 18th Strowan re estate matters  
Elgin January 3 1835 Strowan. Tell tenants to vote for Geo Murray at the election

### JR of K of K Gen Corr

1766 Perth 11 Dec DAVID BLACK. Here's the bill I forgot to enclose. Get married.  
Montreal 1st Oct 1782 THOS ROBERSON. Send me news of my kin  
1782 30 Nov Farleyer. Sir R Menzies. re boundary dispute Auchenree  
1783 Jan 3 Perth D BLACK. Don't sue Anderson  
1783 7 Feb. Farleyer Sir R Menzies. re boundary dispute Auchenree. Name your arbiters  
1783 1st April. Dowally JAMES STEWART. My bro was cautioner for Dr Stewart who's done a runner. Please pay to keep bro out of jail  
1783 Oct 6. Bailnaine. Rev JAMES MCLAGAN. re meal distribution to poor.  
1784 ?rich 24 April DONALD STEWART re township dispute  
1784 March 17, Blair Manse. Rev JAMES MCLAGAN. Grats on your son  
1784 Nov 30th, Blair Manse. Rev JAMES MCLAGAN. Is it Ok if I spend remaining money on Manse improvements? Other heritors OK with this.  
1785 Mr 16 Perth. D BLACK. Can you help with DR in Blairfetty's inadequate discharge proof?  
1786 July 5 Perth. D BLACK. Problem with yr pa-in-law's Bill  
1786 14 July Dunkeld. PATRICK STEWART. send me money to pay Gow's legal bill  
1791 Milntown 24th May . ALEX STEWART. Send your beasts to the shielings cos all the grass is being eaten. Do you want Black Park?  
1800 30 Dec. Perth. ?M STEWART. Sign this bill so's I can pay for emigrating Little Sandy's silver.  
1801 Edinburgh 5th Jan . Cousin etc DUN STEWART. Thanks for promoting my interest with Auchleeks  
Dalreoch 5th Feb 1801. ALEX STEWART Can we meet tomorrow to settle Donald Roy Robertson's affairs?  
1801 7 Feb. Milntown. ALEX STEWART. Would McIntyre make me a plough?  
1801 Dunkeld 4th May. ROBT CARGILL. I don't discount county bills  
1801 Foss, May 20th. JOSEPH STEWART. I can't lend you money just now. I fear my bro is killed in Egypt.  
1801 Fort George 13 Aug. ROBT STEWART. Does your son want to be ensign in the Perthshire Militia?  
1802 Edin Dec 23rd WM ROBERTSON at university. Send me stuff inc. more of your hair  
1803 Aug 9 Shierglas JOHN STEWART. Duncan is to be adjutant of the Volunteers. Fill the enclosed lists  
1804 March Edinburgh. DUN STEWART. legal matters re Locality  
Addressee Duncan Robertson, Ensign & Adj, 1st B 88th Regt of Foot, at east Bourne, Sussex.  
1804. 13 Nov On Board HM Ship Windsor castle, at Torbay. Patrick Robertson to DR. Mil gossip  
1805 28 Feby. DR to JR of K of K. East Bourne Barracks. Gossip, money  
Fairlight Camp, near Hastings, 25th July 1805, DR to JR of K re W'm  
1805 6 Sept DR to JR of K Beachy head Camp, near East Bourne. Ag advice  
1805 23 Nov DR to JR of K. Bexhill Barracks. reaction to Atholl gossip. My horse burnt  
1806 12.1. DR to JR of K. Bexhill Barracks. Gossip  
1806 17th Feby. Bexhill Barracks, Sussex. Wm's arrived in Canada  
1806 10th March Bexhill Barracks. DR to JR of K. The tale of W'm's arrival  
1806 10 July DR to JR of K Bexhill Barracks. I'm looking forward to going to WIs

1807 4th July Head Quarters before Buenos Ayres. G Orders  
1807 27th July Monte Video Rio de la Plata. Battle of Monte Video  
1807 4 Dec Ashford Barracks DR to JR of K. It was rough but we're home.  
1807 15 Dec Ashford, Kent. DR to JR of K. Thanks for your letter  
1808 3 Mar DR to JR of K. Perth. You'll get Auchanree. I saw lots of friends on the way south  
1808 17 Sept, Danbury Camp. DR to JR of K. gossip  
1814. Hasparen France 22nd July Mil gossip  
1815 28th Sept Paris, Gossip  
1812. River Raison Stormont County, Upper Canada, Sept 29, Coz THOS ROBERTSON. News of kin  
1813. Vittoria, 23rd June DR to JR of K. Battle of Vittoria  
1810ish Wallet of DR cont receipts

SHIERGLAS INHERITANCE FOLDER 1818 (Not transcribed)

CAPT CHRISTIE TO DR (Not transcribed)

Dateless McInroy of Lude to DR anent his piper's tunes for the Menzies prize

1805 Dumfries D Campbell to DR anent Atholl gossip & Regt business

1816 5 July. Edin. Alex Duff to DR anent marriage

1819 3 Feb Edin. JR of K to DR anent CD Robertson jailed for debt

1819 3 Aug To DR anent military

1819 To Captain D. Robertson, 88th Regt of Foot, Hull

1819. Alexandria near Perth. 23rd Decr ALEX ROBERTSON. Struan Kirk

1820 London Alex Duff to DR anent blood money for a widow + 4 letters anent military & gossip

1820 London. Hemingway to DR anent Mr Stewart who's been sick but improving

1821 Anderson to DR anent table cloths etc

1823 Aug 25. Jno Stewart to DR anent his father's death

1613 Typed copy of Sasine on Kindrochet

1816 Bonds & Discharges over Kindrochet. Hislop & others

1816 Marriage Contract DR of Kindrochet & SS

1824 Trust Disposition Kindrochet

1839 Marriage Contract Chas McDiarmid & Clementina Irvine

1844 Marriage Contract ARI & SR of K

1862 Inland Rev Duty paid on Kindrochet (Details of tenants)

1867 Inventory of Title deeds of Kindrochet

1868 Lease on Kindrochet by Beaumont

1890 Leases on Kindrochet

1785 Will of Dond Stewart of Shierglas

1808 2 letters from A McDonald Dalchosnie to DR

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1808 Alex Stewart to DR (Duncan Robertson of Kindrochet) announcing death of Maj A Macdonald, Dalchosnie

1818 D Stewart, Derculich to DR re financial matters

1821 Jno Stewart Findynate to DR. grats on birth of Sophy. Helen R is dead.

1823 W Stewart Dalchalloch to nephew DR. Please sign this bill

JR of K of K Gen Corr 1780-1810ish

To JR of K from David Black. 1766 Perth 11 Dec. Dear James, Yours came to hand tho I cannot but blame you for being so long of answering my last. The Bill was not lost by the way but I in my hurry neglected to put it within the letter & so have sent it now. I am in haste at present & have no time to tell you any news but have desired Wm to write you at large & mention all the particulars I missed. I cannot help telling you that I disapprove much

of your proposal of going abroad. My advice to you as a friend is to marry and settle at home as I propose to do soon. I hope you will not let old acquaintance be forgot but write me as oft as opportunity serves & I shall always take care to answer you tho I should have no more to say than at present. I am dr James, Yrs etc DAVID BLACK

To JR of K from Thos Robertson. Montreal 1st Oct 1782. Dear Sir, I wrote you last year but got no answer. I repeat it over again letting you know that I am in good health & want for nothing. I long to hear from you that I might know how you and all my other Friends there is, let me know if your Father & Uncle is alive & in healthy life, let me know if my Sisters is alive & how they are. I hope you'll not let my older Sister suffer if her son is able to support her for I left her an annuity bond with you for I will remit money for her use rather than she should want. Let me know if any of her sons is married, with whom, or if my other nephew Sandy Stewart at Glentilt is married. Pray enquire about my Grandnephews that lived at Tulimet & let me know their situation or if the small property they had there is sold. Let me know how my Cousin Daniel Stewart at Ardhulichen and his brothers is, or if James is at home. Let me know how Neil and John Robertsons at Invervack does & all my other friends there, for you [know] them as well as I do. Let me know if the Country is much drained of men, what servants' wages is, the price of grain and creatures. I heard that our Chief got his Estate. I wish from my heart it may be true. I heard of several deaths in the Country since I left it. The Minister of Blair, Urrard, Colonel Robertson & Charles Roy, let me know how his wife is and where she stays. Remember me to my old Neighbours at Bohespick & let me know how they make it out. I am in good health and want for nothing and my Children is in a hopeful way to do for themselves & if this war was over I intend to visit you at Kindrochet. I send you inclosed a memorandum of which you'll be pleased to remit me a particular account for the young man is very anxious to know his nearest relations. He is a very genteel friendly lad & is in the Kings Employment at Half a guinea per day & is willing and able to serve his friends. Remmember me to all enquiring friends. I have wrote to Duncan Cameron at the same time. I have no more to add but that I am, Sir, you Affectionate Humble Servant, THOS ROBERSON. Direct to me at Montreal to the care of Mr James Macgill Merchant.

To JR of K from Sir R Menzies. 1782 30 Nov Farleyer, Sir, I understand you have stopped the tenants of Achinrie in the annexed Estate of Strowan from Building their Head Dyke on what they call their own ground. I am well informed of all the circumstances relative to this affair And you are certainly aware that a proof of marches most necessarily follows your interruption. When the marches are ascertained you will be obliged to build the half of the march Dyke. This matter is already laid before the Board, so that it most soon be determined. Youll please let me know if you are to insist. And in what way you wish to have it decided, whether by process or submission? your Answer which I will expect of bearer and am, sir etc ROB MENZIES

To JR of K from D Black 1783 Jan 3 Perth. Dear Sir, I this day need your favour of 30th Dec covering your petition agst Anderson's Execution this day & I got the cause called & Mr Duncan appeared as Prov for the defr but had not made out answers for him & told me he had sent him word to see & agree the matter with you, I am glad he has given him such advice, and if he offers to agree with you, I wish you by all means to do it tho you should take 20 shillings or so less than the appraisement, rather than have a plea about it, as I am persuaded it will be more for your Interest. Processes about appraisement are generally troublesome and expensive & it is but seldom however they are determined, that the Pursuer gets his expenses, if the debtor pays what is determined before a Decreet is extracted. Unless you could prove he engaged to leave the Houses sufficient, it will only be habitable or tenantable that you will be found entitled to, & if the appraisers meant to make them sufficient by what they appraised, it would occasion the sum to be reduced & it may not be easy to fit what was requisite to make them habitable. Anderson should also have been called to be present at the apprising. You will no best if that was done or not. In short numberless difficulties and objections often occur in these cases & it is my opinion that it will be in your interest to lay aside all desire to get amends of Anderson for his ill usage, less instead of that you take amends of yourself by incurring expense and trouble & possibly not ? ? after all as he may now give you voluntarily in consequence of his Provs advice, so that I would have you agree with him if you possibly can & take payment or his Bill or Obligation (If you have not stamped paper for writing a Bill on) for the sum you agreed at. I will expect to hear from you soon, letting me know whether you settle with Anderson or not. I suppose the other affair of Dow V Cumming for which you got a petition & Wart of Service along with the one agt Anderson, has settled & you can send me the expense of it & of Robertson's decret which it seems you have

got from him at last, at your convenience. Wishing you many happy returns of the season, Yrs affectionately D  
BLACK

To JR of K from Sir R Menzies. 1783 7 Feb. Farleyer. Sir, I am ordered by the Commissioners of Annexed Estates to desire that you will be pleased to name your Arbiter for settling marches between your Estate and the Estate of Strowan, your answer will oblige. Sir, etc ROB MENZIES

To JR of K from Jas Stewart, Dowally. 1783 1st April. Dowally. Dear Sir, Enclosed I send you a letter for yourself & another two which came under my Brother's cover to me, they are all from your friend Dr Stewart - I find the poor man had great difficulties in filling out. My brother Patty writes that he became bound for him for £10 when he was in the greatest distress for money, and had none else to join in security with but him - he expects that you will get the money and remit it to me to be sent him in order to relieve himself before the Bill falls due. Patty writes that if he had not joined in the Bill with the poor doctor that he would be thrown in prison but its amazing to me how the Doctor's creditor accepted of Patty's security who was as poor as the Doctor, if it was not from some Scotchman that the Dr had his credit, of which Patty takes no notice, This being the case I hope you & the Doctor's friends will not suffer Patty to be put in prison in place of the Doctor who is now sailed for India & out of reach - I hope poor man he will do well and I expect he will be grateful to all his friends - I beg my compts etc.  
JAMES STEWART

To JR of K from Rev Jas Maclagan. 1783 Oct 6. Bailnaine. Sir, The cause of this intrusion is that there are 28 Boll, 2 f, 2 pecks of meal partly come & partly coming for our poor & that there is a meeting of the Heritors appointed at Blair Atholl at 12 o'clock on Wednesday next to distribute it, at which time and place your company is requested & expected. With compts etc. JAMES MCLAGAN

To JR of K from Donald Stewart. 1784 ?rich 24 April. [randomly capitalised & unpunctuated] I send you this scroll of a petition by the Bearer John Forbes that you may make it out to perfection much better as I can direct you I thought it was proper to mention some of the heads to you on horry be case hell not be able to mention every thing as he ought nor yet remember matters I own it is too much trouble but their is not one in the neighbourhood hear that can do it at lest that would keep it private and I would not lick that it should be heard that either you or I had a hand in it it shall never be heard from me I told Forbes if ever he will speak of it that I'll be the greatest enimie hell have in the country rememebr me Kindly Mrs Robertson Etc DONALD STEWART

That your Grace's poor petitioner is informed that my neighbour Alexr Moon is giving in a petition telling that I subletted part of my posession and ?Sickens that I would not Keep a horse in the plough as formerly - your Graces petitioner has paid rent to the family of Atholl for upwards of sixty years & never had subsetted a Lippe Sowing only this year I intended to give one John Moon a Carpenter in the same town who has his mother Beadfast with the pallsye for ten years past not able to go out or in the Bead with out an able man to help her nor so much as move out of the place where Shes left by this Means he is much detaind from this business all he wanted of my land is as much as would mantain a Milk cow for his distresd mother - not with standing never mend or intend to make any bargan with out your Graces or the factors Leave - but as soon as he heard of it he gave in his petition to your Grace but did not tell how many subsetters he had himself Duncan Robertson pays 12s 8d yearly 4 days Duncan McDonald the same Alexr Gream pays 10s 8d 4 day Iseable McLean the Same and if he had got my Land and Houses he would use it in the same manner as for keep a horse in the plough with him I have Done that for fourty two years past on the same posession till withint sum years ago when he got a nother forty pence land on Blairnachder as he would not give me a third of that additionally forty pence I had no rights to keep horse with him any longer nor yet did he desire this three of four years or let him give up the forty pence he has in Blairuachder and keep a horse in the plough as formerly or all exchange with him all take the forty pence he has in Blairuachder & he will get the whole town of rundoro to himself which will serve any man in the Country theirs has been ton family in roundon this forty two years & could live very well - he went with a complent to your grace that I offerd to subsett but theirs not one tennant in your Grace's ground so guilty of subsetting is what he is himself nor one that take the advantage of poor people as he takes his four cotters pays him yearly two pounds four shillings Ster and sixteen days work and I surely they have not a Boll Sowans among them as he hath no tak of the forty pence he has in Blairuachder your Grace & the factors may Settle it with one

word I would think may self very happy to go to the forty pence in Blairuachder for I have no peace or pleasor to be his Door neighbour

To JR of K from Rev Jas Maclagan. 1784 March 17, Blair Manse. Dear Sir, I am favoured with yours of today just now - I heartily wish you joy of your son & Mrs Robertson a happy recovery \_ I am much teased by schoolmasters & every other day from home - If Providence enable me I shall wait of you on Friday - but you must not hinder me a moment, as the School mr of Glengarry is to be here with his papers that day & I mean to be at Achgoul tomorrow. With the sincerest good wishes etc JAMES MCLAGAN

To JR of K from Rev Jas Maclagan. 1784 Nov 30th, Blair Manse. Sir, I trouble you with this to acquaint you that after paying the mason's & carpenter's accompts for the Kirks, Manse & offices, there remains in my hands a balance of £4.13.3 sterling. This I told the Duke who proposed (instead of having a meeting of the Heritors & dividing it) to lay it out in finishing what was in the estimates before - relating to the manse and offices & spoke himself to Lude about it who has readily agreed - I have mentioned it to Colonel Robertson & Auchleeks who both approve. I expect similar answers from the gentlemen who live at a distance, to whom I have already or soon will write. The things most necessary to be done are the slating of the Porch, the flagging of the kitchen, the repairing of the hearth or fire places, the vents, roofs etc etc. If you are of the same opinion respecting your proportion of it, be pleased to signify your assent & I shall lay it out in the best manner I can as far as it will go. With kind comps etc JAMES MCLAGAN

To JR of K from D Black. 1785 Mr 16 Perth. Dr Sir, I am just now favoured with yours with a Copy Libelled Summons for Donald Robertson in Blairfettie at the instance of Elspeth McGrigor with a sort of discharge by her to him, which as you observe it is not easy to read. It has been wrote with very bad ink and most miserably abridged and defaced. It is also defective in not having a date, at least I cannot after the strictest examination of it find a date at it. If I understand right what you say about this Discharge it was granted only in Spring last, in which case it is of no force as not being wrote on a stamp, as since the Law for receipts being on stamp paper, which took place first Septr 1783, no receipt or Discharge in full of all demands is valid unless it is wrote on a fourpence stamp, nor is any other receipt above £2 good unless wrote on a twopenny stamp. I have therefore little dependence on this discharge being of any use to us, but as I see it has been signed before witnesses, if they can still be got & were present at the counting and settlement betwixt the parties at that time, the same may be proven by them if there is occasion, and that she accepted the sum then paid in full of all Demands. As your Letter is not so full on sundry particulars as I could wish, please write me by the first opportunity a distinct account of the following points - What was Donald's connection with the Pursuers Husband's affairs, and how came he to have the Roup roll & Bills? Was he a relation of the Defuncts, or had he any interest in the matter himself. Or was he employed by the Defunct's friends or by the Widow or her friends, or how. It appears from your Letter, that at the meeting of the friends on both sides about two years ago, Donald delivered up the Rouproll and Bills except two, but you do not say expressly that he did so, or to whom he delivered them. You speak of the Friends at that time being satisfied with his intromissions, but please say whether he had intromissions with the Money of the Defunct's Subject, and if he had that the same were counted on and settled at that meeting, was there any ballance in his hand which he then paid, and if so to whom was it paid, and was there any acct made out in writing, or was it all verbal. Please also mention how long it is since the Defuncts death and the Roup of his effects. To what purpose was the two Bills you mention left in Donald's hand, which you say he is ready to deliver up; I think he should send them here to be produced in the process with his Defences.

As to the second Article of the Libel for £5 alledged to have been resting by him to the Defunct by a Bill which it is said he carried off with other papers, it will be necessary that he say whether there was such a bill of his in the defunct's hand at his death, and if so how he got it up. And as to the last Article for Wages and other Articles alledged to have been due by him to the Pursr before her marriage per acct, I shall send you a copy of the Account when the cause is called, but in the meantime you may let me know how long it is since the Pursr was married, and if Donald is clear that he owes her nothing of these old Claims. Please also say what Claims she made when she summoned him in the Spring last, and what Articles were counted on and Settled betwixt them at that time.

I expect you will not neglect to write me fully as to these matters as soon as you can and so as I may have your answer before Friday next week, as I must then give in Donald's Defences, and I would like to have your Answer before I write them Not that it will be necessary to mention in them all the particulars I have inquired about but it is proper that I know fully the facts, & then I will state only what I think necessary. I recd from the bearer 4s to account for this Process. It will not be necessary for Donald to come down himself at this time, as your letter will be sufficient for drawing his Defences and if there is no opportunity from your neighbourhood in time, I suppose you may get the letter down by the Blair carrier or Ludes the beginning of next week.

William Forbes Process has still been kept up by the Pror for Cumming, on pretence of want of information etc, owing to the Appraisal not having been produced when the cause was first called, He is at present appointed to return the process with his defences on Friday first with the certification. I am afraid however that all the delay may prevent the Process from being got finished before the Court rise the end of this month, but I shall do what I can to push it. With best wishes etc. D BLACK

To JR of K from D Black. 1786 July 5 Perth. Dear Sir, I am favd with yours of the 2nd inst with 3/3 as the balance of the expense of protesting & recording at Edinr your father-in-law's Bill. I could not prevail on the Sheriff Clerk to register your old paper, but I have with difficulty prevailed on the Town Clerk to admit it & to allow one of my sons who writes in the Town Clerk's office at present to write the extract on condition of my taking the charge of seeing it correctly done, which I find as difficult a task as I ever meddled with, as the copy you gave me is not at all exact, so that I have every word that can be read in the original to examine. The extract is begun and about 2 pages wrote, but it will be a work of time, as it takes me more than an hour to go thro a page of it and there will be at least 12 of the extract, so I must take it by degrees as I can get at it. I have to get thro it next week. I am vexed about Mr Macdougals negligence in not sending you an extract of the decret arbitral according to promise. I have not indeed wrote him about it for these 12 months I believe, but I have just now wrote to an Acquaintance to call on him & if he has recorded the decret & taken out an extract for you my Correspondent is desired to get one for you from the Regt & send it to me, so I would fain hope I may depend on this extract also next week, & that any person you please to cause to call the week will get both, and if convenient you may send £1 to pay for the two extracts which will cost that at least & which I have to pay out, but that only if it is quite convenient, as the extracts will be sent as soon as ready anyway. Elspeth Macgregor's Pror has not has not moved in her process at all last session nor this, & probably there may never be more of it if the defr does not insist for a decision & I am not sure if it is in his interest to do so, as it will cost him some more expenses & I suppose he could get nothing from the Pursuer tho he get decret agst her but if you desire it I shall force a decision I am etc D BLACK

To JR of K from Patr Stewart. 1786 14 July Dunkeld, Sir, I had a letter this day from Edinr acquainting me that John Gow had gained his plea agst Messrs Stewart and at the same time wanting money directly over to answer the Expencc. I beg you will send notice to John to send me £3 Stg at least to pay the expense otherways I must prosecute him directly for the whole as I am bound to pay the Expencc - Messrs Stewart are a mind to plea the matter longer and if John or his Cautioner don't remitt me money before Wednesday the 19th I shall write the agent at Edinr to do no more in the matter, in which case Gow & his cautioner will have six times the prinl sum to pay as they must lose their plea directly. The Caut is as deeply concerned as Gow, so I would have him look after it for his own sake. I am etc PATRICK STEWART

To JR of K from Alex Stewart. Milntown 24th May 1791. Dear Sir, Yesterday the different parties appeared for the Shealling, one of them freely offered six pounds & Im convinced would have given more had he not understood he had no chance - Be so good as to estimate to yor brother & Cousin that its necessary for them to set out a ?pundler or Herd immediately otherwise there Shealling will be eaten up by other Cattle, as there is Herds on every shealling in the neighbourhood - if you are any way disposed for the Black park, the sooner the better Yrs etc ALEX STEWART

To JR of K from ?M Stewart. 1800 30 Dec. Perth. Sir, As I am just now about getting ready a great quantity of goods for little Sandy which are to be shipped at Greenock about the middle of next month. He ordered a quantity of silver things from a Silversmith in this place amounting to £21-0-8, which this man would not give away before he would get some security. I therefore told him that I would pay him if his friends would grant this

Bill at 6 months. I therefore send you here enclosed a Bill for the amount which you will give Charles Dow to sign and return it to me per post - at same time you may tell Charles that I expect money to pay the whole before the Bill falls due, your attention to this and excusing the trouble I put you to will oblige Yrs etc ?M STEWART

JR of K from Dun Stewart. Edinburgh 5th Jan 1801. My Dear Cousin, I am favoured with yours of the 5th Ultimo and for the trouble you have taken towards promoting my interest with Auchleeks, accept my best thanks.

I am happy to hear that William is so far settled and doubt not but he will pay that attention to the business which the nature of it and his situation requires \_ i shall certainly correspond with him.

I have not yet seen James Mclarin but I dare say I will if he is in Town. I heard a Summons called lately at the instance of one Cameron against him. I had once a mind to write him of this but found Mr Rob Stewart had taken notice of it. There has been nothing done in the Locality of Blair Atholl this Session. You may be sure I shall be looking after it in your account and inform you when any thing is done. I have nothing else worth communicating at present, so with requesting to hear from you by way of opportunity as you shall do from me and in wishing you all many happy returns of the season I remain, My dear Cousin etc DUN STEWART

JR of K from Alex Stewart. Dalreoch 5th Feb 1801. My Dear Sir, I was sent for hear today by Donald Roy Robertson, who seems distressed & disposed to make a settlement - He therefore authorise me to write you in his name requesting the favour of you if possible to meet me hear tomorrow by 11 oClock for noon when I hope his little matters will be put into a proper train to the satisfaction of parties concerned. I will, God willing, be hear at the time appointed. My warmest respects to Mrs R, Self & family. I am etc ALEX STEWART

JR of K from Alex Stewart. 1801 7 Feb. Milntown. Dear Sir, You may come this day eight days, or send your acceptance including the interest for the sum you wanted. I am informed that Mr McIntyre in your neighbourhood is good at making plows - may I beg the favour of you to see him, and order him to make one for me of good seasoned timber to ansr for two horses, as soon as possible, I will furnish him all the iron required myself so that he will require to come hear for the iron. Please observe to him that the lands hear are very stoney, so that the plow will require to be made stout in proportion otherways it will not stand any time, will be glad to hear how soon he may have the plow ready - Mrs Stewart joins with me in our warmest respects etc ALEX STEWART

JR of K from Robt Cargill. 1801 Dunkeld 4th May. Sir, In answer to your favour of the 2nd, I have not for some time been discounting any Country bills otherways would have most readily put you in cash for the one you mention. I am & ROBT CARGILL,

JR of K from Joseph Stewart. 1801 Foss, May 20th. Dear Sir, I am sorry to inform you that from pressing circumstances that have occurred since I had the pleasure of seeing you, that it is out of my power just now to advance you any money as I very much wished, I have received accounts of the engagement of the 21st in Egypt this morning, from which I have every reason to dread the consequences being fatal to my poor brother. I am in haste your most obt sert. JOSEPH STEWART

JR of K from Robt Stewart. 1801 Fort George 13 Aug. Dear Sir, As I never heard whether your son was promoted or not after he went to London I take this opportunity to acquaint you that there are three ensigncys vacant presently in the Royal Perthshire Militia, in case one of them might suit him, untill better provided for, if so be your will Please lose no time in making application to His Grace the Duke of Atholl. I beg my compliments etc ROBT STEWART

JR of K from son Wm. Edin Dec 23rd 1802. My Dearest father, You would no doubt be surprised at my not writing you when the Fiddler was in town but I did not see him altho I called two or three times at his quarters till the morning that he went away and as he left word at my lodgings that he had something particular to tell me I could not write you and especially as Mr D Stewart did not know anything concerning your plea I therefore send the small trunk by the Perth carrier to be sent to Atholl by the first opportunity.

I saw my cousin last night and he told me that he had called on Mr Stewart but the Clerk being out he could get no information on that subject however he is to read the whole process himself and will write you full length on that subject, he will write when the carrier comes to town again. I received Duncan's letter some days before the carrier arrived here inclosing five pounds which were very acceptable as I was run out of money before that & got some from my companion who had a little to spare at the time. I followed my brother's advice in not buying any books till I will be reinforced again which I hope will be soon as the season is far advanced and I have neither a surgery or Chemistry Book and I should have both from the beginning for our future success depends upon our good attendance as present. I mentioned before I would need both Surgery and Chemical book which will cost about a guinea and some more small books I have not much of the five pounds between what I had to give my companion and the taylor for making and altering some waistcoats. The College Library Janitors dues are at the new year's day and such things as that which take away money unknown to a person and none of them can be avoided if I had the few books above mentioned it would serve me for a long time after that, just my living washing and writing utensils when one guinea will go a far length, you will by this time be saying Willm costs me a great deal of money but I hope you will consider what he has to do with that money before you will condemn him altogether which I am sure you will not do.

Dr Stewart in Perth wrote me twice ? I can ? he write as kind as a brother could do and a great deal more so than a has I expected to see him do, Need I tell you how glad I was when I heard of your taking a larger farm that what you had, it will be a little difficult at first to stock it etc but in a short time you will see the benefits arising from it for poor Gregor will be finally dispatched and I dare say he will have but very few mourners at his farewell, it would be mindless to give you any Edinburgh news as I am to write a letter to Duncan, my compts to Mother and all the family WM ROBERTSON NB Send some of your hair next time you write me Mr Stewart having lost what you gave him of it and wants a little more WR.

JR of K from John Stewart. 1803 Aug 9 Shierglas. My dear Sir, If you are not already informed of it I am happy to acquaint you that your son Duncan is to be adjutant of the Volunteers now to be embodied under Col Butter he will have permanent pay which is better than his present appointment. If you could get the enclosed lists filled up for your own property and that of the Miss Stewarts at Port so as to bring with you to Blair on Thursday it would I think enable the Parish lists to be made up that day, those of the Duke's lands being taken already. If your friend in Miltown of Invervack would fill up upon the back of them for that part of Struan Estate it would be agreeable. I need say nothing as to the nature of the business as you are already sufficiently acquainted with it. everything went on at Moulinearn with great glee and spirit. I wish you had been there. I am etc JOHN STEWART

JR of K from Dun Stewart. 1804 March Edinburgh. My Dear Cousin, I am not certain if I wrote you some receipt of yours with the Bond along with William which of I did not I often intended doing, but was frequently disappointed or rather prevented by the uncertain and often abrupt departure of Robertson the Carrier from your quarter - I now send you enclosed a letter of relief of your ?Customary obligation for me which you will see from the date was meant to have been sent long ago which I hope you will find correct; and here I shall again take the opportunity of acknowledging the obligations of friendship which I thereby experienced from you. I also enclose a copy of the Locality of Blair Atholl rectified in consequence of the decret of approbation lately obtained by you and other heritors; by which you will see that the augmentation laid upon your land is 1 peck 2 lippes of meal, the same quantity of bear and 1s 7.5d crops; and even this small augmentation arises from the circumstance of your land being valued with the lands belonging to the Duke of Atholl, but the expense of even attempting to get quit of this small additional augmentation would be more than the amount of that additional burden for many years to come and the obtaining relief even doubtful and difficult. You will see that some of your neighbours Auchleeks etc are saddled with still less than you which is owing to what I have just mentioned.

The Locality is ?approven of as a ? Locality; but I shall prevent its being ?approven of finally until I hear from you whether or not you are satisfied with it which I beg you will do in course of this vacation.

I had a letter the other day announcing he death of my sister Margaret, she was ailing for some time before but not thought dangerous. My Mother is getting rather ?lully but not at all in her usual way \_ I am happy to hear from time to time from William of you all enjoying good health, he is here just now who says he is to write also by the bearer.



Pray have you ever got any information regarding the heir to the Faskally Succession of what I talked to you; if you could procure me an information without much trouble in course of this vacation I should issue it an obligation if it is not got soon it will be of no avail. Nothing else occurs to me at present therefore with most affectionate and sincere wishes for the welfare of you Mrs Robertson and family I am etc DUN STEWART Please remember me kindly to Mr Duncan when you see him and tell him I should be happy to hear from him giving the Atholl news. (The D of A has given an objection to the Locality but on what grounds I do not know but if it causes any alteration on the scheme, I will let you know.

2a Stamp: Brixham. Hand written: On Service

Addressee Duncan Robertson, Ensign & Adj, 1st B 88th Regt of Foot, at east Bourne, Sussex.

On Board HM Ship Windsor castle, at Torbay, 13 Nov 1804.

My dear Duncan

With infinite pleasure I received yours from Eastbourne, I assure you it gives me a great deal of pleasure to hear of your being so comfortably provided for at last; this world teaches us to have patience and perseverance. I have been embarked on board this Ship upwards of eighteen months, for the first eight months after I embarked the old barky was kicking about Portsmouth & from thence joined this fleet in Feby last & continued with them ever since excepting when in port to refit, here we are now for some little time till the wind comes from eastward & then we shall go off Ushant & cruise there till the wind comes from the westward, very likely that bragging fellow on the other side of the water will keep us going out & in for some time to come. My patience is nearly exhausted for this is neither one thing nor the other, when at Plymouth last (about five weeks ago) I saw Lowdon, surgeon of the late ?PHF now surgeon of the 2nd B 81st Regt, he married about twelve months past at Guernsey a Miss Gunn (connections but no gear). She is a very pleasant little woman, I used to dine and spend the evening at his House very often, they were several times on board this ship at dances, he inquired after you and the rest of the officers from our part of the country, the Regt has gone to Ireland lately. I saw at Plymouth an officer who was in the 41st Regt who told me that Major Campbell formerly the 41st Paymaster has got into a ?hobbel by striking a man that was at work at the Hospital Plymouth, the man prosecuted him & it is supposed that £500 will not clear Major Campbell, he was to have dined aboard this ship but when he heard that a Robertson was on board he made an excuse, the gentleman who asked him what was the reason, which Lowdon knew, he is a major in the Reserve & I saw afterwards his nephew who has got a Company in the 9th Regt, he saw you at Cork & blamed somebody else about your business. I had some time ago a letter from Mr J MacDiarmid who you saw at Mr Lothian's in London he is got into the 85th Regt or Riffle Corps, he was then at Shoreness Barracks where he said he was very comfortably lodged in a Barrack room if he went into the Army sooner it would be ? for him. there is been great promotion in the Marines lately which brings men within a few of the top of the 2nd Bat & the artillery companies added to the Corps is a very great thing for the officers appointed, they have pay and allowances the same as the regular artillery, the marines have two or three advantages in the first place, a Marine officer can always live on his pay & the second place a chance of prize money, but as you observe promotion is slow in peace, in war pretty quick, about fifty of the youngest captains have not been eleven years in the Marines yet an other advantage [tear] have the field officers are more comfortable than the field officers of the line & the twelve eldest captains never embark, by a late regulation, a man asleep will get on as well as a man that has been in the east and West Indies, no inducement for a man of merit excepting a few staff appointments, I will leave off this harangue for I think by this time that you will be heartily tired of it. I am exceedingly sorry for the death of old Sandy ?Bruce, he had a good heart & was a man of the strictest honour, his poor Mother must be very much cast down for his loss, that debt we have all to pay sooner or later. I am etc PATRICK ROBERTSON

1805 28 Feby. DR to JR of K of K. East Bourne Barracks. My Dear Father, I received your enclosed letter of the 22nd inst this morning it gives me great comfort to learn that every thing is prospering so well with you in that country, there is still an obstacle in the way of your complete happiness, namely that infamous scoundrel at Croftdow, you say he deceived you in behaving in the manner he did respecting his money, but in that or indeed in anything that is mean, cowardly or infamous he can never deceive me, I have formed an opinion of him, and nothing will change it, were I to live a thousand years, you can never expect to live in comfort until such time as you get rid of himself and his money, you are astonished that I never wrote Capt Robertson, but if you will only

consider the situation of affairs when I left that Country, you will not be surprised at my not writing to him, especially until I was informed of his giving up his foolish Pursuit, and neither William or you ever mentioned a Syllable about it in any of your letters since I left that Country, except in your last letter, but now that I understand he has wisely given it up I shall certainly write to him. I am exceedingly happy to understand that the Sheep have held out so well this winter, I pray that the prices may answer next season better than they did last year. I am rejoiced to find you are pleased with the progress the Girls made while at Perth, notwithstanding of Mrs Howalls Bill, I am convinced you never spent an equal sum that will afford both yourself and the whole family so much pleasure, at present a person is considered nothing without an education whatever their other qualities may be. I received my Pay in the 35th Regt in London on my way here, it amounted to ? after deducting the fees of my commission, my horse cost me £25, my bed ?chamber £20-5s and my Regimentals upwards of £30 - more, this is exclusive of £7-10 in lieu of mess utensils, [2004. A set of 6 teaspoons exist. London 1805, with DR's monogram on them] and a ?bank 7 pounds for my Adj Commission; in short before I was here a week, I expended one way or other about £90 sterling. I have one comfort however, that the principle articles that I have purchased will answer me as long as I am in the Army, I have received a letter lately from my sister Margaret, and I shall answer it in a few days, it is with much pleasure I have it in my power to inform you that I am getting more and more closely into the good graces of my Brother officers, and particularly the Command Officer Lt Col Duff. Mr D Campbell gives fresh proof daily of the sincerity of his friendship. Col Duff has done me the favour of recommending William to Genl Reid, to be appointed Assist Surgeon to this regiment in lieu of our present Asst Surgeon who is immediately to be appointed Surgeon to the 2nd Battn, there will be a vacancy in this Battn for an Asst, according to a late regulation it is required that all young men entering the Army in the Medical line must be appointed first of all Hospital Mates. These Hospital Mates are paid 6s pr day and are attached to Regts or Brigades wherever the Surgeon Genl looks to place them, once they are appointed Hospl Mates they may in a week after be appointed to regiments of the Line, Col Duff therefore recommended Willm to be apptd Hospital Mate and attached to this Regt, Major Archd Campbell Carie is doing his utmost to get Willm to India, he has written to his Brother the paymaster today stating that he cannot make certain of getting him out this season but that he has procured interest sufficient to get him out next season, at all events should he wish after making a Trial of the Army still to go to India, now as there are two irons in the fire I hope one or other of them soon succeed, I cannot express how much both Major, and Paymaster Campbell, have exerted themselves in this affair of William's, I shall never forget it to them. I hope you will not delay in writing me so long again, you can always have news to give me but I can have but seldom any to give you that you could find at all interesting, there is a report that we are to leave this soon but where or when is not known, it will only be in the neighbourhood at all events, write me an receipt of this and let me know how things come on with you, Yrs etc  
DUN ROBERTSON

To DR, Perth from PR of Trinafour 15 March 1805

My Dear Duncan,

I would have wrote you long ago but waiting for my by Brother Alexr leaving the country & he is now so far on his way to the Isle of White & will take this so far as London, how long he will remain there I cannot say but he has a long journey before him afterwards, it is a new thing for him altogether but will know how to travel soon by experience, I saw your brother William and two of your sisters in the Glen a few days ago, saw Kindrochet at Moulin Market Fair when I was with my ?party as also at two or three other fairs but no success as yet, the young men are very averse to the Marine service, I cannot say how long they will let me remain. I had lately your very entertaining letter, the Athole Volunteers are to attend drill now as often as possible, their worthy commander Col Butter is I am sorry to find still in a very bad state of health. Mrs Butter is in a fair way which I am in hope will be a ?. I am going about every day to see my friends in the country & as happy as the day is long, we had a very pleasant party at the glen lately when your sisters and other young ladies danced & sung everything very agreeably. Horses are very dear this year & in fact everything so, land is beyond conception, your father keeps in very good health & was at Grenich some time ago. I saw the Loyal Clan Donachie Mil manoeuvres at the fair, Genl Robertson is in high spirits, my dear friend you must excuse me at present for a great many people are coming to see ?Sandy, let me hear from you soon, I will write you a long letter soon Yrs etc  
PATR ROBERTSON

Fairlight Camp, near Hastings, 25th July 1805, My Dear Father, I am confident of the anxiety you must feel to hear from me after so long a silence, and most particularly as I have not written since William left home, you have been informed by William himself of the principal proceedings respecting his appointment, I am fully aware of the disappointment you must naturally feel at his not being appointed to the 88th, I am certain no one on earth can be more grieved at that circumstance not taking place than me, I have however one great consolation that all those from whom I expected support on Wm's behalf have behaved as I expected in the most firm and sincere manner, many a man got a Majority with less Interest than William had in the present case although the poor fellow has been thus grievously disappointed, both Genl Reid & Col Duff could not be more anxious or exert themselves more in favour of a Brother than they did in favour of William, and there is not probably one circumstance in a thousand where such interest is made that it does not succeed, the Surgeon General (Dr Keate) is wholly to blame for it, Col Duff spoke personally to Keate some time ago about William and Keate then promised that he should pay every attention to Col Duff's recommendation of him, and that whenever he was appointed to Hospital Mate and passed for Surgeon, he should be appointed to the 88th but instead of performing what he promised, when Wm went to him with a Strong letter from Col Duff (after he had passed all examinations) he told him that he must at present do his duty as Hospital Mate, William was immediately ordered to the Isle of Wight and from thence ordered again to Board a Transport to North America from whence he will return after the recruits are landed, so that nothing can be done now until he returns, I conceive him very fortunate as he is sent abroad at all that he is sent to so healthy a part of the world, he might have been ordered to the West Indies whither hundreds of young men in his line are lately sent on account of the French Fleets that were to attack our possessions there, it was supposed there would be some sharp work and of course need for surgeons. When I heard of Wm going to the Isle of Wight I got Col Duff to remonstrate and I have the satisfaction to say that Genl Reid and him have represented Dr Keates shameful conduct to the Duke of York, and I hope Willm will be appointed on his return to the 88th in spite of Keate, as the Duke of York approved his appointment (having passed) long before William left home. I heard from William three or four days ago on Board the Transport (the Adventure) he then said he would write me again in a day or two if the vessel did not sail, this made me delay writing you but not having heard from him before now I conclude the Ship has sailed. William's pay is better than a Lieut's pay in his present situation being 6s 6d per day. After dwelling so long on disappointment it happens luckily that I have one piece of pleasant intelligence to give you. I appeared in yesterday's Gazette a Lieut in this Regt. it is of great consequence at present as we have a great number of Lieutenancies vacant. I am now the 14th Lieutenant and we should have 24 so that I shall have 10 after me very shortly. We are encamped here near the top of a high hill covered with heather. From the top of the hill we can see the French Coast as plain as you see Shehallen, we see at least fifty miles of the French coast, we hear nothing of Invasion now & indeed we trouble our heads very little about it. all is anxious expectation about Lord Nelson and the Combined fleets at present, nothing else is spoke of. The Duke of York is expected here soon to review the troops. we are at present busily preparing for him. I shall write across the first page a few lines I have no room for here Yrs etc D ROBERTSON. I am exceedingly sorry to hear of Col Butter's death, I much dreaded it before I left the Country, he has left a son I understand which will deprive his foolish brother of the Estate. In your next letter to me inform me how Mrs Robertson Lude is as I have lately heard that she is in a very dangerous state of health, be sure to write one immediately on receipt of this. I never was more anxious to hear from home than at present, give all the news you can. I know every person that you care to speak of and likewise every place which will of course make me interested in every thing you can inform me of, this is different from you with respect etc.

1805 12.10. DR to JR of K. Bexhill Barracks. Good that favourable winter for sheep, they are our future. It grieves me much to hear that General Robertson continues to go on in his former wild plans. I fully expected that Mrs Robertson's death would have induced him to change his conduct, I suspect he will not remain long single to mourn her loss.. I yesterday received a letter from Margaret, she gives me a good deal of Country news, but nothing to what she would give me in one of her long convoys up the Hill from Invervack were I to go that way at present, poor Margaret writes in very good Spirits, She is happy, long may she continue so, honest Soul. I have written to my uncle some time ago, I am sorry to find that they all live in the same footing in the Glen where I left them, I begin to think they they will never be very cordially reconciles their differences have taken too deep a root. I am at this moment thinking how happy I used to be such as this day in Grennich or the Port dancing to

Rob ?Murray/Mungo, this is your New Year's day, how does Rob come on, he will not be a Dhu-boddach today I am certain, you may tell him from me that we have in this Regt many companies of his community stiled Good Fellows by him. Archie Cameron would have no chance of the chieftainship were he among them. dedicated the above paragraph solely to Rob' Dismal war news. 'You are very anxious about Willm but I trust you need not be in that cast so, I was very anxious myself until about a week ago, that I perceived an account in the papers of the safe arrival at Quebec in North America of the Fleet with which he sailed from England, it appears by this account that the whole Fleet had absolutely arrived except one Ship the name of which I think was mentioned but I forget it this moment, One thing however I am certain of is that it was not the Ship in which Willm sailed. I feel therefore quite at ease respecting him for the present but if I do not hear from himself soon, I shall obtain certain accounts of him from the Inspector Genl of Hospitals. I hope however that before you receive this you may hear from him, The moment I receive a letter from him I shall write you. I have not heard from my cousin Donald this long time, I have written to him last so that the blame does not attach to me, I will write him soon again if i do not hear from him. ' Might be escort at Nelson's funeral. DUN ROBERTSON

To DR, Fairlight Camp, Hastings from D Campbell. 7th Aug 1805 Dumfries. Dear Robertson, I just sit down to write you a few lines in order that a correspondence may commence between you and I, as it seems we are both waiting or standing upon stepping stones who will first begin that clearly being the case I now begin, 1st. I had a fortnight's leave to go to Rannoch to see all my friends and concerns in that Quarter who I was happy to find all well but looking older than when I last saw them especially my mother and Strowan, Strowan I think failing much and still living in the Barracks a Batchelor. 2ndly as to Athole, the Gentry there are all dying or what is worse Mad, as no doubt but you will have better accounts of them all I can pretend to give you, as mine is only from hearsay I will say nothing further about them, your father and friends were all well, I was informed by the little factor the day before I left the Country he had seen some of them the day before - His son John has got an Ensigncy in the 25th and came with me to Edinb on his way to join them at Berwick, he is a fine handsome fellow - Sandy Campbell's son has been appointed to the 13th lately, they are getting him ready as well as they can to send him to the Depot there to wait a convoy to Gibraltar, an Ensign Atkinson of ours wishes to get to the 13th, I am in half a mind to get an exchange as I believe he will give nearly £80 to exchange, poor Jas Campbell with this under my can would be pretty well riff'd out, Atkinson has written his friends in Ireland to make the exchange, I will therefore know what further steps to take when he gets his answer, nothing new here but the town quite dull, all the families are at the sea bathing or living in the country, we therefore wish ourselves out of Dumfries, Hogan has left us for Ireland he was nearly married here positively, Capt Tryon we look out for daily, his sweet heart is anxiously looking out for him, White we think at one time will be settled at another something off, the maid he has with child we think is at present a bar in the way, she is a pretty fresh country Girl and it is doubtful with me but she has some more fathers than White altho at present she declares otherwise, you may be sure we have diversion enough with them, I am to be godfather when it comes, has your chamber maid returned fit, I suppose not what a lucky escape you had from her - so much for Regimental News - has anything turned out for your brother as yet , I heard when in the Country that he had left it for London, he did right to come there & get himself papered as an Hospital mate, as it seems the medical Board would not appoint him to a Regiment otherwise, let me know about him when you write me, we are getting men from Ireland weekly about sixty within this month have arrived. Colonel Wallace intends making up a batch for ?Black if possible before he goes, 4 or 5 of the Volunteers are taylors, the Col is therefore waiting to have more of the clothing finished before he sends them off, I expect daily to hear of your being under orders in the expedition under General Baird, General Beresford is one and is now in command of 6 Regiments at Cork, ready to embark when General Baird arrives there with the Troops from England, the expedition for the Cape of Good Hope and afterwards to be met at the Mauritius with troops from India to reduce that island if possible, should you go you'll get some hard knocks with little prize money - how does Macdonald come [tear] paid off his debt to ? I will thank you to let me know particularly about him, his father leads a most miserable life in Rannoch hardly ever sober, I hope you keep him both from wine and gross drinking - Does John Duff still behave himself, he has never once wrote his father since he joined the 88th, I made the poor people happy when I told them Colonel Duffs promise to me, and that he was under your care, let me know likewise about him - ten days ago B Gen Dickson Kilbuckie was sent by Earl Morna to inspect us for what motives we know not, he was pleased to speak very highly of our appearance every way. three days ago Col Wallace was sent for to Edin and is not as yet returned, when he

was going away he told me he could get the Regiment to Glasgow if he choose it, we are all anxious for his return to know whether we are to move or not, in answer to this I expect a long letter with all the news of the 1st Battn and how you like the Bucks we lately sent you, I don't suppose they like the drill & Ballance step much from the idle habit they have here, what is Booth & Urquhart doing, have you got quit of Adair, had we Adair here I think Col Wallace would soon manage him, has Mrs Seton got over her bulk, Macdougall's No 1 & 2 are thriving fast, have you many desertions, send me your strength, S. C. D & Privates, my best respect to all in the ? & believe me truly D CAMPBELL

1805 6 Sept DR to JR of K Beachy head Camp, near East Bourne. My dear Father, I received your last letter some time ago but delayed answering it until His Royal Highness the Duke of York (who was daily expected should review us, he passed our encampment on his way to Hastings on the Monday evening, the regiments in camp turned out to him and he looked at us very narrowly as he passed the line, we were ordered to be on the exercising ground ready to be reviewed next morning at 10 o'clock but all our hopes were disappointed, an Express arrived at Hastings about 10 o'clock at night with the news of the death of the Duke of Gloucester (the King's brother), the Duke of York set off immediately but he is to return in a week. I had a letter a few days ago from William, he was just setting sail for North America. I am happy to understand everything goes so well with you in Atholl, this season I hope your widders will give a good price, we have had very fine weather here of late which makes the crops very abundant, I hope you have had an equally good season. I shall give a short account of the harvest in this part of the country. The oats and barley is not better than you have generally, and indeed the barley is not so good, nor has it all so good a colour, but the wheat is very good and all green crops are excellent, they are the worst farmers I ever saw, tho the whole of the oats is cut with a scythe and they leave it the same as you do. Hay is never bound up, they turn it with a rake once and after leaving it on the ground at least ten days, they collect it together in heaps and instantly carry it to the barnyard and stack it in long stacks exactly the same as you do, when the stack is made it is covered. It all shakes with corn, and sheaves fall like rain. They take a little better care with barley, the wheat is cut the same as with you but the stubble is higher than my knee always and in some places actually half as long as myself, they do not make stooks as you do, they put no head upon them, and they have not the same number of sheaves in them, some have four and some have ten or even fourteen without any head whatsoever, they are generally very bad shearers. one good shearer with you would cut as much as three of them. So much for the English farmers. You will be surprised to see my letter dated from this place, I came here only a few days ago with a Captain and John McDonald Dalchosnie and ? six serjeants, we are sent to acquire a new move in some part of our exercise which is practised by the Regts here, we are to return in 10 days to teach it to our own Regt, the difference is of no great consequence and we must learn it to be all alike, All the regiments of the Line in this part of the Country have yesterday received orders to hold themselves in readiness to embark on Foreign service on shortest notice, this is what I call really news for us concerned, it is thought that we are to send an Army to join the Russians and the Austrians...I hope to get leave beforehand, you have the handle things with unreliable Mclean as your factor and you're 'rather odd to be running about the hills'. You need a partner but folk are so unreliable. I thought of Uncle Dalchalloch or----- McLaren at Frenich'

1805 23 Nov DR to JR of K. Bexhill Barracks, My Dear Father, I received yours of the 14th Inst yesterday, I had almost given up hopes of hearing from you from the delay. I am exceedingly happy to learn that the market went so well with you in that part of the Country this season, your stile of writing convinced me that matters prosper with you and may it long continue so, I pray. I really cannot deny that your reasoning respecting partnership is very just. I will therefore cheerfully give up the idea for the present, my reason for proposing such a thing will appear obvious to you, that it proceeded wholly from the anxiety I must naturally feel for your interest. You surprise me with the account you gave of the Athole Volunteers by stating that the Clandochy is likely to get the better of them, I was prepared to hear of their falling off in consequence of Col Butter's death, but I never expected that they would go to pot so very soon & to that degree too, That the Clandonachies are to dispute their superiority. I am delighted to find my good friend the General is bringing his little Corps into notice, should he succeed in procuring proper arms for them I doubt not but his zeal in bringing them forward will prove to be the best feather in his cap in obtaining his future prospects, how does he come on since Mrs Robertson's death? does he seem much dejected, or is he frequently at home, since I have not heard from him this long time nor have I written to him since Mrs R's death, indeed I did not well know what stile to address him, My cousin

Duncan ought to endeavour to improve himself by reading History and writing in case what might turn up in his favour, but at the same time I would not have him to be too sanguine in his expectations by neglecting what he is employed in at present, nor by giving himself any foolish airs on account of what he may conceive to be his future prospects, he ought to be extremely careful how he conducts himself towards the Corps in which he is, as the most trifling circumstance bordering on being assuming would very likely come to the ears of him who intends to do for him and thereby be the means of frustrating his designs. You did not inform me who is to succeed Mr McLaggan in the Parish of Blair, I observed a man of the name of Stewart mentioned in the papers some time since, let me know in your next who he is, Auchliks will be quite high now that he is Major, I suppose Shierglas is another, there will soon be nothing but majors and captains in that whole Country, I intend to write my Uncle upon his promotion to wish him joy, I will address him Captain Stewart, with regard to the information you wished for about William, it is impossible positively to say he will return immediately after the recruits land in America but it is most likely he will, I heard from him on the passage a week after he sailed, he was very well and expressed a hope he would return as soon as the men in his charge were landed, he promised at the same time to write whenever he should land in America, both to you and me, a promise I am certain he will not forget. I ought not to omit to inform you that I am allowed two shillings a day for the keep of a Horse while in the Athole Volunteers, I had a letter concerning it some days ago from John Stewart Pitlochry their PayMr the whole sum amounts to £43 sterling, £24 of which is paid to Mr Malcolm Stewart for my Regimentals, and I received when with the Volunteers on duty at Perth £2-15 more of it, so that the balance due is reduced to £16, this is money which I did not look for nor did I expect that I should be allowed a farthing of it, it was really a good bonus at the time that it came on account of the following circumstances, I was endeavouring ever since I joined by every means in my power to save as much as would be sufficient to pay Malcolm Stewart, and just when I concluded that I had it in my power, and accident happened me which made it utterly impossible to send him a shilling. I was ordered to Beachy Head Camp on duty (not the first time, when I wrote you) and that very night the stable in which my horse was took fire and burned so rapidly that my horse and another was burnt to death, together with the saddle, bridle and all my other strappings. This was a loss of about £40 to me, you may be sure it put Malcolm Stewart's bill out of my head, it was about a fortnight after I met with this loss that I heard of my being allowed the 2s a day for the keep of a horse in the Atholls, this news came very seasonably, I ordered John Stewart to pay the £16 to a Capt Thomson of the 88th who was then at Perth and that he would bring it to me to enable me to purchase another horse. Capt Thomson has not yet joined but I suppose he has it for me as I direct, as I was on duty at the time I left my horse, I applied to government for an indemnification, I did not receive any answer until this morning when I heard by a letter from the Secretary of War that an account of the peculiar circumstances of my loss I was to be allowed 30 guineas, this was a glorious piece of news for me, when I did not expect a single farthing on account of any loss, I made the application, this will make me comfortable again, with the £16 Capt Thomson has it is more than what I lost. I did not like to mention the loss of the horse in my last letter to you, and indeed I would not have mentioned anything about it now were it not that I am allowed for him, it would be ridiculous to make you anxious and uneasy about a thing which could not be helped, had I not met with this loss I would have ordered John Stewart to pay you the Balance, Let me know in your next when Peter Trinafour is at home, I shall expect to hear from you again and give me all the news. Yrs  
DUN ROBERTSON

1806 17th Feby. Bexhill Barracks, Sussex. My Dear father, I received yours a few days ago by which I am happy to learn that every thing goes on well in Athole, the Country I am most anxious about. I have been equally anxious with you about William, I wrote to the Inspector general of Hospitals (Mr Knight) some time ago requesting him to give me every information in his power about him and I will subjoin a copy of his answer for your satisfaction. You will perceive by Mr Knight's letter that William arrived at Halifax Nova Scotia on the 27th October and that he is attached to the 98th Regt, this is one of the Corps that sailed with him from England. I wrote my sister Margaret some time since and confirmed her of the above circumstance which I trust she communicated to you as I wrote her with that in view, altho it would have been more satisfactory to have heard from William personally yet Mr Knight's information is in my opinion of the utmost consequence since it is certain he landed safely. William might have written and his letter miscarry from Ship being taken by the enemy, and lost at sea, my mind is completely at ease at present from the information given by Mr Knight. I should not be at all surprised if you receive a letter from Wm himself before this reach you. I though I mentioned long ago having received the 6 shirts sent me by Willm and I assure you they were very acceptable at the time they arrived. All

idea of our going to the Continent has vanished, our Troops that went are nearly all returned already. how long we may remain in the Kingdom now is quite uncertain it may be some years for all that we know. The Death of Mr Pitt, your old favourite, and consequent change of Ministry will it is supposed occasion may changes in our present Military system, the Line will be considerably augmented it is thought, and the present Voluntary system will undergo some great changes, a short time must throw some light upon it, there is much said likewise about an increase in pay of Officers, this of all others the most welcome piece of news with us, let who will be Minister I hope we shall get an increase in pay, for it is much wanted, with subaltern officers in particular, the change of Ministry will I am certain be of great advantage to Genl Robertson Lude, Lord Moira who is now high in office is a great friend of his, the Clandonachies will no doubt get arms etc. I have written to Col Robertson Strowan lately, I hope you go some times to see him, if he was to give you the east half of Auchanree it would be of the utmost consequence to you at wintering, it would really a snug and safe farm of it and you will not in my opinion be right without it, I had a letter ten days ago from Major David Stewart Gairth, from Gibraltar it was written fifteen days after his arrival there, the 42nd & 78th landed at Gibraltar all safe about the 16th Nov last he desires to be remembered to you, my Mother and Miss J Stewart Bohally, Major D and me made a mutual promise at parting the last time I saw him to keep up a regular correspondence and he does not seem to have forgot it, nor will I either, I intend to write him in a few days, he wishes Miss J Stewart to draw Charles Stewart late from ?Bruckbane's prize money as it is now due.

Copy of Mr Knight's letter to me: Mr Knight presents his compliments to Mr Robertson and begs to inform him that in the return of the medical staff in Nova Scotia dated 1st Nov 1805 the name of Wm Robertson appears as attached to the 98th Regt and he is stated to have arrived at Halifax on the 27th Oct. Army Medical Board Office Jan 23rd 1806

I intend to write to Genl Robertson Lude in a few days. Yrs etc DUN ROBERTSON

From Capt Duncan Robertson to James Robertson of Kindrochet.

Bexhill Barracks. 10th March 1806. My Dear Father, It is with unspeakable pleasure I inform you that I received a letter from William yesterday dated at Sidney in the Island of Cape Breton 21st November 1805. He says he wrote to you some days prior to writing to me but in case your letter may have miscarried, I shall mention to you some extraordinary circumstances contained in his letter to me. It appears that he removed during the voyage from the Adventure transport to the two Friends in which ship he was wrecked on the coast of Cape Breton on the 22nd of Oct, his escape was wonderful, it was affected by a rope tied to a stone on shore, an officer of the 41st Reg and a soldier that attempted to save themselves by the same conveyance were drowned, the rest of the people on board were saved except two, but the ship with their Baggage was untimely lost, poor Willm has not a stitch of Clothes but what were on his back, but the people on the Island behaved very friendly to them. William will be allowed £60 by the Government for the loss of his Baggage, this allowance is invariably granted in such cases, he continued in Cape Breton to 21st Nov (the date of his letter to me) but expected to be removed to Cannada, this appears extraordinary enough after what Mr Knight stated in his note to me but it is probable that the head of the Medical Department in North America might have appointed Wm to the 98th Reg without his knowledge and accordingly returned him on the strength of that Corps before he joined it, however be that as it may I am satisfied he is safe somewhere in North America, he states in his letter to me that he wishes to be put upon the staff in Cannada in hopes of remaining there for some time, I am very happy to find that he likes the country so well, but I will endeavour by every possible means to get him appointed to this or some other Regiment at home as I do not admire North America as a station good for Promotion. I am at present greatly at a loss how to direct a letter to him, I shall however write him in a few days and direct it to Quebec, from which place it will be most likely forwarded to him should he not be there himself, I shall ere long I trust hear from him again when he will be able to ascertain with certainty where he is to be stationed, should you have heard from him later than me, let me know his address. I have not heard from my cousin Donald this long time, I wish you would let me know where he is at present, it surprises me much that I have not heard from him, inform me in your next where Charles and John McDiarmid are, Major David Stewart told me that they were getting into the Army, the one to the 43rd and the other to the 52nd regiments. I believe this (Monday) is our great Rent day in Atholl, many a poor man will be scratching his head today at Blair, we have had very fine weather here of late until this morning but this is as bad a day as we have had during the whole winter, it is drifting and snowing at this moment as if it were Christmas. I perceive by the newspapers that you are to have a contested election for

Member of Parliament in Perthshire. Genl Campbell Monzie is to oppose Colonel Graham Balgoun. I have nothing new to mention that happened here since I wrote last, write to me on receipt of this and give me all the news you can, Has Foss taken possession of his late Father-in-law's property yet? With best love etc DUN ROBERTSON

1806 10 July DR to JR of K Bexhill Barracks, My dear Father, Just when I was sitting down to communicate to you an unexpected piece of intelligence, I received yours of the 30th Ult, the intelligence I mean is that this Regiment received Orders yesterday from the Commander-in-Chief to prepare to embark for Foreign Service immediately and ordering all Officers absent to rejoin forthwith. This order was quite unexpected we imagined that we should continue in our present quarters for this season, I understand that 3 Battalions (a Brigade of Guards and nine battalions of this line are to accompany us, it is pretty certain that we are going to the Mediterranean, that is either to Malta or Sicily, but most likely the latter place, Sicily is the finest climate in the world and the cheapest place, indeed every part of the Mediterranean is a fine Climate, we are all as happy as it is possible to make us at the Idea of getting to so fair a Country and the best of it is that Troops are never kept too long there, like the West Indies, in short we are happy to be sent any where to escape going to the West Indies. We expect an order to march in a week or ten days to whatever place we embark at, I am delighted at going. I shall meet where I go the 42nd, 35th & 78th Regts there. how happy I shall be to see Major David Stewart, Major GD Robertson, Capt Dick, Dr Dicks' son, all of whom are there, and also Sandy Robertson Trinafour, & Wm Dick, Capt Dick's son of Tullimet, these are there of your own acquaintance, and there are many more whom I know. I am aware that neither my mother or yourself will relish this piece of news at first but I am certain the more you consider it, the better you will be reconciled to it, in the first plan it insures my not going to the West Indies, and in the next plan it is certain that the Regt will not be kept very long there and that while we go remain there you can keep up nearly as regular a correspondence with me as if I were in the Country, and last though not least, I shall be with a large proportion of the British Army, and amongst many friends and acquaintances, besides I have now been these eleven years in the Army, in some shape or another, and I wish to go somewhere from the fireside, this Regt ought to be proud of going, as we are chosen from among eleven regiments of the line in this neighbourhood, as the best and fittest for service, whenever I hear our destination for certain, I shall let you know it, I am happy to hear that my cousin John Findinate is provided for, I had him always in my recollection should anything favourable offer, he is really a fine lad and am certain will do well wherever he is, I am very glad to hear that my uncle's family and Auchleeks are uniting again, I never despaired of it, I wrote my Uncle a few days ago, I am sorry the crop looks so bad with you this year, if you get rain even now, you may have a good crop, you have got a famous price for your wool this year, I hope you may get an equally good price for your wedders and ewes, I am at this moment given to understand that the 14th, 36th, 45th, 52nd, & 62nd Regts are under similar order with us, it clearly appears by the Regts going that they are picked as the best, all the Regts named are very fine Corps, write me on receipt of this and direct to me here as usual, I shall write you very soon again but do not wait for that but write me Immediately I remain etc DUN ROBERTSON

Head Quarters before Buenos Ayres  
G Orders 4th July 1807

Sir S. Auchmuty will detach the 38th Regt to possess itself of the Place de Touros and the adjacent Strong Ground and there post itself, The 87th 5th 36th & 88th Regiments to be divided into Wings and each wing is to penetrate into the Street directly in its front in a Column of Sections right in front, The Light Battn to penetrate by Wings into the Street on the right of that up leading up from Mr Whites House and the next to it followed by the 95th, The left Division of the 95th is to receive its orders from Col Pack the Right from Brgdr Gen Crawford two three Pounders to follow these Columns one each.

The 45th to advance in Wings left in front up the two next Streets beyond the light Battn, the Carbineers to move up and cover two 6 pounders which will be advanced up the Street from Mr Whites house and remain with them the 9th Dragoons to move to their left and take up the present ground of the Light Bttm where they will receive further orders.

Each Officer Commanding Divisions of the Left Wing that is from the 88th and the 87th to take care that he does not incline to his right, or the Right of the right Wing (that is the Light Brigade and 45th Regt) to the Left



The Cannonade in the Centre to be the Signal for the whole Rush forward & each Division to go if possible right down the Street before them till they arrive at the last square of Houses next to the River Plata of which they are to possess themselves and on the Top of which they are to form

If they find that they suffer materially by any interior defence \* defence they are to lodge themselves as for in advance as they can, two Comps with Tools to be attached to the head of each Column, the whole to be unloaded and no firing to be permitted on any account - when the business is over the utmost exertion is to be used to keep the Men collected and formed

the Regiments may leave their Packs in their present Cantonments with a Subalterns Guard if they wish it, the Cannonade to commence at 6 oClock

Monte Video Rio de la Plata  
27th July 1807 -

My Dear Father

I wrote you about four or five days ago by the Pheasant Sloop of War which sailed with duplicates of the dispatches sent to England immediately after the operations against Buenos Ayres had terminated but my letter was written in so great a hurry that I am doubtful whether you will be able to make any sense of it particularly the last part of it, as a Vessel is to sail for England this evening I will give you a few more particulars of what passed lately in this Country of which you will hear enough I suspect from the daily newspapers, I will commence on the evening of the 2nd of July and give you an account of what I think worth mentioning that occurred since,

On the 2nd about 3 oClock in the evening the advanced army under Command of Major General Gower consisting of 95th or Rifles Corps 9 Companies of Light Infantry called the Light Battalion under the Command of Brigadier Genl Crawford, & 36th & 88th Regiments under Brigadier Genl Lumly, in all about Two Thousand Four Hundred men, crossed the River Chuelo about 8 miles from the Town of Buenos Ayres at a ford which took the men up to the middle of their bodies, it was with much difficulty they could keep their ammunition dry the Pouches were put on the top of their knapsacks, it was expected that the Enemy \* would offer some resistance at this Ford as we perceived some bodies of Cavalry hovering round us during our march to the Ford if they did not however show any disposition to oppose us, we have been since given to understand that they expected us to attempt passing the River much nearer Buenos Ayres when Genl Beresford passed it when he took the place last year and where a wooden Bridge had been constructed, here the Enemy had a Force of about 6,000 men with a great number of Cannon ready to oppose us, as he conceived from our position the preceding night that we would endeavour to force the Bridge, the Spainards finding we had crossed the River at the Ford, and that if they remained any longer at the Bridge we should get between them and the Town and cut off their Retreat, they separated into two Bodies one of which took post on a height about two miles from Town and over we had to pass to get to it, the other Body circuitous Route and gained the outskirts Town next morning only, those on the heights were Commanded by General Liniers in person who Commanded in Chief the whole of the Enemy's force, it was a very woody and close Country we passed after crossing the River untill we reached the heights where the Enemy was posted and notwithstanding the men being wet and much Fatigued we advanced at nearly a Running pace untill about è an hour before dark when our skirmishers in front perceived the Enemy, the Light Battalion & Rifle Corps were ordered to charge instantly which they did in the most gallant stile that can be imagined, the Enemy's Cannon firing Grape & Cannaster at them as they advanced 12 pieces of ordnance, but so rapid was the advance that they had time to fire but a few discharges from each gun when our lads were close upon them, the Enemy did not stand the charge one minute but ran leaving their Guns & ammunition behind them thinking of nothing but how they could save their lives they were pursued in every direction and \* nearly 300 of them killed & taken prisoners, so quick was their Route that the 36 & us altho we ran from the moment the firing commenced, could only overtake the Stragglers that sculked behind the hedges and annoyed us by their fire as we advanced the light Company of our Rgt was the first that charged the Enemy on account of being in the Centre of the Light Battn, the 36th & us advanced to within a very short distance of the end of the Streets of Buenos Ayres it was in consequence of seeing the Lamps close to us that we first halted and formed in full expectation of being attacked, after remaining in this situation for some time we were ordered to take post on the height the Enemy had occupied, we retired accordingly and drew up on the heights on the left of the Light

Battn, this height was a place where most of the Cattle for the Market of Buenos Ayres are slaughtered and consequently very dirty a great number of Bullocks heads and other offal are left laying about it, here was our position for the night the most disagreeable indeed I ever passed the men were only permitted to sit in their places in the Ranks with their Arms in their hands during the whole night as we expected the Enemy to attack us from the Town before the rest of the Army came up, to add to our troubles it rained with thunder & lightning the most part of the night, We had nothing to eat or Drink for nearly 48 hours you may therefore conceive what a dreadful situation we were in, the thrashing we gave the Spainards in the eveng however cheered us all, there was not a murmur heard throughout line, at daylight on the 3rd the 4 Companies of our rifle men (for we had only four with the advance left the other 4 with the main Body) were advanced into a scattered wood of orange Trees & right over the Town here some of the Enemy's sharp shooters met them and skirmishing commenced, the Rifle men were supported by some light Companies and one Company of our Rgt with two 6 pounders the firing was kept up very brisk on both sides untill about 12 oClock when Genl Gower our Commander gave orders to those engaged in front to endeavour if possible to decoy the Enemy out of the Town by faining a Retreat this was immediately done, and the Light Battn 36th & us were drawn up behind hedges out of sight untill the Enemy should advance upon an open ground which lay in front when we ordered to advance by a Signal and charge them without firing a Shot all was now prepared to receive the Enemy, but the Spainards knew better than to come to meet us in an open Field after what they met with the night before nothing could induce them to come out of the Town in any force, tho every art was \* practised, their sharp Shooters however annoyed our piquets eternally by a distant fire, then sharp shooters were all mounted and when they are to fire they dismount and stand with the Horse between them and their object and next a long black musquet, which they carry slung over their shoulder, on the Horse's back and when they fire they instantly mount and away a great number of themselves and their horses were killed by our Rifle men, when we perceived that it was impossible to get them out of the Town the Rifle men &c assumed their former position and [drew] the few of the Enemy that came out back again at this moment the Brigade under Sir Saml Auchmuty arrived to our great joy, it consisted of the 5th - 38th - 45th - & 87th Regts we all now prayed for the Enemy's coming out, the rest of the Army under Genl Whitelock the Commander in Chief remained at the Village of Reduction on the other side of the River Chuelo, the army now about 4 oClock in the evening took a position about è a mile in front of where we were the night before and all except the Piquets got under cover of some sort for the first time since the landing on the 28th of June provisions were still wanting the men received only one pound of Biscuits each for three days, and no liquor for five days they wear not withstanding in high spirits at the idea of getting the business over soon, our Regt was in a Monastery during this night on the mornng of the 4th we were all under arms at day light and soon after an order was received to Attack the Town at 12 oClock we were waiting with impatience for the hour of attack when another order came for the 88th to relieve the Rifle men in front who had been engaged with the Enemys sharp shooters all the mornng and had lost a number of men killed & wounded, the Grenadiers & 5 Battn Companies, (3 Battalion Companies being left as a Guard over Genl Gower) advanced immediately and took post where the 95th were we had 2 6 pounders with us and some artillery men, we extended for about a Mile along the front of the Army covering ourselves with Houses by hedges and any thing that presented itself to shelter us from the fire of the sharpshooters, the Enemy's bullets were flying very thick throughout our whole line from the moment we arrived, one Company in particular that was in an exposed situation, was so warmly engaged that they fired 60 Rounds a man in about an hour, the were reinforced twice to keep the Enemy in check in which they succeeded, but with loss, the one Company lost 12 Men in the first half hour they however killed 3 times that number of the Enemy, the Regt was Engaged in this \* skirmishing business the whole day and a most disagreeable service it was for every person that quitted even for a moment (and some of us were frequently obliged to do it) was fired at from every side, 36th was in reserve in our rear and relieved each Company as their ammunition was expended we were not finally relieved untill 9 oClock at night, when the 9th Lt Dragoons dismounted came up and allowed us & 36th to retire to the Posts we had occupied the night before when night came on them there was scarcely any firing heard as the Enemy had retired into the Town for an hour before the 9th arrived there was not a Shot fired

On our arrival at the Monastery after returning from skirmishing we received orders to be in readiness to March against the Town next mornng at day light, now the wished for moment was fast approaching to end the business one way or other and in our minds we entertained no doubt whatever as to the result of the Attack, wine was procured for the men during the day what was found and searching Enemy's houses we had no provisions whatever, [&] one hour before day light on the morning of the 5th of July we got under Arms the men

ordered to leave their Knapsacks & Great Coats behind and any thing that might encumber them and a Guard of the most weakly men were left to protect them every thing was now prepared to commence the work of Death, soon after daylight appeared Genl Lumly came up and gave the final order for the assault the substance of which were that the 88th was to advance in two Columns along two roads in front which led directly into the middle of the Town where the greatest opposition was expected, we had but 8 Companies 4 for each Column and them weak in consequence of leaving nearly 100 Men at the Village of Reduction to guard it untill the rear of the Army came up as well as the men we lost Killed and wounded the day before and the Guard over the Knapsacks we had but \* but 454 Men with Firelocks in the field this morning (5th) and when divided there were but 226 in each Column or Wing not including no Officers Serjeants or Drummers when the Wings were [lotted] off General Lumly proceeded with his orders that the right Column under Colonel Duff (to what I belonged was to advance immediately to a cross road a Short distance in front and there wait untill the Cannonade in the Centre commenced and that he should [position] other Column's to the right and left advancing past the cross road, that when we entered the Town if we should meet with Serious opposition such as would render it inadvisable to advance past this we were to take possession of a Church which lay on the right as we should go along the Street (if we could get so far) and annoy the Enemy from the Top of it, that if it was possible we were to proceed to the Side of the River Plata direct (that is from one end of the Town to the other), That we were to break open houses when we should find it impossible to advance farther, and endeavour to annoy the Enemy from the tops, he then finished by ordering in the most positive manner that no man was to load going into the Town as every thing was to be done by the Bayonet the whole Army received the same order, which proved the most unfortunate that ever was given, I awaited our part of the order which was "that if Colonel Duff thought it advisable from meeting with unfortunate obstacles he might incline to his left, but not to his right on any acct" such were the orders which we received the left Column of the Wing under Major Vandeleur received exactly the same order except what related to the Church we were not provided with instruments of any sort to break open the doors of the Houses one Pickax was the only thing given to the Regt altho an order was issued the day before the Assault to deliver of the Engineer Stores Hatchets and other Tools that were required to break into houses, but from mismanagement they could not be got as the men advanced \* to the cross road as ordered where we did not remain long before the Cannonade in the Centre commenced we advanced immediately to the Assault or Storm in the highest spirits thinking to be Master of the Town in a few hours, although some of us did not much like the mode of Attack without Cannon our Musquets Loaded yet the men did not know and we were of opinion that our Generals had the best of information before they would think of Attacking so large Town with a Strong Citadel without firing a Shot the issue proves how foolish the mode Attack was planned [?] On entering the Town every thing was quiet not a soul to be seen we penetrated into the very heart of it before a single Shot was fired the first noise we heard was a heavy firing of the Musquetry on our left wing in the next Street immediately after a heavy firing of Cannon began on the left, the instant the firing commenced our poor fellows of the left wing against whom it was directed by giving Three cheers in a very few minutes after this a most tremendously fire of Musquetry opened upon us from [blank: hole from seal] from the Tops & Windows of houses are our brave men answered [blank: hole from seal] same stile as the left wing and without returning a shot co[hole from seal] to advance until we came opposite to the Church that we were ordered to possess of which was not far off when the fire opened we entered the outer Gates of it instantly under a dreadful fire but from want of proper Tools to break open the inner doors we could not get into the body of it to the Top we then sallied out again leaving about 30 Men Killed & many wounded in the Gate way we proceeded along the Street under a continued fire from the houses for some time until we were within 100 yards of the great square in front of the Citadel here we were brought to a stand in spite of our [teeth] for every one that advanced was killed or wounded we turned off immediately to the left by a cross Street and broken into two houses with the assistance Butt end of the Mens Firelocks we took possession of three houses and occupied the Tops of them by as many men as we could spare from the doors and Windows here we maintained ourselves for 3 hours in spite of what the Enemy could bring against us, we commenced firing a little before we broke into the houses, I was wounded slightly in the Calf of the right leg by a Musquet Ball while in the Church Gate Way I kept up with the men as if nothing happened until we got into the houses on perceiving it was slight \* I was quite happy when it struck me I thought it went through my leg but it only took a bit out of the inside of the leg it was a good deal bruised around the wound, which caused me to walk lame for about a Week but I am now as well as ever nearly ä I left off when we entered the houses, we were pretty of here for about half an hour untill the Spainards had time to collect on the Tops of houses that Commanded us that is higher houses near us for the last two hours and a half we

remained we had very hard fighting indeed of the kind latterly not a man could peep over the Top of the houses without being fired at by a number not our as two for the last quarter of an hour the men tumbled down as fast as they went up to replace other at last we were completely surrounded and by such numbers that we began for the first time to think that matters were going on ill in other parts of the Town otherwise the Enemy could not spare so many men to attack in short after a short consultation amongst the officers we determined to surrender to save the lives of the few brave fellows who were yet able to stand by as by this time we lost one half of the whole number brought into action and had no hopes of any assistance, this was a dreadful moment some proposed to attempt to sally out and cut our way through one instant's thought banished all hope of success from such an attempt, it was with much difficulty the Spanish officers could prevent their men (who appeared a perfect rabble) from insulting us, the officers were carried to the Spanish Commander in chiefs rooms in the Citadel and treated very respectfully, there were taken much about the same time the whole Light Battn the whole Rifle Corps and the whole of our Rgt in action with the Grenadiers of the 45th Rgt there were 104 Officers taken all of whom were put into two large Rooms ä (turn to 1st page of this Sheet \* [the] best in the Citadel where we all remained during our imprisonment we had nothing to lay down upon but the Brick Floor, for they have no timber Floors in the Country, the Spainards were in such a bustle themselves that they could not attend much to our eating and we therefore fared but very scantily during the whole time, as I have now brought the Light Battalion Rifle Corps & our own Rgt snug into the Prison, I will turn back to the next the Troops engaged, the Brigade under Sir Samuel Auchmuty consisting of the 5th, 38th & 87th Regiments attacked a Strong Post on the west Side of the Town called the Placa del Toro, where the Enemy had about one Thousand five hundred Men and 26 Pieces of Cannon the 3 Regiments attacked it nearly at the same time but by different roads, the 5th had nothing to do in the taking of the place, the 38th & 87th however happily succeeded without further assistance the 38 had no street or any obstacle to pass before it appeared in front of the place they were to attack the 87th on the contrary had to pass through the end of a Street that is a considerable part of a Street where they were exposed to Cannon that proved very distracting to them, the 3 leading Sections of their Grenadiers nearly 50 men were swept away in an instant by Grape & Canaster Shot the 38th being fresh kept up so close a fire upon the Enemy Artillery that they obliged them to run away from their guns into a large round building that was [crowded] with musquetry, here [they] attempted to make a stand but one of their own Cannon was turned upon them which made them surrender immediately 38 & 87th then possession of 26 Cannon that the Enemy ran away from, this place which Commanded the whole of the Town was now completely in our possession and with the Enemy's own Guns that were just taken the Town might hi taken in a few hours were it not for the bungling manner in which our Genls attacked it I mean only General Whitelock & Genl Gower who were the seniors & had all the direction as to the rest of the Genls they did their duty Sir Saml Auchmuty did not know what to do when he took possession of the Guns as he was aware that our Troops were in the heart of the Town and therefore that if he began to bombard it he would destroy as many of our own men as of the Enemy, here was a pretty situation for a brave man to be placed in Sir Saml's Brigade had orders not to fire the same as we had, which had they obeyed it would have caused their destruction instead of routing the Enemy there were 800 prisoners \* taken in the round building of the Spainards by the 38th & 87th this was the only situation where any of our Army had any chance of Succeeding and they did Succeed, 45th Rgt came in at the East end of the Town and took post in a large building at the very extremity of the Town which happened to be a strong place and they therefore kept possession of it in defiance of the Enemy for 3 days there were Engaged (in all) of our Army in the attack upon the Town about 4,500 Men a Brigade under Colonel Mahon was at the time of Village of Reduction this Brigade that was absent consisted of the 9th Lt Dn 17th Lt Dn & 40th Regt with many small detachments from the Regts engaged, Genl Whitelock and Genl Gower did not come within three miles of the Town on the day of the Assault there are pretty Generals to Command an army, and I will venture to say one of the finest that ever was sent from any Country for their numbers, but what can men do when Commanded by headstrong Blockheads,

Lt Colonel Pack of the 77th Regt who had been present and made his escape with Genl Beresford and who from the length of time he had been at Buenos Ayres must know the Town well, was along with us and commanded the Lt Battalion under Genl Crawford, Col Pack being an intelligent officer one would think that the Commander in Chief would consult him and be guided by his advice as to the best mode of attack but the Genl thought it beneath him to consult or take the advice of Col Pack, he adopted a plan of his own or Genl Gower's I know not which (for they are equally bad) which no Genl in the World I believe would have done, had he thirty thousand Men the best Troops in the universe and to attack the place in the same manner with them they could

not have succeeded, how was it possible that men without a Shot in their Musquets without Cannon and divided into such small bodies as we were could succeed no we were sent to be sacrificed to no purpose, there was not a man to be seen on the Streets what was the use of our Bayonets therefore there was nothing to charge but Brick Walls of the number the 88th brought into action we lost 109 Killed & 3 Officers and 15 Officers & 111 Wounded making in all 238 which is about the one half the 87th Regt suffered severely likewise but nothing to what we did they had about 650 men engaged of which they lost 50 Officers & 67 Killed & 13 & 108 Wounded in all 193 the 88th lost as many as many as the rest of the Army put together leaving out the 87th ä had Genl Whitelock attacked the Town as any other man would have done which was to bombard it for a few hours with heavy Guns it would have surrendered without losing one tenth of the men we lost, I hope there will be a strict inquiry into the Genls conduct indeed the whole of this Army cry out for it and if there is I shall be exceedingly surprised indeed if his head dont answer for it - we are now to evacuate the whole of that fine Country, and it certainly is the finest in the World, the pasture here is so very rich their Cattle altho they are innumerable cannot eat half of the Grass you may judge of what the Country is when I tell you that a fine fat ox sells for a Dollar that would cost 20 pound with you Beef is but about one farthing a pound here the Cattle & Horses go in Great Flocks like Sheep with you the kill Cattle for hides only and leave the Carcase where they kill the animal the Flocks are so numerous that the appear to cover the whole surface of the ground when at a small distance from them the Country is very low indeed almost flat as far as we can see, natural clover grows as luxuriant as it is with you in the richest ground the first year after you sow it, the inhabitants are a savage set in general particularly in the Country, they are mixed race of all colours the real Spainards are white the Indians brown and the others Black they are of a Low Stature but Strong and active made the men are excellent Riders and so they ought for they are always on horseback I sent this letter by Colonel Duff who goes off in a small ship of War this eveng, the 88th and 95th Regts are to sail in a few days for England with four Troops of the 20th Lt Dragoon, the remainder of the Troop remain here untill the place is finally [illegible word] up[hole from broken seal] will be in about Six weeks 3 Rgts the 47th 87 & 89th (which is just arrived) are to sail for the C[hole for seal] d Hope & India immediately all the rest go when the place is given up I expect [broken seal] in England by the middle Novr next I ever am [seal break] Dear Father your Affectionate Son D Robertson

\*

[On face of envelope:]

Mont Video 27 July 1807 [endways, in another hand]

From South America  
by H M Brig Post Lieut Joseph Arott

James Robertson Esq  
Kindrochit  
Atholl by Dunkeld  
North Britain

[written large over address:]

2/3 2/5 1/3

[postmark in black:]

PORTSMOUTH  
SHIP L R F

[circular red postmark:]

[illegible]

[On flap:]

2/6 paid at Blair

[postmark, round circle in red:]

S  
Oct 18  
1807

1807 4 Dec Ashford Barracks DR to JR of K. My Dear Father, I have really lost all patience at not hearing from you. I feel the greatest anxiety in consequence, It is only natural I should when I see all my brother officers daily receiving letters from their friends, while I have not heard a syllable for the last sixteen months, I trust in providence that when I do hear from home it will end my anxiety by bringing good news, at present I am inclined to dread it, if yourself, my mother and all my sisters and brothers are alive and in health it is what I principally wish to hear, all other matters are but a secondary consideration. Since my writing from Portsmouth on the 6th Nov the Regiment has been moved about a good deal, we first marched to a place called Styning about 46 miles from Portsmouth where we only remained one day when we were ordered to Battle Barracks within 6 miles of old Bexhill, we remained at Battle only a week when we received a route to march to this place which is about 36 miles from Battle and in the County of Kent, this appears to be a good quarter, the barracks are extensive, there are two other regiments here with us viz the 2nd battn of the 50th Regt and the Surrey militia we arrived here 5 days ago, I forget whether I mentioned in my former letters that I had received a letter from William which is dated 28th Aug last, he was then very well and had a daughter, he mentions that he received all my letters to him, from St Jago, Cape of Good Hope etc, this I was very happy to learn as you must have received all my letters likewise, as they were always put in the same bag as Williams. It is with the deepest regret that I acquaint you a Hospital Ship in which there were 2 Sergt & 24 Privates of this Regiment (all of them wounded men) has it is feared been totally lost, the Ship was very old and made much water before the Gale in which the Fleet separated, from which it is supposed she must have sunk during the gale as nothing has been heard of her since, and every other Ship of the Fleet has arrived 3 weeks ago. When the 88th landed in South America in June we were 808 Privates and now when all our disabled men are discharged we will not be above 500 strong, making a reduction of 300 men in a few months, indeed I may say in a few days, for the most of them were killed or rendered unfit for service in the four days in which we were engaged at and near Buenos Ayres, I trust however that the author of all our misfortunes (I mean the two generals that commanded) will meet with what they so justly deserve, I understand a Court Martial is already warned to try them the moment the one who is on his way home arrives. I am afraid you have had a severe winter hitherto, but we have had very fine weather here which I hope you have likewise. John McDonald (Dalchosnie) desires to be remembered to you, John and I live together at present and indeed have done so ever since Duncan Campbell left this Battn Donald McDonald Rob, Don's son, is well, he is now grown a stout fellow and is a Grenadier. Do not forget what I have urged in the beginning of this letter, but write to me the moment you receive it. With sincerest love to all, not forgetting Aunt Betty, Yrs etc DUN ROBERTSON

1807 15 Dec Ashford, Kent. My Dear Father, I was overjoyed at the receipt of a letter from you the day before yesterday, I laboured under the utmost anxiety previously from not hearing from you, this you will perceive from a letter which I wrote about ten days ago, and which you have received ere this, it is out of my power to express how happy I feel in consequence of learning that my friends are all alive and well after so long a period having expired without hearing of them, it is only those placed in similar situations that can feel or conceive it. The second paragraph of your letter really surprised me, I mean that which communicates to me the distinguished honour conferred upon me by the officers of my late, and greatly esteemed Corps, the Athole Volunteers, it is a thing I never had the vanity to dream of, their marked kindness and hospitality to me while amongst them, more than sufficiently rewarded any service that I was capable of rendering to them, I wrote to Colonel Stewart Ballechin yesterday to thank him and the other officers for the honour they were pleased to confer upon me. It is

truly gratifying to me to reflect that at a time when I was following my profession in a distant quarter of the world, my late Brother Officers and neighbours were conferring favour upon me for past services and the Gift being presented to you for me at such a time, renders it doubly valuable in my estimation, I can easily conceive the consolation it must have afforded you in my absence which was then likely to be of long duration and the more particularly coming from the quarter it did. I am extremely sorry to hear of the fall in the price of cattle and Sheep, it is what must be expected at such a time as the present when we are at was with almost the whole world, business is extremely dull in the great manufacturing towns and while that is the case there will be no great price for Cattle or Sheep, I sincerely trust however that times will soon improve, I am very happy to understand that you have got rid of that scoundrel that pestered you so much at Croftdon, I have never changed my opinion as regards the east end of Auchanree, your wintering will never be complete without it. Should nothing interfere I am in hope I shall be able to obtain a short leave of absence about the middle of January next, do not however be too sanguine in expecting me as many occurrences might happen that might prevent me, all I can say is that it shall not be to my fault if you do not see me in Grenich before Strowan Market (?fibfaulan) you cannot be more anxious to see me that I am to see all of you/ I believe I mentioned in my last letter that John McDonald Dalchosnie was well and that he and I lived together for nearly the last 3 years, I mean by living together that we breakfast together and have our rooms as near to each other as possible, all Officers of course dine at our mess, Rob Don's son is very well, I should always have mentioned both him and Young Dalchosnie but when I wrote he always wrote likewise from every place at which we stopped and the one letter could not have reached home without the other. I am surprised you did not say anything about Genl Robertson Lude in your last letter, be sure to write me on receipt of this that I may receive it before I go off should I succeed in getting leave, and let me know where Lude is at present and anything else you would wish me to know about him. In hope of having the happiness of seeing you all soon at Grenich I conclude, My Dear Father etc DUN ROBERTSON

1808 3 Mar DR to JR of K. Perth. My Dear Father, Upon my arrival at Pitlochry on the Market Day, I met Mr Read and accompanied him to Moulin, soon after we met he (of himself) introduced the subject of Auchanree by asking me if I had spoke to Strowan about it, I replied I had, and repeated to him what Strowan's answer was, he told me that the arrangement respecting Auchanree was noted in his Minute book for upwards of a year, I entertain no doubt whatever from what passed between Mr Read and myself but that you will get Auchanree, he said nothing about saddling any other person on you instead of Gow from which I concluded that he did not mean to propose such a thing, I therefore said nothing about it that he might not think of it at all. I called at Kinnaird on my way to Dunkeld, likewise at Kinraigie, my poor old aunt is not long for this world I believe, I arrived at Dunkeld about 7 o'clock, and called soon afterwards on Mr Patrick Robertson who would not allow me to quit his house that night, Yesterday morning it was my intention to be off early for this Town but it was the day on which the Boys at the school of Dunkeld say their orations, I was detained in consequence and saw all the people that I wished to call upon in the Church hearing the Boys, among whom were Mr & Mrs Irvine and Miss Stewart Gairth, I was informed by them that Major David had come off to Perth the evening before, but it seems he had to make some calls by the way as he is not yet arrived here, I expect him however here today, I intended to set off for Edinr this morning, but I wished to see Major Stewart first and I had some other business besides that detains me here today, I shall be off tomorrow morning positively. I called at Dr Robertson Auchleeks last night and experienced much kindness from him, he pressed me to sleep at his house which I did, I am to dine with him today. Major David will certainly be here today some time and I hope we will be able to manage matters so as to travel to London together, Should any thing particular occur I shall write you from Edinr again Yrs etc. DUN ROBERTSON

1808 17 Sept, Danbury Camp. DR to JR of K. My Dear Father, I received yours of the 5th Inst a few days ago, the contents of which were extremely gratifying, I trust in God there is an end to the Miltown fever, it has truly been a fortunate escape which Helen & the poor Children made, so Donald has succeeded in a wife at last, I hope Margaret and he will live happy. Margaret is sagacious and ought therefore to maintain harmony between the two families, by a letter I had yesterday from Capt Robertson Allean I am happy to find that Sheep and cattle are rising in price since you wrote me. You are right to take a tack of Auchanree, the life of a man is precarious, who knows when Strowan honest man depart for the other world, altho it is my sincere wish he may live for many years, yet all things are the better of being reduced to a certainty, and it is very uncertain what his successor's plans may be, I intend to write to Mr Reid in a few days, I promised to correspond with him when I last saw him at

Moulin market & I have been in London lately on regimental business, when I was so fortunate as to meet Gen Robertson Lude & Col David Stewart Gairth. The Genl is going to the Highlands for a short time, probably about a fortnight, he must be here again before the end of October for the half Yearly Inspections of the troops under his Command, Col David did not know when he will be ordered to join his Corps but he does not expect it for some time yet, he had seen the Deputy Adj Gen (who is his Colonel) on the very day I met him in London and he could not tell him when she should be ordered to join, D desired his kind wishes to all at Grenich and the Port. I have not heard from Willm since I wrote you last but I have heard of his Regt, he was alive and well about two months ago, I am afraid some of his letters have miscarried, I am to write to him tomorrow, what famous news we had from Portugal lately but I am sorry to say the glorious victories gained by Sir Arthur Wellesley on the 17 & 21st Aug appear to have proved of little avail by this day's Gazette, Sir Hew Dalrymple has concluded a treaty with the French General nearly as disgraceful as Whitlocks although he had them completely in his power, he allows them by Treaty to return to France with all their plunder Arms & Artillery, The Treaty concluded with the Russian Admiral by Sir C Cotton is just as bad, the Russian sailors are to be sent home, and their ships to be given up after peace, how provoking this is to the gallant fellows who fought so well on the 17th & 21st Aug, every single regiment that enter Buenos Ayres with us was in both these actions and, as you will observe by the dispatches, particularly distinguished themselves, this shows what they would do there is led by the same Genl, the Country is all in an uproar about the disgraceful Treaty, there is however one good result from it, Portugal is cleared of the French & our Army can immediately be sent to Spain where they are likely to be much wanted soon, another good thing is that Junot and his Army of Portugal can tell their brother soldiers when they return to France that the British gave them two sound beatings before they let them off. There are about 7,000 more Troops nearly embarked in this Country and about 6,000 in Ireland, all for Spain who are to sail immediately under Sir David Baird a thorough good General, 6,000 Cavalry are under orders to embark and immediately follow them, I do not think we shall embark for a month yet, if then, on account of that cursed disease of Ophthalmia, we have still about 220 sick, we are now really anxious to get off for Spain, there will be so very few Regts left behind that they will be looked down upon by the rest of the Army, we expect to break up camp soon, It is thought we will return to Maldon again, I met Tom Stewart Blackhill in London, he told me he was going to accept of a Company in some English Militia Regt but I did not believe it, Write me soon, or make Helen write me, Yrs DUN ROBERTSON. John Dalchosnie is well and desires his best respects to you all.

1809 Lisbon 15th Dec 1809 I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in addressing you upon a subject that materially concerns the whole of the junior officers of the Regt and most particularly affects myself at this moment as the senior Lieut, to you Sir we all look up with confidence for protection and support in preserving unbroken the regular chain of promotion in the Regt. The many proofs we have already had of the interest you take in ?hoteur tends to our advancement either individually or as a Corps give me confident hopes, that in the present instance your usual efforts will not be wanting on my behalf. In the Gazette of the 25th ult brought by the last packet Capt McGregor's name appeared promoted to the vacant majority but without a successor being appt to his Company; when I did myself the honor of waiting upon you at Lisbon (the same day with Capt McGregor) you were pleased to tell me that you would certainly recommend me to succeed him in the vent of his being promoted, allow me therefore earnestly to entreat you will be pleased to recommend me for the vacant company as neither of the officers, Col Duff or Major Vandeleur that commanded the 1st Battn since I have had the honor to serve in the Regt now belong to it I am deprived of that sort of recommendation to you which I here conduct towards you, you gave me a right to expect were either of them at present in Command of the Battn, I have not had the pleasure of serving under Col Wallace yet but should you deem it necessary Major McGregor & the other officers I have served under will I am convinced state to you without reserve what my conduct in the Regt has been and in what manner I performed the duties of my situation as Adjutant my having served upwards of five years now in that capacity and the whole time in the ? will I trust prove favourable to my claim. The hope of promotion when it fairly comes to our turn is the strongest incentive we have to perform our duty with zeal and alacrity and to submit cheerfully to every privation incident to a military life, in this hope I rest satisfied that I shall in my turn benefit by your disinterested



exertions in favour of your gts. I must again solicit your forgiveness for the liberty I have taken and that you will make due allowance for the anxiety I feel at this moment. PS The mistake respecting the late Lt Whittle and Mr Christie was rectified in the Gazette of the 7th Nov by the appointment of the latter to a Company

1815 28th Sept Paris, My Dear Father, I rejoice to say that I have at length received a letter from you, it reached me just as I was in the act of sealing another letter to you in which I expressed my despair of ever again hearing from you, however now that we have hit upon a safe channel to send them through, I shall expect a letter at least every three weeks, they cannot miscarry if sent under cover ( as you have last done) to Sandy Stewart, I regret to learn her old complaint still troubles my mother, from the account I had from other quarters before I received your letter, I was led to think that she had got completely rid of its effects, I sincerely rejoice to find that yourself and the rest of the family continue to enjoy perfect health, you did not particularly mention Margaret's name but I conclude you include her when you say that my sisters were quite well. If there is anything the matter with her family you would of course mention it, pray has the death of this worthy old man at Invervack affected any change in that quarter? I am happy to find you have heard from William recently, I hope you will not neglect to reply to him, you had better send your letters to him as well as to me under cover to Sandy Stewart. I mean to tell him you are to do so. I now look for a letter from William daily, I could not expect one sooner than the latter end of this month for I desired him not to write for at least a month after I should him. I have not time today but I shall positively write by next post to my cousin D Stewart Edin, It affords me much pleasure to learn that he has been so kind and attentive to your interests since I left the country, It is what I confidently expected of him, I think I pretty well comprehend what you describe relative to your private affairs, It is my intention the moment the Army gets in to any settled cantonment for the Winter to apply for leave of absence to go home for a short period, I think I shall certainly be with you before Christmas, I am a good deal surprised to hear of Segt McDonald's application, he told me the very last time I saw him that he did not mean to touch what he had placed in your hands, as any account that he would leave it as a sort of stock in reserve, happen what would. He had from my knowledge from fifty to sixty pounds when we left Canada. Sandy Stewart had a letter from John McDonald Dalchosnie in the 17th Regt, he was then at Lisbon and both himself and Genl Arch Campbell are in perfect good health, John is not now in the 17th because none of those officers who have continued in the Portugese Service [tear] to any particular British Regt but they have notwithstanding permanent rank in the British Army, John is a major in the British and a Lieut Col in the Portugese Service, I know you must have heard some unpleasant reports about John McD, I shall give you a history of the whole transaction in my next, I know the whole affair as well as any person on earth and nothing connected with it is in the least degree dishonourable but they say contrary. All is perfectly quiet here, but affairs continue in a very unsettled state with respect to the Government of France, there has been a total change of the French Ministry within these few days, this must naturally throw negotiations back to be reconsidered, all the Allied Sovereigns and other great men are still here and will remain in all probability for a considerable time yet, the Armies continue in much about the same situations as when I wrote you last, all the Infantry of the British Army and about 10,000 Hanoverians and an immense quantity of British Artillery were reviewed here some days ago by the Emperors of Austria and Russia, the King of Prussia, we had only two brigades of British Cavalry, about 4,000. The whole amounted to about 60,000 men, the Duke of Wellington performed the same manoeuvres with us as he did at the battle of Salamanca, the Sovereigns appeared delighted by our movements and general appearance and so they might, I never beheld such a beautiful sight and we had a lad at our head that knew well how to wield us, and show us off to the best advantage, we understand that another grand review is to take place soon at the particular request of some of the foreign Princes here, particularly the Archdukes John & Ferdinand of Austria & Constantine of Russia, they wish to copy what they can from our great master of the military art Wellington. John Stewart Crossmount [tear] me the day before yesterday and Arch Campbell Ballintuim yesterday, they are both quite well as are all my other acquaintances from Perthshire who are with this Army. Our Quarter Master desires me to thank you for being so particular in your account of his friends, both him and Donald Bruer desire their respect to you. Let me hear from home soon, again why don't the Girls write me, I want to hear some of the Country gossip which they can give more in detail than I can expect from you. I shall write the moment anything particular occurs here or that I shall hear from William. With kind love etc DUN ROBERTSON

River Raison, Stormont County, Upper Canada, Sept 29, 1812

Dear Cousin,

I received your much esteemed favour last winter which you sent by Alexr Robertson who sent it here by another person. Duncan Cameron's son I have not seen. He & John Cameron's son has settled in Nova Scotia. I am informed my brother-in-law died last year, please let me know how he settled his estate for it was entailed to my eldest son failing of heirs of his own body. Neil was talking of going home when I have seen him last for he lives at Montreal, is still unmarried and has a great deal of property. I lost two of my sons since I wrote you last. Alex was lost going to England & James died a natural death at Montreal & left most of his property to his brothers. Patrick keeps a wholesale store at Montreal unmarried. I am now in my 80th year, much failed. I got a good track of land here, made up a house that cost about £100. I have about 60 acres clear. I have rented it to one Duncan Cuming that came here last year. I cannot look much after anything but thank God I have plenty to make me live comfortably. Be so good as to let me know about my Grandnephews in Tulimet & Strathardle and the poor remains of the Fascally family. Let me know what family your uncle has left & I hope they come on. Give my Compliments to Strowan & tell him I am sorry he does not marry. Make my compliments to Achleeks & tell him that I am his Godfather when he was baptized that he ought to write to me. Give my compliments to my Cousins Daniel and James Stewarts for whom I had always a great regard. I am told that Duntanlich sold his estate he has always been a very unfortunate man. Remember me to all my old friends & acquaintances. A great many families from the highlands of Scotland have arrived here. I have not seen any of them yet. My compliments to Mrs Robertson and family. I am, Dear Cousin, your sincere friend and humble servant. THOS ROBERTSON. PS Do not forget to write me for I will not grudge the postage to the care of Patrick Robertson, Montreal

Vittoria,

23rd June 1813

My Dear Father,

Aware of the anxiety you will feel on my account when you hear of our doings for the last two or three days, I lose not a moment in acquainting you that I am safe and sound and never in better health after all our fatigues and dangers than I am at this instant. I had a few lines ready written to send off yesterday but I could get no opportunity. Having a little more time today I intend to make it something longer.

Lord Wellington's dispatch will give you a better idea of the battle of the 21st than is in the power of any individual to do who was merely a humble actor in the conflict but there are a few circumstances which may come to the knowledge of individuals that his Lordship will not dain to notice in his official dispatches though they may still be interesting. The 21st June has been one of the proudest days for Britain that is to be found in its history. The victory was certainly the greatest that Lord Wellington gained and the nature of the Battle was such as to prove to the whole world and to the Enemy in particular the superiority of British Troops over French and I rejoice to say that both the Spanish and Portuguese Troops who were engaged fought like Lyons, nay some of the Portuguese Battalions showed both discipline and gallantry equal to any of the British even, I speak not from reports but from what I saw with my own eyes for two Portuguese regiments fought alongside us the whole day. I know not what the official dis. will say as to the time the Battle lasted but this much I know full well that a distant cannonade commenced on our right at Eleven o Clock from which moment the firing never ceased until night although the Battle cannot be said to have become general along our line until about half past twelve or one o Clock, the greater part of our army had to cross a river to get at the Enemy our Division (the 3rd) under Sir Thomas Picton crossed the river in the face of the Enemy by a Bridge which our Brigade forced about half past 12 o Clock, we crossed with such rapidity that altho the French had cannon placed to scour it and sharp shooters beyond calculation lining the whole opposite bank, we lost only a few men, had the British been placed in the situation the French were to defend it no human power could have forced this Bridge, this first success put us all in high spirits, however the grand thing was yet to come, our Brigade the 45th, 74th & 88th formed in three separate columns the moment we crossed the Bridge, and moved as quickly as possible to attack a round steep hill in front of us about 500 yards, the Enemy had a body of cavalry at the foot of it and a strong column of infantry hid behind the brink of it but our advance was so rapid and determined that the Enemy's cavalry first gave way and then the infantry without daring to show their faces, the 88th being the centre Rgt was posted opposite the middle of the steep hill where tremendous opposition was expected, however we were not long getting to the top of it, I had the honour to command the leading company of the Regt up this hill, when we got to

the top we turned to our left where we saw the Enemy's grand line of Battle formed about half a mile off ready to receive us, a few moments after Lord Wellington came up from a height upon which he had stood in the rear and passed at full gallop to the left of the 88th where he stopped to view the Enemy's line, he had hardly looked at them when he ordered the 88th which was the nearest Regt to him to form a line and advance to attack a strong body of the Enemy formed in close column about 100 yards only in front of us, this column was covering the centre of the Enemy's principal line and seemed determined to make a hot stand, the moment we advanced it opened a tremendous fire upon us but at the same time began to waver and some even to run away, we gave them a Volley and intended to charge immediately after but the fellows did not wait for us and ran like a flock of sheep into a small straggling village something like Pitlochry, we followed them to the end of the village when our Genl ordered us to halt and wait the arrival of the other Divisions of the Army which were intended to form on the right and left of us, for at this moment we were quite alone and within 150 yards of the centre of the Enemy's main line which opened a truly tremendous fire of shot and shell upon us to drive us back from the village and the fellows who ran away picked up a little courage when we halted and annoyed us very much from behind walls and houses, the 74th very soon came up to support us and charged with a wing of the 88th through the Village out of which we drove the Enemy in an instant and occupied the whole of it, if our Genl (Brisbane) had not halted us we would have driven the Enemy out of this village at once without giving him time to do us any mischief, the 74th and us continued in this village in spite of the Enemy's efforts to drive us out of it until our line was complete and advanced to the village, when it came up to us we rushed forward and occupied our place in the general line of Battle. This moment was the most interesting of the day, it is impossible to give an idea of the steadiness and rapidity with which the British line advanced not heeding the Enemy's fire though vollies of cannon were fired at us, the Enemy's line very soon began to break and by the time we got fairly within about a hundred yards of its centre the whole gave way and ran for it, we followed as quickly as possible, the Enemy's second line soon showed itself but was forced to run as quickly as the first, we still continued advancing over hedges and ditches and fields of the finest corn I ever saw, the constant roar of cannon and musketry during this advance was awfully grand, perhaps not less than 200 pieces of cannon firing incessantly, at length we saw the Enemy's third and as we afterwards found out last line advantageously posted, the ranks of the 66th marched to the attack of the third line was as if we had set out from Grenich and marched through your corn towards the Tullich on the top of which the Enemy line looked very formidable, our general halted us as if at Wester Tomandrainach in a field of corn until the rest of our line should line up with us on our left and right, the Enemy fired incessantly at us during this little halt but we never fired a shot in return nor took any notice of him as we wished to preserve our means of destruction until we should be close up with him, when we were ordered to advance and charge the line on the hill, the fire from the Enemy became extremely hot indeed and as we were quite exposed we lost a great number of men, however this did not in the smallest degree check our progress on the contrary we advanced all the quicker, when we were within 150 yards the Enemy's line gave way and fled as usual, we pursued almost out of breath, a good number of the French were killed here, this hill being forced the whole of the Enemy's third line fled, at this moment Lord Wellington galloped past to the front of our Brigade to view the State of the Enemy, here he beheld one of the most gratifying sights he ever saw, the whole of the Enemy's army flying away in the greatest confusion cavalry artillery and infantry all mixed, our cavalry was now ordered to the front to complete the work of destruction, we rushed on as fast as our legs could carry us to support them, from that moment there was nothing but ?prisoners the Enemy abandoning artillery baggage to facilitate his escape, night alone put an end to the pursuit, our Division halted for the night about a league (three miles) beyond the city, the fruits of the Victory are the taking of 151 pieces of cannon 415 Ammunition wagons, the whole of King Joseph's carriages and baggage and cows and mules loaded with the plunder and Baggage of his officers beyond all calculation, besides the Military Chest with a great deal of Treasure, I was ordered here on duty the day after the action to pick up the wounded and to assist protecting the captured cannon and this gave the opportunity of seeing the extent of the Enemy's loss, the number of prisoners we have taken is by no means as great in proportion as the ordnance, their killed and wounded are numerous and so are ours as you will observe by the Gazette account, the 88th lost nearly 250 men in killed and wounded by far the greater part wounded in consequence of the great distance the Enemy took care to keep from us, we (the 88th) have only one officer killed Ensign Saunders, & five wounded; all the Athole lads in this army are safe, I have seen every one of them in these few days & I heard of them this very day - I am to remain here some days and I shall write you again soon, God bless you all, D. ROBERTSON

I have met

1. John McDonald Dalchosnie and his brother

2 Genl Campbell, Carie

3 James Stewart 42nd Duntanlich

4 Jno Stewart Kinnaid

5 John Stewart, son to Peter Stewart, Perth

6 Charles Stewart who was with Mr P Stewart many years, son to Donald Stewart Shierglass

I also saw this very day John Dow from Tomantaid

All these are well as our Q Master & Donald McDonald are quite well at this instant

DR

To DR, Peninsula via Falmouth from Alex Duff. Dalgety Castle, 17 Oct 1813, My dear Robertson, When I received your long and very kind letter I was just setting out with my brother for the Highlands and as we were constantly out shooting during our residence at Mar lodge I have never till now had time to thank you for the interesting and admirable account you gave me of the battle of Vittoria, your description of it is so good that I had seen the whole action and my brother and a great party of friends who were with us were quite delighted with your acct of the affair, you know, my dear friend, how much I am interested in all that concerns you as I have still a very warm side towards my old Corps, you may easily imagine how much I was gratified to hear of their gallant conduct on that memorable occasion, but notwithstanding all this, my dear fellow, I hope the day is not far distant when we shall have the happiness of seeing you comfortably settled somewhere in this neighbourhood That we may enjoy each others society & talk over all that has passed since we parted - I am sorry to perceive that our old friend the Field marshal is about to repair to this Country in consequence of bad health poor fellow he has really suffered much, I addressed a long letter to Colonel Wallace some time since but never having heard from him in answer I am led to imagine he is still unwell and indeed our friend Stuart who was with me some days mentioned that he was obliged to come to Lisbon previous to leaving the Country, if you happen to see Wallace remember me to him and I beg my kind regards to all the Corps, Tell them from me that they are on all occasions fresh in my recollection and if at any time I can be of any service to any one of them you know full well that nothing shall be wanting on my part to forward in their views - Nothing can exceed the affectionate kindness of my dear Brother since his arrival in this Country which I am convinced will give you pleasure indeed the whole country is quite enthusiastic in his praise and in every part of the country they receive him with ringing of bells, Balls, dinners bonfires etc in which he is making himself quite popular and much beloved in the Country, you know he is everything with the Prince Regent and they have just appointed him Lord Lieut of the County and I make no doubt a British Peerage will soon follow and perhaps some of these days you will hear of me being appointed to a peerage - all this is to yourself my dear friend in confidence - ? to the Aberdeen district you being out of the country and being a married man which would have taken me from home and exposed me to great inconvenience and expense made me by no means anxious for it But you know when I have anything in my power you may command freely and without reserve - when convenient I pray write and give me all news and tell me how you all got on - By the bye I addressed a letter to you some weeks since relative to the bedding ? which we destroyed on board the Abn ? Transport, As poor ? is anxious to obtain another certificate write me what I ought to do in this business as I shall not ? your advice. - I must now conclude with the anticipation of soon hearing advice My Dear Robertson God bless you - my wife who is by me sends kind messages and says she trusts you will soon come to occupy a floor in our old castle & unites with me in very affectionate wish and believe me ever unalterably your very attached & sincere friend ALEXANDER DUFF. In order to save Macpherson postage tell him nothing would give me greater pleasure that to serve him but I really find it impossible as my brother is under so many previous engagements for relatives and says he must attend to them on the first instance in short tell poor Macpherson if I could do anything for him I would do it with pleasure but it is impossible at this moment and say everything kind from me.

1814 17 June Scalisaig. My Dear Sir, After long silence I embrace this opportunity by Dun Robertson from Bohespick who has been here for some days, and to whom I shall ? giving you some information respecting my present situation as far as he can be a judge. I shall always be very happy to hear about the welfare of yor family the bearer tells that both your sons are at the other side of the Atlantic where I hope the struggle will not be of a long duration and that you will have the pleasure of seeing them back to there native shore to enjoy the fruits of

their labour. I expect please God to take a start to that country soon to see my old friends if circumstance will at all permit; I have a boy of nine months old called James which will help you in our remembrance. This country is now the property of a Mr Bruce of London and by a recent lett of the whole estate has brought his rental considerable above £5000 stg from a little more than £2000 that is paid formerly. I had the great courage of taking a farm of £400 stg exclusive of public burdens only that am allowed unlimited melioration if laid out according to these plans and that sustained at every Martinmas during the currency of my lease. From these and other advantages attached to it, I flatter myself that my farm is now cheaper than I formerly possessed from McLeod, if times were to continue as at present, I have the vanity to think it an object of good concern, Mr Bruce personally was very friendly to me. it would give me great pleasure to hear from you now and then and tell me some of your country news. With best wishes etc ALEX ROBERTSON

140722KC Cantounment of 3rd Division in point of Hasparen France 22nd July 1814. My dear Father, I am aware that you will be surprised at this unusual long silence on my part, it had very seldom indeed happened That I had cause to apologise for being dilatory in writing you, I believe you will readily allow that I have always been very regular in my communications with you when at a distance from home, However frequently I might have to complain of delay on your part in replying to my letters, This cause of my recent silence has part been briefly this, I applied for Leave of Absence the moment we got into Cantounment (that is into houses as we could after our advance into France, conceiving that we were to remain pretty quiet for at least a couple of months during the dead of winter, Having represented that I had business of great consequence which required my personal presence at home, I got my own Commanding Officer and the several Generals Commanding the Brigade, Division & Corps to which the Regt belongs to forwards and support my application to Lord Wellington. The answer came that "His Lordship found it necessary to defer granting me leave until a more favourable opportunity", A few days after I received this first answer proposals were made for crossing the river Nive, that event immediately followed and the various activities described in five successive days described in Lord Wellington's Despatch of the 14th Dec took place. When the Army got firmly fixed in its new position and that things got something settled and quiet again I received my application for leave, imagining that the favourable opportunity alluded to me in His Lordships first reply had now arrived, however Marshall Beresford who commands this Corps viz 3rd, 4th & 7th Divisions & through whom all applications of this nature must go to the Commander in Chief has returned for answer "that he cannot repeat his application in any favour officially to Lord Wellington but that he will privately speak to Genl Fakenham (the AdJ Genl) who has already declared that I should be one of the very first to whom leave should be granted, You will perceive by this answer that I am still kept as much in suspense as ever. It is now about two months since I have been in daily expectation of a decided answer which it was my intention very naturally to communicate to you the instant I received it. The cause of the delay in my writing you is now explained and I hope you will allow it to have been sufficient. In my last letter but one I sent you a Bill of Exchange for £36 drawn by Capt Dawsey of the 88th in favour of ?Sur Dond McDonald who endorsed it to you. You may well suppose that I feel somewhat anxious until I know whether or not the letter containing the Bill alluded to reached you in safety, but not one syllable have I had from you since I transmitted it although I entreated you to reply to my letter immediately. were it not that you were equally long in answering a former letter of the same description I would conclude that my last had miscarried. I will not this time send the "second of Exchange of the ? until I hear from you and learn whether or not you have received the first. It's now nearly four months since I sent it. I suppose you have long ere this seen my friend Jno McDonald Dalchosnie, he will give you a more ample account of our proceedings in this part of the world than is the power of any man to communicate by letter. I hope the poor fellow has perfectly recovered from the effects of his wound. If he has he will soon now be coming out again unless a Peace prevents him and I hope most sincerely it may. I am really perfectly sick of this war and so are the whole Army with the exception of perhaps a few great men who look for either titles or promotions from a continuance of it through interest and not merit, the state in which we have been in since we entered France on the 10th of Nov last is enough to make those wish for peace who never did before, to describe it within the compass of a letter is quite impossible. I shall therefore not attempt it; the 88th has not had much to do in the fighting way of late although we have been present in every thing that happened, the Brigade to which we belong became the Reserve of the Division in the battle of the 10th Nov, from the ? of the advance into action we were of course as close as possible to those engaged and under fire for some time but we were so lucky as not to lose a man, In the Battles which took place from the 9th to the 13th Decr this Division were merely looking on, it so happened that all the fighting took place on the

extreme Right and Left of the Army and this Division was posted in the very centre, we had enough of marching but no fighting, one day we were ordered to support the Right and the next day the Left which ever chanced to be most warmly engaged, the weather was wet and the roads horrible, knee deep in mud, Our position then extended about 12 miles but now our line extends to the distance of 20 miles at least along the whole front of which we have a continued show of sentries within sight of each other and my guess from this circumstance what magnitude the continuing Armies are and what duties we have to perform watching such a tremendous line, in fact we are kept eternally on the alert. This Division moved with 19th Division from the centre to the Right of the whole Army, where we are now posted, our left is on the Sea but we are 20 miles from it, close up to the Pyrenees. We find the French inhabitants in general very civil, the people in this part of France are much the same both in manner and dress as those Inhabitants of the other Side of the Pyrenean Mountains, All the inhabitants of the vallies of the Pyrenees and the Country bordering on them on both the Spanish and the French sides speak the same language, it is called Basque and is as different from both the French and Spanish as the Gaelic is from the English language and what is a little remarkable too, the men in all this extensive district wore blue bonnets precisely the same make and shape as those wore by the Low Country Farmers in Scotland but not quite so large. The People are called Basques and are stronger and much more active than the other inhabitants of either France or Spain, in fact this district may be considered the Highlands of those two Countries. provisions were to be had pretty cheap when our Army came here, but we have now ate up everything almost within our Line. We get all our Rations from the coast as usual, when I speak of Provisions I mean such extra things as we require. The Country here is very fertile and most beautiful, if it was summer weather we would do very well but nothing grows at present and our animals are nearly starved for want of forage, however I hope Peace will relieve us all soon. This would really be a heavenly country to live in in time of Peace. The French Army and us are very polite to each other except when we are actually fighting, our Sentries & theirs are posted within 50 yards of each other, we almost daily have conversations with their officers on duty on the neutral ground between the Sentries, on these occasions we entertain each other with a little Brandy or whatever else we have to spare and seem in short to vie with each other about who shall be most polite!! in half an hour after this friendly intercourse (as I saw it happen only a fortnight ago) perhaps one party receives orders to attack the other and we go to work directly to destroy each other by every means which our ingenuity can invent. for one who has time for reflection, this state of things must appear very unnatural but those accustomed to such scenes think nothing of it. on the 6th Inst the enemy appeared in force opposite to this part of our line, we expected to have something serious with them, Lord Wellington joined with us himself and brought two more divisions to co-operate with us in case of need, we however did the business without their aid. the French were very shy with their main body, they only sent their piquets to where we could get at them, we drove them away in very pretty stile in a few minutes, our Brigade led the attack, the 88th lost only one man killed, they have not molested us much since, except our foraging parties, but as we are obliged to send them now always to forage in front, there is some trifling skirmishing almost daily between them and the Enemy's Piquets. James Stewart of the 42nd (Duntanlich) was unfortunately killed on the 9th Dec whilst skirmishing after crossing the river Nive, it is very remarkable that both his captain and himself were killed much about the same time and not a single man more of their company fell that day, poor James is universally regretted, he was a favourite of every one who knew him with none more so than myself. John Dow from ? is quite recovered from his wound and with his Regt again, he was appointed Sergeant the moment he joined which I am very glad of, he is a fine almost lad and will get on. As I have still some expectations of leave I have not said anything on private affairs, indeed unacquainted as I am what has been passing in your part of the world for this last four months as well as its present, I do not well know what to say, I had a long and very friendly letter from my Cousin Don Stewart dated 27th Oct some time ago from which i am sorry to perceive that there is very little prospect of Derculich doing anything, I trust in God that if ever I should be disappointed in my leave a General Peace will before many months enable all who wish it to attend to their private affairs, I am really most anxious to get home if it was but for a few months, I am pretty well aware of your situation and believe me, my dear father, it is my first wish to be able to devise some plan by which your mind is to be relieved and that would enable you to rest in peace and quietness the rest of your days. I had a letter from Peter Trinafour about a week ago, the Ship to which he belongs is upon this station at present, he was quite well, I expect to see him quite soon. Alick Campbell (Cornchormag) is now a captain in the Portugese Service, he has turned out a very fine lad, his brother Sandy was severely wounded on the 11th of last month but not dangerously. Genl A Campbell (Carie) has gained great honour in the late Actions, particularly on the 10th Dec, the brigade of Portugese which he commanded that day

had five to one against them for some time, they suffered very severely, the Genl I am happy to say escaped untouched, I will now conclude by begging as usual that you will write me on receipt of this and if I can get any leave before I receive your letter it will be sent after me, you need be under no apprehensions as to it falling into improper hands. With utmost affectionate regards to my mother, sisters and fond dear brother James, if yet in life (whose situation more than anything I think Yrs etc DUN ROBERTSON PS Sergt Dod MacDonald is quite well.

1812ish Wallet of DR cont receipts etc. Inside cover: return of killed & wounded Montevideo

- 1812 Regimental Lewis Inkston, London
- 1810 Ass Surg Stewart's Prescription for ophthalmia
- 1812 Russell, carrier. Cases to London
- 1812 Ann Mckay. Shirts
- 1812 Banff. Application to join mess of 92nd
- 1812 Upham, Exeter. Sword, bugle etc.
- 1812 Ens Gardener's address
- 1812 Johnson, Banff. Clothes
- 1812 Morison Banff. Clothing materials
- 1811 Keegan, Edinburgh. Drink receipts
- 1806 Banwise. Silver watch for Col Duff
- 1812 Wilson Banff. shirt materials
- 1812 Sim. food
- 1812 Sim . food
- 1810 Vizen. Leave of Absence
- 1812 Meldrum, Banff. Carrier
- 1811 Christie, Edinburgh. Breeches
  - Keefe, tailor
  - Ointment
- 1810 Buy saddle for fellow officer
- 1811 Sim. Receipt for lodging
- 1812 Banff. No ensigny in 88th for Lieut Mackenzie of Ross Volunteers
  - Receipt for Smiths Reading Rooms
- 1811 Thomson, Edinburgh, tailor's receipt
  - Washing woman's a/c & receipt
- 1811 Mrs Gunn's bill for food
- 1811 Keegan. Drink bill X 2
- 1812 Auger, Exeter, tailor
- 1812 Mrs Sim's breakfast bill

SHIERGLAS INHERITANCE FOLDER 1818 (Not transcribed)

CAPT CHRISTIE TO DR

To DR Perth from PR of Trinafour 15 March 1805

My Dear Duncan,

I would have wrote you long ago but waiting for my by Brother Alexr leaving the country & he is now so far on his way to the Isle of White & will take this so far as London, how long he will remain there I cannot say but he has a long journey before him afterwards, it is a new thing for him altogether but will know how to travel soon by experience, I saw your brother William and two of your sisters in the Glen a few days ago, saw Kindrochet at Moulin Market Fair when I was with my ?party as also at two or three other fairs but no success as yet, the young men are very averse to the Marine service, I cannot say how long they will let me remain. I had lately your very entertaining letter, the Athole Volunteers are to attend drill now as often as possible, their worthy commander Col Butter is I am sorry to find still in a very bad state of health. Mrs Butter is in a fair way which I am in hope will be a ?. I am going about every day to see my friends in the country & as happy as the day is long, we had a very

pleasant party at the glen lately when your sisters and other young ladies danced & sung everything very agreeably. Horses are very dear this year & in fact everything so, land is beyond conception, your father keeps in very good health & was at Grenich some time ago. I saw the Loyal Clan Donachie Mil manoeuvres at the fair, Genl Robertson is in high spirits, my dear friend you must excuse me at present for a great many people are coming to see ?Sandy, let me hear from you soon, I will write you a long letter soon Yrs etc PATR ROBERTSON

121030KC To DR, Post Office, Falmouth. From J?Taylor. Berry Head Barracks, October 30th 1812. My Dear Robertson, I have received your letter of the 28th, and although it must be a sad time to you delaying at Falmouth, I cannot help being glad of Walker's escape which must have occurred before you receive this letter, as Christie left us for Falmouth yesterday afternoon and will arrive there this evening - Nothing can be more dreary than this Quarter, However I shall stick to it until the 10th of December when I shall proceed towards London. The Rooms do not smoke and are warmer and better in every respect than I thought I should have found them here, and the mess Room is much a better one than at Exeter - We have Mrs ?Duans & Mrs Stewart with us which will make a little Female Society, but I am told that the moral portion of the 28th Officers and their Ladies are very much scandalized at such persons being brought into Barracks. If Walker should not have left Falmouth before this reaches you tell him to bring me some sigars. The Packet People will tell him where to find them. I am sorry to find you have lost your servant and are very much grieved indeed at the probability of more ? patients being sent ashore. I had hoped that we should have landed our draft complete - Lt Hopwood arrived here the day before yesterday, he has proceeded to Portsmouth, having you ashore at Plymouth and lost his passage, he was on escort duty with French prisoners, he brings an account of ?Pater's convalescence, of poor Smith's death of a fever at Salamanca. I have nothing new to tell you for to say that it has rained incessantly and blown an Hurricane is only the meteorological Journal of Berry head and scarcely ever varies. I shall be extremely glad to hear from you as often as you have leisure to write and I am sure you will not fail to notify me your arrival at Lisbon as well as the news of the day. I remain, my dear Robertson, best regards to my Friend Christie very sincerely your J ?Taylor

To DR, Mount Matre nr Paris from PR of Trinafour

Trinafour, 23rd Dec 1815. My Dear Duncan, I have delayed writing to you for nearly one month expecting the pleasure of seeing you in our native hills, but within this few days I am told you do not intend coming home this winter, it is now a long time since I had the pleasure of a letter from you, both of us have been over great part of the western ocean since after the ship left the north coast of Spain, we went to Plymouth and refitted & 29th Oct then sailed for the coast of Africa & arrived on that coast about 23rd Nov & went direct to one of the British settlements there & landed a Major of the African corps who died in about 3 weeks afterwards, six transports came out after us to take all the military stores & soldiers from the island of ?Goven & Senegal - after these places were to be given to the French when Master Boney got out of Elba, a counter order came & all the stores was brought back to these places, from Sierra Leone, so that it took us nearly seven months in a very hot and disagreeable country, after returning all the stores, we went with the six transports with black recruits from near Sierra Leone to Barbados, where we left four of the vessels, the other two parted with our ship shortly after in a hurricane, about 200 miles to the northward of Barbados, the poor blacks were dying on the passage like rotten sheep in the spring - our ship arrived at Portsmouth 13th Oct nearly 12 months out of England, most part of the time in a very unhealthy part of the globe, the people were dying very fast on our settlements on the coast, we lost a few of our crew by the fever of that country, which is really a very bad one. I feel the cold here, now more severe than I used to do, but thank God enjoy my health, I escaped the fever on the coast, had only a slight touch which never confined me to my bed - I met at ?Goven Lt-Col Chisholm, Major of the Africans who spoke of you very often, as also, two or three men from our Country that was in what he called his old Regt, he and I very soon after our arrival there got acquainted & spoke the Gaelic. I met with kindness & cheerful hospitality at his house, he very often came to see me on board & used to have parties on my account, one day in particular he asked me to meet a few friends, six of us met & all were Highlanders, spoke nothing but Gaelic at dinner & afterwards all the evening had several Gaelic songs till at last we really forgot we were so far away from our native hills - I was over to Grenich for two nights since I came home, your father, mother & sisters are nearly the same as you left them, your father holds out in good health wonderfully considering his age, he is a good deal cast down owing to the death of your sister Jean & so are the rest but no wonder - This is really a poor country now nothing heard but complaints of want of money, grain & sheep are very low in price, more than one third



lower than last year - Your cousin Duncan is at home just now, his Regt is at Newcastle, I saw him a few days ago here - I wrote my nephew Donald some time since to tell you I would see you paid the £40 you let the poor fellow have of you, please let me know in what manner you wish it paid - there is a chance that the collectorship surety bond will be laid aside in consequence of those who are mentioned as witnesses denying ever seeing it at all, luckily they are both good men and to be depended on, I have advised & await the result, the late Auchleeks of course never signed it either, they must have done the business at Dunkeld, the case is only been found out by getting a copy of the bond, Wm ?, schoolmr Blair is one & Wm ? then Walter ? now innkeeper at Pitmain is down as the other, neither of them ever saw such a a bond. Your aunt at Dalchalloch was ill lately with a bad headache but within a few days is better all the rest are very well as also all other friends in this part of the country, wishing to hear from you on receipt of this I will conclude this scrawl with a wish from my mother sisters, br & self's of your acceptance of our kind compliments Yrs etc PATRICK ROBERTSON

To DR, Valenciennes from Duff. Middleton House near Edin, 5th July 1816. My Dear Robertson, We were just preparing to take our departure south when I received your kind letter announcing your having become a Benedict. Having a quiet moment I now take the opportunity My Dear Friend of offering my sincere congratulations on the happy event and change of situation an event which I am convinced will confer great happiness to you both & I do assure you without flattery the Lady is truly fortunate to be united to a disposition similar to yours as she has every prospect of happiness with a head & heart possessing every requisite to render her happy in this tumultuous world & from what you mention you have been equally fortunate to have selected a lady so congenial to your own mind may you be as happy as I wish you and as I have been ever since my marriage as believe me My Dear Robinson that being united to a virtuous woman is really a blessing, a man has few real friends in this life but you may depend on a sincere friend when united to an amiable lady it being both her interest and inclination to ? your present welfare, fortune and happiness although not having the honor of being acquainted with your wife I beg that you will both Mrs Duff and my sincere congratulations as two friends equally ? & anxious for your future happiness - I have repaired south not only to see friends in this Quarter but to give my dear wife the benefit of the very best medical assistance & advice during her confinement which is not now far distant, she has likewise the consolation of being near & having her mother and sister with her, in short dear friend thank God I never saw her looking better or [tear] & we have an infant two years old tomorrow which is really a blessing to us and has never had one days ill health since he was born he is now running about & behaving to the delight of all the dear inhabitants of this house, having something further to communicate tomorrow I shall have soon to ass a postscript but in the mean time adieu My dear Robinson & with the united kind wishes of my wife & all here to you & Mrs Robertson and wishing you all health & happiness believe me to remain My dear Robertson, your truly affectionate & attached friend ALEXANDER DUFF PS Since writing you yesterday I was in hope of giving you news but we have nothing new in this Quarter at present I shall therefore conclude with kind remembrances to all my old friends in the 88th Pray tell them I often think of them.

To DR, 1st Battn, 88th Regt, Army of Duke of Wellington, France from Duff. Dalgety castle by Turriff 10th Jany 1816. My Dear Robertson, After so long a silence I am really quite ashamed to address you particularly after your kind attention in writing to me so often from Spain but I know from the goodness of your heart you will pardon me and in return I shall give you a short acct of how we have been going on since you left us - In the first place I know you will be delighted to learn that My Dear wife is in perfect health as well as myself & that the Almighty has blessed us with another dear Angel of a boy thriving to a wish & just eighteen months old speaking a few words & running about & truly interesting & has not had one days ill health since he was born, our dear Miss Inglis is again with us since you left this we have completed our garden wall that ? washing house a new communication with the Kitchen to the house, All the farms completely enclosed & the Lake finished to a wish and a beautiful island at the end of it- a new bridge and the parks laid out in the most perfect manner, in short my dear friend you would hardly know old Dalgety - Hatton Duff of Hatton I mean is likewise taken possession of his new house, My brother is at present in the country and we have just returned after a tour of visits in the neighbourhood, he has likewise improved Duff House since you left this by new painting the House in the most beautiful manner & putting in some new furniture etc - he is most affectionate to me & we are the greatest friends with all the good people of Banff & the Robinsons are now our greatest friends & we find them on all occasions kind & attentive and we trust sincerely that you will soon return to your Native Country & give us the

happiness of your agreeable company you know, my dear Friend if I could do anything to forward your views in any way you may command my poor services - I had the pleasure of receiving a letter a few days since from Carroll who tells me that he dined with his old Corps on his way through Davis & you may believe me when I say that it gives me real delight to find that I am still in the recollection of my old Corps as neither time nor place will efface my attachment to them as it makes me proud to think they have all occasions covered themselves with glory both in the cabinet & Field - having now filled my Paper I must conclude with the anticipation of soon hearing from you which will prove that you have forgiven me & my wife & Miss Inglis unite with me in kindest and best regards and believe me my dear friend Etc ALEXANDER DUFF

To DR, Derculich from Christie. Valenciennes 6th February 1817. My Dear Robertson. I lose not a frost in acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 21st ult - Above is the required order for which you can send me a bill for one hundred and five pounds - drawn in the usual way payable in twelve months from the day on which the money is drawn from the bank - I condone with you and Mrs Robertson on your late misfortune but as the mother is doing so well you have both sense enough to enable your getting the better of an occurrence which is not in our mortal power to prevent - Mrs McGregor was yesterday delivered of a daughter - both are doing well - Mack is disappointed at not having a boy - Mrs Buller is still rolling about - Since giving in our returns of undersized and bad men which were called for with the greatest hurry there has not been a single word more on the subject - Sad and melancholy changes are about to take place among us - the recruiting Company is not only done away but all the Lieutenants from Rutherford inclusive are ordered on half pay - What can many of them do - ?, Fairfield, Kingsmill, Hill etc etc - I am sorry indeed for many of them - Rutherford as senior of the reduced has claimed his right of covering in for Graham who is permitted to retire receiving the difference - and the money is lodged - this puts Watkins aside - Bunworth and O'Connor as the juniors of their rank go to Dover - but the report is strong that the two junior companies will also go after the 24th March - ? seems to be the order of the day - yet it appears very hard to see so many fine fellows who have fought and bled in their country's cause - and who, from long Military habits, are rendered unfit for other pursuits, now sent adrift on the small pittance of HP - I wish they would commence with their retrenchments at the fountain head - and knock off the the sinecures - particularly those which are held by reversion to the third and fourth generations - Our barracks were nearly burned last night but the fire only reached the Qur master's stores 400 pairs o trousers, some Watch coats and 279 blue forage caps are destroyed - the ind[tear] great beams which support the floor of the store seen in the cross wall next to the cooking places have been heating gradually till at last they took fire - Donald is in a terrible stew - but I hope he will lose nothing ultimately - A Court of Inquiry is just ordered to examine the affair and I am for it so must conclude this incoherent scrawl with wishing you and Mrs Robertson every happiness which this world can afford - Mrs Buller and Frederick as usual beg to be kindly remembered - Mrs B regrets very much her absence from Mrs R - You will soon see Mrs Campbell of the 5th - she is a great favourite of mine ROB CHRISTIE

To DR, Derculich, from Christie. Edin Castle 14 June 1817. My Dear Robertson, Always in a hurry which you may know - therefore do not expect a letter in answer to yours which I recd yesterday - You deserve a better correspondent than me - no one must begrudge the postage of your letters - [H/w] is a list of your pretty fellows which I yesterday got from Ellis - Our worthy friend Genl Duff is still in the neighbourhood - I believe about Kilbegie at his Brother-in-laws - Our inspection fixed for the 6th was put off at the request of Wallace, to the 19th Inst - Genl Duff came in on the 6th to see the review - he dined with us and Sir Wm Elliott - Wallace was in the chair - you know what sort of a pres he is - the worthy Genl did seem to feel himself as much at home with us as he did on the former occasion - He and Sir Wm retired early - Campbell ? stayed ? ? and dined with us - We could neither get him to eat or drink - He looks every thin and appeared to be in very low spirits - the Farm has turned out a bad concern - he has given it up and told me he expected something more comfortable from Genl Robertson - He regrets deeply ever having left the Connaughts - we have a promise that he will return soon and remain a week with us - you will then be here - the Battn is still in high order but they had a terrible drinking bout last week - many broken heads and black eyes - Campbell (Brig? Major) is to dine with us today - he is rather annoyed at his being put off the staff and Elles kept - I have not seen the Bullers for some days- when I see Mrs B I shall not forget Mrs R's message - Major Graham is an excellent fellow but so near sighted that he can see nothing without a glass - No comfortable accommodation for a Family in Barracks unless we can get the Consolidated Depot removed to Queensberry House which the Genl is trying to do - Our messing is cheaper

than in France as little or no wine is drunk - Col Wallace is at Glasgow as Pres of a Gen Court Martial ?vice Thornton of the 40th Regt who has been nearly murdered by the mob of Glasgow - What lucky dogs we are not to have been sent there - Now for myself - I understand that the Perth Academy is very respectably conducted - I wish to get my boy settled there and was asking Campbell about it - he, in his usual friendly way, desired me not to take any steps until he should speak to some of his friends at Perth - and to my astonishment a few days ago I get a most friendly letter from Mr D Stewart ? offering his services in getting the Boy settled etc etc. I have answered Mr Stewart's letter and if you have an hour to spare coming through Perth I will feel obliged for your thanking him most gratefully in my name and when you join I shall have some conversation with you about my poor boy who is, I am sorry to say, deprived of the care and protection of his more natural parents - remember me most kindly to Mrs Robertson - I think I hear her and you saying "Did you ever see such a confused jumble-headed rhapsodical fellow as that Christie" It is very true - Adieu. ROBT CHRISTIE Bring some Highland Whisky with you - I had a letter from O'Reilly this day - he is still at Glasgow and desires to be remembered to your Unca Garaffa Mash [apparently sic]

Men Discharged from Capt Robertson's Coy 24th March 1817 Sgt Cheesly, Sgt Bone, Corpl Wheelan, Privates Bransford, Callaghan, Peter Castlefrancis, Ed Cannon, Ed Crow, John Daly, Cha Hunty, Geo Hughes, Jn Joyce, B Kennard, P Lacy, J Lockhart, J Macdermott, P Millan, J Newcomb - ?Hottentot, A ?Melia, H Quigley, J Reardon, P Scully, P Sherlock, N Stanton, J Stewart.  
25 Souls (Some bad enough)

To DR, Blair Atholl from Christie. Edin Castle 15th Decr 1817. My Dear Robertson, I am ashamed at having so long delayed replying to your very acceptable letter of 28th ultimo - but in fact I have little - nothing of consequence to say \_ I have no the knack of spinning out a letter like you \_ I have often said that no one ought to begrudge paying postage for your letters - for they always get pennyworth's for their money - and in this assertion I'm certain my good friend Mrs Robertson will join me \_ I was much pleased to hear that the citizens of Aberdeen paid such a just tribute to the memory of our beloved, ever lamented Princess - such a national blow to which there is no parallel in our country's history - ? [single word, possibly exclamation] - the most profound and marked respect to ?such departed worthy by the inhabitants of this metropolis - with the exception of Mrs Robertson's minister the Revd Andrew Thomson of St George's Church - who refused all entreaties to preach on the day of the Funeral - for which he has been most ferociously attacked in a pamphlet by Lucius and on the other hand has been defended by Candidus and Scotus - perhaps you have seen the several productions - The principal cause of my not writing sooner was to tell you that a very serious fracas between McGregor and Buller has been made up - that is to say - in outward appearance- but I am sure they are not friends at heart - The cause was as follows - about ten or twelve days ago a number of the men had got drunk & of course riotous - Macgregor ordered the whole to be confined to barracks - never to enter the Town without a pass signed by himself - he says himself that he did not mean the Officers' servants - that he never thought of them - the consequence was that all were indiscriminately stopped - among others was Buller's at which the little passionate body got quite indignant and came up to the morning parade swelling with rage and evidently determined on attacking McGregor - which he did when the parade was over in a very improper manner such as ought not to be addressed to a ? Officer - and that too in the hearing of the Sergeant Major - the consequence was Buller's being placed in arrest and three charges given in to the General against him - by some feel this was decidedly carrying the business too far and it therefore ? the impropriety of Buller's conduct in our eyes - I have reason to think also that the General disapproved of the business- Graham at the request of Nicol and myself waited on Macgregor but he was quite determined and told him that he was the best judge of his own affairs - Matters remained in this state for some days and I felt much for Mrs Buller and Mrs McDonnell - the latter asked me to speak to McG - which I did and succeeded in getting all matters settled - he agreeing to accept an apology - which was dictated by myself and was anything but a humiliating one on the part of Buller - MacGregor had allowed the time to pass when he had it in his power to do a very handsome thing towards Buller and given him a sever reprimand at the same time - therefore agreeing to settle the matter after he had gone to such lengths was was deceived little in compliments and a Court martial could not have done more than slightly reprimand Buller - this affair on the part of the males - operated of course on the female part of their respective families - and I may literally say that Buller's femmes were as much in ?anest as himself - for they did not quit the house - but it was fortunately settled on the evening before our weekly club day - and the Ladies all met at the card table apparently as before - Our favourite little General has arrived at last and was most happy to see us all - We had

John MacDonald here for a couple of days - I was sorry to see him looking so thin - when you went to Aberdeen I should have had much pleasure in giving you letters of introduction - but I have very few acquaintances now there - I did not reside more than two years in Aberdeen and that is 22 years ago - Not a word as yet of our additional badges - we have every reason to think, if we choose, that the second application was never made - but Wollan is expected by the 24th when all hands will again assail him - I'm sorry to say that after all our trouble about these cursed knapsacks that I have had a very unfavourable letter on the subject from Oates - who I requested to call at the Office of Claims - I begin to despair of success and am anxiously waiting Col W's arrival respecting that business - It will not surprise you when I say that I have yet heard from Macdonald about the Prize Money you mention - I shall write to his office again in a day or two on the subject - Buller's business has enabled me to fill this better up than I expected when I began - Make offers of my best regards to Mrs R - Tell her she is an honorary member of our weekly club held in the Mess room on Wednesday evenings - Plenty of their card Loo - with the My Love, the melting Mary Jane as keen as ever and always quarrelling with Bunworth. Yrs ROB CHRISTIE You would hear of Mrs Bunworth's safe delivery of a daughter - Johnston has got a son - Mrs J was out walking till five o'clock one day and before six that evening she was safely delivered and both doing well - and to think of our healthy strong and lovely young Princess cut off in child bed while this walking skeleton of an old woman got over her delivery in an hour is enough to rend the heart

To DR, Derculich from Christie. Whistleberry, by Bervie 4th Feby 1818. My Dear Robertson, I yesterday received your letter of the 29th ult - Before leaving Edin I was remarking to Mrs Buller, whose inquiring after Mrs R is unceasing, that I had never been so long in hearing from you before for these some years past - At the same time I am perfectly aware of the annoyance it is for any person in the country to sit down and try to squeeze out materials for a letter when there is no particular business or object immediately in question - at least such is the case with myself - I left the Castle on the 26th Ult on a month's leave - previous to coming away I heard that you had applied for another month and I think I understood that it was granted - indeed there can be no doubt of the latter if the application was sent in of which also I have no reason to doubt - as I recollect the thing was even mentioned at the Mess. Col Wallace joined about three weeks ago and continues to make himself very pleasant - Nicol as well as myself did not fail to shew him what the 45th Regt had got but we get little satisfaction - there never was a better opportunity than the present for receiving the application for the omitted badges, as Lord FitzRoy Somerset to whom the former application had to be referred resides in London and had possession of all the papers connected with the transactions and operating of these days - I shall be writing to Nicol tomorrow or next day and shall hint at his engaging the Chief further on the subject.

While I think of it let me request that you tell my good friend Mrs Robertson (who I hope is by this time completely recovered) that I omitted in my last letter to send her a message from Mrs Buller about some Perth tartan shawls - Tell her also from myself that we only wanted her to fill up the measure of happiness we had on Thursday the 22nd of last month, by having all our married officers and their Cara Sposas to dine and spend the evening with us - I need not tell you that the dinner was superb - tea and coffee were served at Graham's apartments - Fiddles as well as the band were provided and dancing continued till a late hour - after supper dancing again commenced and was kept up till an early hour and there were cards for those who did not choose to trip it in the "gay fantastic toe" - The only strangers were Mackie, his sister and a brother - the Misses Williamson (without their Father or Mother!!) a Miss Watson (with Mrs McG and a Mr Bartlett, brother - I appointed Mrs MacGregor of course Commandant of the femmes and Mary Jane Adjutant and by my word she makes a most excellent one for she makes them all tremble - I will not say they love but I swear they all fear her - We were more than once nearly having some fracas at our Loo parties on club nights - at last as President I was obliged to interfere in as gentle a way as my rough manner would go about it, and happily prevented an open rupture. Poor good natured Peter is very much to be pitied - I left the mess room at half past six o'clock on Friday morning at which time there remained the ladies, the two majors' wives and Mrs Bunworth - who were doing all they could to get their husbands away from a table ? at which Bunworth, as usual, paid the pipers - you can be at no loss to know what the description of table I mean - you and I did all we could to stop it long ago - I mentioning the strangers I did not think it necessary to say that Mrs Macdonnell & Miss Bourke were also present - In order to save postage and at the same time to make you easy about your leave I have this day written to Lieut Reid on some company business and have desired him to go to Mitchell and request that he will write to you tomorrows post - I have McDonald both going to and returning from Town - there can be little doubt of his succeeding in regard to his severe wound - By the bye I sent him a copy of Rob Roy which you should try and

get for Mrs Robertson - I am most disappointed in it - Offer my kindest regards to Mrs R also from Eliza to her and yourself Yrs ROBT CHRISTIE Oates will be out about the 24th of March - he is married but he smuggled the marriage into the newspapers as J.P.Oates esq to Mrs (I do not know what) taking no notice of his Rank or the Regt - I hear from him frequently - he desired me to tell the married officers to pray for him - Smith writes me that she appears to be a woman just calculated to make Oates happy - he has taken a house and a few acres in Essex 20 miles from Town and had invited me to come and eat home baked bread and drink home brewed ale with him

180421KC To DR, Aberdeen from Christie. Edin Castle 21st April 1818. My Dear Robertson, Yours of the 10th I got on the evening of the 13th inst and it was not until the next evening that I had an opportunity of speaking to the Chief on the subject who told me that he had written to you fully respecting the marriages as well as the discharge of Boyle - who I am sorry to find has turned out so ill and who, I fear, will never again do good. Your sudden journey to Perthshire must have been a melancholy one indeed - I am ill qualified to offer consolation on matters of this kind - but it was an event which, from your mother's time of life, must have been expected and it was no doubt a great consolation to your feelings that you had it in your power to assist in paying the last tribute of respect which I should suppose is the wish of any child to do towards a revered parent

The drills are going on almost daily, but the day of Inspection is not yet fixed on - Lewis's Company marched from Berwick yesterday and will arrive here on Thursday (James as an indulgence remains with a few men) There is a report of a Company or an Officer's detachment being sent to Perth to relieve the Greys who are going to Ireland - Mrs Lewis has arrived and now occupies Meade room next to mine which I could dispense with - She knows not the day nor the hour when she may be confined - Mrs Buller and Mrs Pigus are also in a very thriving way - Heaven help them all - Bunworth is in a dreadful way - he has been in ? for some time past and continues so but the most unpleasant part has been got over that of getting his Company's balances fully settled and fully paid off to the last 24th - which is the first time since he joined at ?Leomel - I have been corresponding with the Father-in-law who is naturally very much displeased but I think he will ultimately clear him off for once after which if Bunworth falls astern again he may sink or swim for me - There is every expectation of Mackie coming in ?vice Oates - the first Gazette I think will settle it - About three weeks ago we got a most decided refusal from Lord Palmerston about the Knapsacks - but that did not deter us from making another appeal and demanding of his Lordship (who said he did not consider himself warranted to make the payment) to point out to what department further applications were to be made - this brought a warrant to pay the Commandant of the Regt £45 for extra necessaries destroyed on "service" - So far the ice is broke - but this sum was neither one thing nor another and has been refused by another strong representation sent off this day to the War Office

Have you ever met Adamson, PayMr of the Aberdeenshire Militia? He was formerly a Captain in the 84th Regt - He has a small property where he lives across the river near Torry - his house is close to Davidsons of Nenagask - When I saw him at Aberdeen he expressed a wish to be acquainted with you - he and I have been long acquainted and I know him to possess many good qualities but I fear he lives too hard for a man of your sober disposition - he would be a very good en passant acquaintance - Little Sutherland, the surgeon, is a very good fellow but I do not suppose he asked you often to his house \_ Offer my best regards to my good friend Mrs Robertson and believe etc ROBT CHRISTIE Lord Beresford is daily expected in London - Wallace has not applied for the deficient badges although he daily promises. The 45th & 74th Regts must be laughing at us.

I mean to resist the charge of £1 6s for repair of Arms at Dover until I see very high authority for compelling me to pay it - Government thinks proper to discharge a certain number of men on a foreign station and have the expense of land carriage - directs a parcel of drunken fellows to carry their Arms to Calais - They get out of Spain on the march and then, forsooth, the Captains of Companies must pay the damage - Why were not their Arms inspected at Dover before the mens balance was finally paid off? Johnston says that the return you sent him for medical attendance at Perth has been sent to the Medical Board no answer received - He is to write you again

180529KC To DR, Aberdeen from Christie. Edin Castle, 2 July 1818 12 O'clock night. My Dear Robertson, Every word contained in the annexed advertisement is truth - Mrs Macdonnell left Buller's lodging early on the morning of Friday last and was followed by Stewart who has been very sweet on her for these two months past - he was accompanying Mackie - nothing further has yet transpired - everybody in the Regt knew what was going on

except Buller and his wife but they never dreamed of such a thing - Mrs Buller who is recovering very slowly knows nothing of the affair yet - she only knows that her sister and Miss Bourke are off and thinks that she took that method of leaving her to save the feelings of both parties in a formal parting - I have been at Roslin today and find myself very sleepy so good night - Offer my best respect to Ms R Yrs ROBT CHRISTIE

[In Christie's hand] LOSSED, STOLEN, or STRAYED. A Fat ? Irish Widow disappeared from No 57 George Street about 5 o'clock on Friday morning last without giving any previous notice to the family in which she lived - She was accompanied by a young Irish girl who has lived with her for some time past under the appearance of a poor relation - It is supposed that the fugitives took the Glasgow coach as they were followed at 9 o'clock of the same morning by a tall ?temporary Lieutenant of an Irish Regt (now quartered in Edin Castle) a native of North America - The Lieut purchased a wedding ring that morning in Princes Street and he was seen on top of the Glasgow coach accompanied by a Captain of Grenadiers - It has since been ascertained that they reached Glasgow but nothing further has transpired. That a wedding has taken place in consequence there can be no doubt, but whether the ceremony was performed by a catholic priest or by the swarthy parten of Gretna Green is not yet ascertained. A reward of one tester will be given to any person who can throw additional light on the subject. God Save the King Edin 1 July 1818.

180402KC To DR, commanding at Aberdeen. Woolwich 2nd April 1818. Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 26th ult and to thank you for the trouble you have taken on behalf of Gunner Ja Forbes of my Comp. If you will have the goodness to advance him £3 on account of Subsistence, which is probably as much as he will require, I will lodge the same on his account, with Messrs Greenwood & Co payable to your order. I have the Honor etc PETER WALLACE, Major, ?Ra-le Artillery.

Major Dansey who is staying here with his brother has requested me to give his remembrances to you & all his friends, he is confined to the house at present, I think he will not be able to join you earlier than 6 weeks.

180529KC To DR, Aberdeen from Christie. Edin Castle 29th May 1818. My Dear Robertson, I had intended to have written to you this day whether or not I had received yours of the 27th - I know you would naturally be anxious but I could give you no satisfaction about your being moved to Perth - I heard Colonel Wallace say positively that your Company was to be brought from Aberdeen to Perth which was the cause of my writing you - I afterwards asked the Brigade Major who said it was no such thing - so that between them I could not get at the real certainty - For some days past it was said by Col W that a Subn and 40 men were to march from this on the 3rd of June to return the ?Greys - and Mitchell tells me that W has since said that they are to be relieved by a Subn's detachment from your Company - so that you see that I can give you very little satisfaction even yet - Mitchell filled up the application for you and gave it to the Col yesterday - I have just parted with him in the square where I tried to find out if he had forwarded it to the Adj Gen by telling him that I had a letter from you and that you was very anxious to get a fortnight's leave to Perthshire "so he is" said he and immediately changed the conversation by directing our attention to a cat trying to catch flies in the canteen window - You never saw such continued drilling as has been this season and the passions the Chief gets into are tremendous - the inspection ought to have taken place some weeks ago - but he gets it put off about the clothing not being ready - or rather the Black Leggings - their came on the meeting of the General Assembly - which will end on Monday next - the half-yearly inspection is positively fixed for Tuesday 2nd June - Mitchell is to mention your leave to him again - so I shall keep this open till 5 o'clock - I do not now think there is any chance of your getting your company to Perth - You must have been misinformed about the moving of the Greys - I never understood that they were to leave this sooner than about the beginning of June - The whole Regt lined the streets with the 15th ?Div on the first day the Gen Assembly met - the same last Sunday - The steady and clean appearance of the rangers has been the theme of praise by every person who has seen them - For my own part I have been obliged to give up the drills - my unfortunate game leg could not stand it - Tryon got the ? - he is now on leave and has resigned them in favour of Mackie who has already mounted the wings - Our Regimental club still goes on but next Tuesday is to close them for the summer season - A large party to Roslin is already talked of - Mrs Buller is in daily expectation of being confined - she complains much at not hearing from Mrs Robertson - Mrs McDonnell is still at 51 George Street - I am glad to hear things are working so well in the North - The country in this neighbourhood looks most beautiful - Bunworth is again out of funds but unless the father in law will come down with about £300 even he will be as bad as ever before three months are over - We are as much annoyed

here with marriages as you are - I refuse every one of my fellows - remember me kindly to my good friend Mrs Robertson and etc ROBT CHRISTIE The Officers are all invited to dine with the Lord Commissioner - those on duty are so daily - I have a general invitation to dine every day but I have only availed myself of it twice - he and Lady Erroll are to sup at Genl Duff on Saturday tomorrow - the band is to attend - all the officers are invited and all the ladies - ?Faris bids me say that he has had a letter from Whittendale about clothing money - he adds that he would have paid it but he was hurried off sooner than he expected - Mrs ?Faris joined with him - she is very unlike her countrywomen in general - she is not noisy nor talkative. In haste 4 o'clock P - The application for your leave is signed and in Mitchell's possession - It will be off immediately I cannot get a word from McD about the mens' prize money. Dont forget to charge the £1 which Flood advanced

180605KC To DR Aberdeen (Partial form letter) Recruiting depot Dublin 5th June 1818. Sir In consequence of your letter 31st Ult I do myself the honour to inform you that I have advance Private John Quilly of your Company the sum of £2 ten shillings he having stated that no less a sum would be sufficient to enable him to join his Regt for which you will be pleased to send me an order as your Agent in London. I have etc ?NJ REYNELL, District Paymaster

180719KC To Sergeant James Smith, Aberdeen. Edin Castle 19th July 1818. Sgt Smith, The within attached sum of Captain Robertson's Company, have signed their accompts up to the 24th June 1818 Inclusive and has found the same correct, This is a Statement of their accompts from That. I remain, J LITTLE 88th Regt [Follows names of soldiers, not the sums written] Wm Dalton, Mich Fallen, Bryn Farrell, Edwd FitzGerald, O Keigher, James Mooney, Mich Quilty

181207KC To DR, Aberdeen from Christie. Edin Castle 7th Dec 1818. My Dear Robertson, I am very unwilling to put you to the expense of postage on a subject which must be doubly unpleasant to you - Your refusal of leave must have reached you the day after you wrote to me and by it you would see that you are to be placed under the command of the Taunton Hero - This I am sure you will dislike as much as I would and it must be very unpleasant to leave Aberdeen when you are so comfortable - Most sincerely do I condole with you and Mrs Robertson on the melancholy misfortune which ye both have met with - I am ill qualified for the task of ? up patience to the dispensations of providence - your own better sense will point out to you the necessity of resignation - You will receive your route for Fort George in a day or two - Gibb comes to Perth - Eliza intends being in Aberdeen about Thursday next week, she will be much disappointed at missing you - Should you not have marched when she arrives she will be at Mr Collisons, Union Street - I shall desire her to send you notice of her arrival as she wishes you to introduce her to Mrs Gibb, but I fear the little woman will also be off before that time - There will be no confusion at all about the medals - I have this moment got a note from the jeweller saying that they are all finished - The discharged men were all decorated as far as they were entitled before they went away and were quite proud - The following are the twelve actions - Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes D'Onoro, Ciudad Roderigo, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthez and Toulouse - It is true we have not the Pyrenees and Nive on our Colours but the Lads were there and we required them to mark out the twelve for the G.C. Bn ?Cross which is really beautiful. I am glad to find that you will get leave of absence after you march your Company to Ft George - Your road home will, of course, be from Inverness by the Highland Coach. remember me kindly to Mrs Robertson when you meet - to Dr & Mrs Gibb etc. I shall settle the medal subscriptions as you point out. YRS ROBT CHRISTIE

190319KC To DR, Kindrochet, from JR. Edin 3rd Feb 1819. My Dear Sir, I have been just now calling upon a Mr Duncan Stewart who gave me a letter to send of which the following is a copy - 'Claremont Tavern, Glasgow. 2nd Feb 1819. Sir, There was a Mr C.D. Robertson from Perthshire that lodged here lately, but is now confined in Greenock jail for debt somewhat about £20 & from the nature of the case I am afraid that it will not only prove disgraceful to his family but fatal to himself unless immediately relieved - I am old that you are acquainted with his family, I therefore beg that you will give me his Father's address that I may write him and explain the business to him which will oblige yours. signed A. Fergusson' NB I am told that Robertson was some years in your employ"

Mr Stewart did not think it would be proper the Father would be informed of the circumstances abruptly, and on that account requested me to send you a copy of the letter in order that you might proceed to unfold the case, or not, as you thought proper - Mr Stewart is doubtful about sending his Father's address to this Fergusson not only on account of what effect it would have upon his poor father but thinks it improper without hearing from you to disclose the names of those to whom he belongs in case of the circumstances involving them in disgrace - I do not see much good in relieving him as it is most probable he would very soon lead the same dance again unless he was to leave the country. It is most likely that it is for the affair about which Col Wallace received the Letter from Glasgow that he is confined - I would wish to hear from you immediately what you think should be done, I get employment with a professional man at last. The situation is not worth much, but I will be supposed to be capable of doing some business after being in the Office of a W.S. and therefore will have a better chance of being promoted. The Gentleman with whom I write is Mr Wm Young WS, 60 North Castle St. He only began business in 1817 and keeps no clerk but me. It was R Niven who introduced me to Young. I am called away to the Office. With sincerest Love to my Grandfather, Mrs R & Aunts, I am etc JA ROBERTSON. My address is Kinghorn's Lodgings, 122 Rose Street

190524KC To DR, Aberdeen from Christie. Edin Castle 24th May 1819. My Dear Robertson, Learning that you was to be ordered back to Aberdeen (Bye the by the order for your company to march was off before I knew anything of it otherwise I would have written to you) I delayed answering your letter of the 30th ultimo - You are now I trust comfortably settled in your old quarters and I can easily imagine that you did not quit Fort George with regret - I am sorry that McIntosh could not raise the means of returning to the Regiment - A son of Lord Napiers (half pay 71st) has been recommended and I am particularly anxious to see him gazetted as master Stewart (learning that the Regt was to move) has sent another sick certificate for two months and speaks of joining by that time - There is no Legerdemain required to see his cunning on this as well as on former occasions - he thinks that we shall have marched before the expiry of his sick leave and he would not then be subjected to the chance of meeting Mrs Robertson or her daughters - but I hope the first Gazette will settle his hash - we could spare at least one more Master ?Hullison is at this moment under arrest for repeatedly avoiding his duty or trying to do so when he found (forsooth) that he would have to carry the Colours - particularly on the first day of the Lord Commissioners procession - he is besides liable to be arrested at the instance of several tradesmen in Town to whom he owes bills since the first week he came here and he has further in various instances broken his word to them, the the Commanding Officer, and to the officers in a body - in short he is a very bad subject - Lieut Col Archibald Campbell of the 6th has got a promise of Edinburgh which will I think certainly send us to occupy their quarters at Sunderland, Carlisle etc - but when we know not yet - The arrangement about detachments is not made - Col Wallace is now on leave - whether he will march with us or not is very uncertain - I would not be surprised if the Company at Fort George did go by water - I suppose Ellis and Rutherford are very anxious to know what they are to receive per diem on the march from the ? - I am partly of opinion that any officer unencumbered with a wife, can live pretty well on his pay and the five shillings - but I had a conversation with Col W on the subject and he agrees to each officer receiving half a crown daily on the march which to a Lieut of seven years standing makes fifteen shillings a day - they are certain at any rate of getting it when we are settled in our new quarters - Mrs Buller is still represented as being very ill but she still gives some little evening parties - Dr Gregory laughed at her last Thursday - This is a busy time with the Commissioner and the Clergy in Town. I have not dined in the Mess since Tuesday last - I must now, my dear fellow, change the subject - I find by assisting some of my friends rather liberally I shall require some money before leaving Edinr and I trust it will not be inconvenient for you to let me have - if not the whole - at least one hundred pounds for that purpose \_ Some part of my money concerns is placed in such a way as not to be touched without serious loss - but notwithstanding that I should have been at no loss on the present occasion if I had not - as I said before -been too liberal of too much, one farthing of which I cannot at present touch - News we have none but what you will see in the Edinb papers - We have been ordered to make a march into the country - three times a week in order to practice the men - the Dragoons the same \_ I saw the Regalia today for the last time it is to be seen in private - There were only Gen Lord Graham, Henry Jardine and myself present - I wielded the two-handed sword which was a present from Pope Julius to James the 4th - It is to be fixed on a table this day within a grating shaped like an umbrella tent and tightest from the top with a lamp - the room is very tastily fitted up and is to be opened for public inspection on Wednesday \_ Offer my best respects to Mrs Robertson and your Lads yrs ROBT CHRISTIE



190713KC To DR, Kindrochet from Christie 13 July 1819. My Dear Robertson, The annexed is the best reply I can give to your letter of the 8th inst and will afford you more satisfaction than all the news I could give - for the devil a word there is - Nickle's br...has given general satisfaction - Tryon goes to Fort George after the 24th, his company under Mitchell is expected here next week - McDonald has left Town - he promised to dine with me but did not - Hill has rejoined without becoming a Paymr - Mrs Buller has been and still continues seriously ill - Mrs Graham has got a daughter - Johnston's children are recovering from Meazles - My little fellow with ten other boys at school, the hooping cough - A great dinner takes place on the 22nd in memory of Robbie Burns - W Scott Jeffrey, Wilam, Hogg and Cathcart to be present, Nicol and I have put down our names - Is not this an elegant Epistle - Best Compliments to Mrs Robertson Yrs ROBT CHRISTIE You have not told me how long you was at Aberdeen with Mrs Robertson

190805KC To DR, Berwick on Tweed from JS Lindsay. Edinb 5 Aug 1819. Dear Robertson, I had a letter from your adjutant in which is the following paragraph "I would not have written you so soon but as Colonel Wallace is not acquainted where Captain Robertsons company is at present, he wished me to write you and to ask the favor of your writing to Robertson to desire he would report to Colonel Wallace the date of his March from Aberdeen and the different stages of his route so as the Qr Master may have rooms ready for his company before her arrives" I will address this to Berwick where I am sure your sending to the Post office for your Route on Hull - perhaps I may have the pleasure of seeing you as you pass thro this - In haste Dear Robertson, Yrs truly JS LINDSAY

191101KC To DR Hull from sister HR, Kindrochet Nov (1,2)3 1819 My Dear Brother, I was duly favoured with your letter of the 10th and will endeavour to write you a more legible answer than the last epistle I sent you that my labour will not be in vain, I was glad to hear of your intentions of writing to Dr Robertson for more exact information of the church's business, you could not apply to a better hand to give you all the particulars, I will therefore say nothing on that subject at present but leave it all to the much more able writer - it is enough for me to tell you of our domestic concerns which I know you are anxious to hear at present, I am glad in the first place to say that as far as we yet can we were very lucky in the servant man we got, he is a young man from about Tullimate of the name of Robertson, he was recommended to John McFarlane who was in the look out for a man to us at Dunkeld market, he engaged him for near about the same wages as we gave to Sandy last year. He was for the last four years with Culdares at Meggernie who gave him an excellent character, he is a stout active-like fellow, I trust we will have the satisfaction of him, and also of the maid we got who appears to be a very decent girl. I trust we are better off than though we had got /Clouser and all the drawback following him at all events. The frost has been so intense than some time past that nothing could be done to the ground that was drained last year as yet, we have had a great fall of snow last week, it terrified us very much to see the winter setting in so early but I am glad to add that the finest thaw that ever we saw came on yesterday, there is not a particle of snow to be seen the day it is to be hoped that we get good weather for some time now after this storm, you may not yourself assume our attending to your precepts concerning breaking up the ground if the weather will admit of it, my Father is determind to do all he can into it as soon as possible. Robert the new servant is anxious to begin the labour he sees plenty of work for the spring suppose he will do as much as he can while there is open weather. William McMullen was here lately on his way from Dunkeld after paying every penny of his portion of Crovers Bill, My father found poor McMullen honest and decent whatever others will say of him more so than some of whom we all had a more favourable opinion, were it possible it would be much better my Father should pay his own share of that bill for after all it is not very safe to leave it with Crovers and McMullen tells my Father that he (Crovers) would not accept a new bill but on such terms and security as would any man - he is as you observe a timid troublesome fellow from first to last..[more money points]...How painful it is for me to write such news as I know will give vexation to my dearest brother, but God to whom nothing is impossible may send relief when we shortsighted mortals least expect it. I trust Rob Bann's son's affair will not trouble you any more at all events, has written to William I know it will be inconvenient for him indeed if he will not settle the matter with McDonald...we have sent a few pints of whiskey to Mrs Stuart which she is kind enough to get conveyed to Hull, I sincerely hope it will reach you in safety, it was brewed by Duncan Beg, I trust it is good... re McNicoll's ma-in-law Mrs Stuart's death. Col Stewart Garth called and passes on his compliments...amuse you to hear the disputation my father and him have upon the Ministry and the Church of

Struan, both of them were ? ? upon the Clergy at least on them that attends the Presbytery of Dunkeld, the Col says that not only our own minister of whom he never had great opinion but of the whole of that Presbytery will not recover the disgrace this Church business gave them, that it was the most ? thing that ever was news of. {Betsy is getting stouter each day. She and Ann are at the wheel at this moment, father at Montrose, Findynate seedy for 4 weeks but improving ] If you and my dear Mrs Robertson could join this fireside circle we would pass the gloomy winter nights more cheerful, we wish for no other society, say that you will join that kind little circle???

191223KC Alexandria near Perth. 23rd Decr 1819. My Dear Sir, I have now to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 13th Curr, by which I find you have heard something of the ungracious attempt made by the Dictator of Atholl, aided by his humble servants, the Presbytery of Dunkeld to do away with the Auld Kirk of Strowan. I presume you know His Grace is now become proprietor of that pendicle on which the Church of Strowan stands, and it would appear he wishes to exert his Overwhelming Authority to make a clean sweep of everything that was formerly held sacred by the Clan of Robertson and which, I firmly trust, will still be so, to the overthrow of any daring individual or other conspirators who may league with him in so disgraceful a cause.

As you may not be acquainted with the merits of this transaction, I will, briefly, endeavour to give you the outlines of the proceedings, so far as they have yet gone, and I hope you will be persuaded we have done our best to thwart the designs of the Enemy

1st. Our worthy Minister, I presume, by the advice and with the consent of His Grace, presented a petition to the Presbytery of Dunkeld, every man of which, I am informed, owes his living to the Duke; of course, due obedience and active diligence was expected from these faithful servants, and certainly they did wade through thick and thin to gain their point.

2nd. This petition was given in and acted upon by the Dunkeld Presbytery as reasonable without any notice of their motives to the Heritors of the Parish of Strowan, and it was only when they were ready in their arrangements of their plan that they designed to inform the Struan Heritors, that a Presbytery was to be held at the Church of Blair, on a day fixed afterwards for the purpose of examining and condemning the Churches of Blair and Strowan and for erecting a new Church at Blair sufficient for the whole Parish, in which public worship was to be performed every Lord's day. Luckily this was communicated to me by chance in time to make a little resistance and all I could do, at that meeting, was to protest against their proceedings and with the concurrence of the Struan Heritors, to give our reasons for disapproving the proposed plan. This was strongly objected to by the Presbytery, but insisted on by the few heritors, and their agents, who attended.

At this Presbytery, it was ordained that the Minister should do his duty as formerly at Blair, until the Church was pulled down to erect the new one, but he was to officiate at Strowan only occasionally. In consequence of this, we got the proceedings before the Synod of Perth & Stirling, in opposition to the whole of the Dukes Orators, of the Dunkeld Presbytery, and got a Sentence of Synod passed, recommending to the Dunkeld Presbytery, to take care that the Minister of the Parishes of Blair and Strowan did his duty at both places as formerly, this has griped the Minister and Presbytery much; they however wished to pursue their plan of Building the Church at Blair, and the Minister, some days ago, intimated from the Pulpit at Strowan, that a meeting of Heritors, for that purpose, was to be held on the 28th Curr at Blair.

We have, however, managed to get their plan interdicted by a ?Sist from the Lord Ordinary of the Court of Session and the business must now, not depend on either the Duke or his Presbytery, but on a Court of Law and, it is to be hoped, Justice, in which, I trust the iniquity of these time serving sycophants will be duly exposed. Chiefs Niven & Irvine.

I wish I may have made this subject intelligible to you, it is all I can at present inform you of. I hope in due time this matter will be settled to every honest man's satisfaction. I can give you no family news, only my whole group are now nearly recovered of the Scarlet Fever and its consequences. Mrs R joins me in best wishes to you and Mrs R. from, my dear Sir, Yours truly. ALEX ROBERTSON

200315KC To DR, Hull from Hemingway. London, Suffolk Street. March 15th 1820. Sir, I am directed by Mr Stewart to acknowledge his receipt of, and to thank you for your kind letter to him - I regret exceedingly to have to account to you for his employing my pen upon this occasion, by acquainting you that Mr Stewart has been, for the last eight weeks confined to his Room by severe indisposition - his complaint is an inflammation of the windpipe, from which he has suffered great pain & has been in much danger - he is now rather better but exceedingly weak & reduced, tho, I trust, out of actual danger, he desires me to say that he will have the

pleasure of writing to you himself so soon as he is well enough, in the mean time he assures you of his friendship & regard. I fear to must be a long time before we have the pleasure of seeing Mr Stewart here, even if his recovery proceeds without interruption, and I am happy to add that this day's report of his Physicians Doctors Baillie & Luke is very favourable, I have the honor to be etc JNO R HEMINGWAY

200516KC To DR Hull from Duff. Edinburgh 16th May 1820. My Dear Robertson,, I beg leave to transmit you a letter which I received a few days since from (a M Henry) relative to a poor woman wife to a Darty ? Hister who was with the Rgt at Buenos Ayres. The poor woman you will perceive claims the prize (or Blood Money) which the Regt received for their services on that unfortunate occasion I shall esteem it a particular favour if you will have the good sense to point out the best method of obtaining the Blood Money for the poor woman if her husband was really with the Regt at the above mentioned period, When convenient have the goodness to favor me with your sentiments on this subject. In the meantime Mrs Duff begs to unite with me in best regards to Mrs Robertson and believe me to remain with great truth My Dear Robertson, Your faithfully attached ALEXANDER DUFF. PS Have the goodness to give my kind remembrances to Macgregor, Nickle, Mackie & all my old friends in the 88th

200920KC To DR, Liverpool from Christie. 20th Sept 1820. My Dear Robertson, You will naturally be uneasy but I need not tell you how much easier it to pay than receive money - My second call on Saturday found Mr Carstairs in his office - He put on his spectacles, read the bill of Exchange, said he knew the handwriting very well and would have much pleasure in paying it under the circumstances but really it required consideration and he must have till Monday to think if it - Granted on my part - I could not do otherwise

- Monday came - he was engaged all day canvassing votes for an East India Directorship to Mr Edmonston - my second call yesterday found him - he had thought and re-thought over the subject and could not consider himself warranted in accepting the bill - I shewed some impatience and agreed the point a little - particularly with reference to the date of the order - very true he said - the intention was visible but still he could not comply but if I would pay 3s 4d he would send a clerk with me to his Attorney in Laurence Lane, for an opinion - I said I would pay any thing that was reasonable but it was settled that he should pay the 3s 4d if demanded as agent for the deceased - The Attorney was out of Town - thus another day was lost - This morning I again missed him but left my address at his office and about an hour ago the bill accepted was brought to me - he acted fairly in dating the application on Saturday but he would not give cash deducting the discount for his own acceptance - it not being a custom among Merchants - I soon got money for it paying 29 days interest - 7s 11d - and now enclose you a bank Post Bill for £99 12s 1d - which I hope you will deliver carefully into Mrs Sophie Robertson's hands with my very best respects adding that I will have great gratification in receiving as many thousands for her without charging any Agency - I have often said that no one ought to scrimph paying on postage or portorage from ? - you always give pennyworths - thee fore as Sir John Falstaff says 'No more of that ?Hab if you love me' - If you could send me a bottle or two of real "Mountain Dew" on a frank (I do not think it would be safe any other way) it would be acceptable - By the bye I have been quoting Shakespear to you - I must give that nonsense up now - "I have other fish to fry" another quotation "but I have done the Dominion" yet another.

I have suffered not a little from a pain in my breast \_ I put a plaster on it and it is better - I walk 3 or 4 miles every fair morning before breakfast, sometimes across London Bridge round by the Obelisk and return to Blackfriars \_ I was in Billingsgate yesterday morning at 7 o'clock. What a scene! this morning I inspected the meat at Leadenhall and Aldgate Markets - continued my route to Whitechapel returning by Wapping - the Scotch Wharfs and Tower ? - I had a secret pleasure in looking at the chests, casks and bales on the different quays addressed to merchants in every commercial place of dear Caledonia "Where e'er I go what e're realms to see, My heart untravelled strongly turned to thee. till to my country turns with ceaseless pain, And drags at each remove a lengthening chain" - Goldsmith. Item I must give up these poets- Eliza sailed on Sunday the 10th inst and reached Aberdeen to tea on the 5th day. It was a most delightful passage and she describes to passengers as having been most polite and attentive - On Friday after writing to me, she was to attend the last day of the races in the ?links - I went to Gravesend by the steam boat on Sunday last with about 50 real cockney passengers, male and female - O for the pencil of a Hogart. I have only to mark a trip to Margate to finish this. The Picture - the greater part carried their own ?prog with them - while I was breakfasting in the Cabin about 10 o'clock they began on deck and below to open their baskets, pocket handkerchiefs, flasks, jars an bottles - such a display of bread cheese, ham-sandwiches, ribs of mutton etc etc - there they sat in little groups - cramming

and drinking to a wonderful degree - determined to have a real cockney holiday - I enjoyed the passing scene much - we made the passage in three hours - Smith (note a MacDonald) was with me - we had to remain 4 hours - on reaching the neighbouring heights we had an extensive view of Kent Essex and the shipping at the Nore - the boat scene, returning, was even more highly coloured - the passengers were pretty well grogified by the time of starting and they kept the steward on the alert all the way back - the Mobility of the second cabin became very noisy and the moment they finished their eatables and drinkable - overboard went flasks, bottles and jars- It was a day of days - I was much grateful - I intended this a short letter, and hour I have spent on it with nonsense - With kind remembrances to Mrs Robertson, I remain my dear fellow most sincerely yours ROBT CHRISTIE Will you tell Hilliard I attended to his wishes remember me to them all - I am most disappointed by Bartlett's not coming to Town.

201110KC To DR, Blair Atholl from Adj Soutar. Chester Castle 10th Nov 1820. My Dear Robertson, I have just time to inform you that leave has been refused to officers of the 88th in consequence as is stated of Instructions from the Government and I think it but right to let you know privately about it in order that you may make your arrangements accordingly - perhaps a good dose of the Highlandman would procure a Certificate, you know what I mean. I will write you a long letter soon - Mrs Soutar joins me in best wishes to Mrs R & yourself & I trust you are both well. Yrs DA SOUTAR PS I heard from Christie, he is quite well and getting on famously.

210221KC To DR Dundas St, Edin. from Jno Stewart. Findynate Feby 21st 1821. My Dear Sir, it was most gratifying to me and every one of the family to hear of Mrs Robertson being safely delivered of a daughter and that both the Mother and Infant are doing remarkably well. I heartily rejoice and sincerely congratulate you on this fortunate event - My esteemed friend Mrs Stewart Derculich will be happy now I anticipate the pleasure of seeing you all in the country in the course of three weeks or a month - I have already communicated the agreeable intelligence to all the neighbours knowing they were all anxiously interested about you and yours & these glad tidings will offer them sincere satisfaction - The sudden and unexpected death of my dear little favourite Hellen Robertson has cast a melancholy gloom over every person in this neighbourhood - Her parents bear their loss with fortitude & resignation - I am happy to inform you that we had a letter from William dated the 8th inst off the Downs - he must now be in London - he was enquiring particularly after your Mrs R who is one of his greatest favourites - I am almost ashamed to tell that i have not been able to see Kindrochet yet. I have been sadly hacked about of late another ? of mine begins to tease me rather too much. Make my kindest and best respects to Derculich and Mrs Stewart, all here write with me in best wishes for you and yours I continue yrs affect JN STEWART

210709KC To DR, Woods Hotel, London from Adj Soutar. Chester Castle 9th July 1821. Dear Robertson, I received your letter of the 7th inst this morning and agreeable to your request write you this short Epistle, as I really have no news of any description to mention. There is no word of our leaving this quarter in any official shape- various reports are current, that we move off towards ?Town, that we go to Manchester and Macclesfield and also to cross the water, but from what foundation these reports spring from I cannot possibly say. The Men at HeadQuarters and also the Detachment are behaving very well - Nicol leaves this for Dublin on Wednesday with Mrs Nicol - Donald is going over with them to see the city, and will return in a few days - Nicol and Mrs N do not return until 1st August - ?Mackie and Young Butter leave this for Town tomorrow or next day - I have returned you as formerly "attending the Committee of the House of Commons" Yrs DA SOUTAR My Comps to Christie. I wrote him the other day.

c20----KC To DR (no address) from Duff. Dalgety Castle 1/2 past 10 o'clock Wednesday morning. My Dear Robertson, I am this moment favoured with your kind dispatch - we shall be delighted to see you & Mrs Robertson here today it's really very fortunate that we did not leave this at the time we originally intended otherwise we should have been deprived of the pleasure of seeing you and Mrs Robertson agreeably to your kind promise - we leave this for Rothiemay on Friday remain there a few days and then proceed to Orton - I am truly sorry to find that my old Corps (The Rangers) are ordered to England as I was in greater hopes they would have permitted you to remain some time in this country - as the boy is impatient to be off, I must conclude with the united kind regards of Mrs Duff to yourself and Mrs Robertson and believe me to remain My Dear Robertson,

yrs ALEXANDER DUFF Captain Robertson 88th Regt As we do not dine until 6 o'clock you will have sufficient time to take a look at all the ?Levins about Duff House

210731KC To DR, OC Liverpool. Chester 31st July 1821. Sir, As I do not know what arrangements I can possibly make at Manchester relative to many matters I remit you a Draft for £160 upon Agents Macdonald and Campbell on account of marching etc and Subsistence for the 3 Companies up to the 24th Instant. Distribution as under:-

On account of marching &c for Capt Robertson's Company.....£30

On Ditto.. of subsistence for Do..... ..£40

On account of marching &c for Capt O'Hara's.....£20

On Ditto.. of subsistence for Do..... ..£30

On Ditto.. of subsistence for Capt Goldie's..... ..£30

JOHN GOOSSER PayM 88th Regt. PS the Agents have not as yet apprised of the half yearly Allowances having been issued. PS Lt McGregor ?Commanding has approved my sending the Subsistence for the detachment there to 24th July. Be so good to direct correct nominal marching returns to be made out for every Company to be forwarded to me with the Route

210919KC To DR 88th Regt Ireland from Anderson Liverpool 19th Sept 1821, 13 College Lane, Captn Robertson. Sir, You will please receive your par table cloths along with this & the other Gentlemens cloths & napkins. I shall be full much obliged if you will let them know when they arrive, as to the payment I think it might be as well to make one Bill of it altogether including the Ballance from Captn Hill for the Mess Cloths (when it may be convenient for him) say a bill on Loudon at 2 months date. Ballance due for the Mess Cloths £33 14s, Cloths for the individual Officers £30 4s [total] £83 18s

I am sorrow to give you so much trouble with my business, hopping you will forgive my teedum, I am, Sir, your most obedient servant ROBT ANDERSON PS be pleased to except of 1/2 dozen napkins to match your Cloths, I intend to have given you a full dozen but the Webb would make no more than these RA

211227KC In DR'S hand 'Mr Secretary Gregory respecting Rank missing 27th Dec 1821'. To DR Omagh. Dublin Castle 27th Dec 1821, Sir, having ? before the Lord Lieutenant your letter of the 20th Instant, I am, in reply, directed by His excellency to state that if the ?Rate to which you allude was forwarded to this Department and received, it must have been sent from hence to the Agents - but as to procuring an attested copy of it, the application should be addressed to the Quarter Master General by whom the original was ? it is presumed, I have the honour etc B GREGORY

221004KC Lt-Col Danbury to DR, Ballina. Cork 4th Sept 1822, Sir, I beg to annex this copy of a Sick Certificate with the name of the Assistant Surgeon of the 88th Regiment attached to it, which has been transmitted to the regiment by Private William Cummings who was given a furlough to Ballina to the 2nd September - As this notification is not conformable to His Majesty's Regulations under pages 82 and 83 I beg to be informed whether the same is authentic. I have the honour etc ?DANBURY

221212KC To DR, Kindrochet from Adj Soutar. Castlebar 12th Dec 1822. Dear Robinson, I am happy to inform you that Lt General Lord Combermere has granted you and extension of your leave of Absence from 25th Dec 1822 to the 24th February 1823. You will see by the Public newspapers that Nicol has succeeded to the majority but there is a doubt who will succeed to the Company on account of a Mr Miller having signified to the Military Secretary that ?Meade was for purchase, this letter is dated 11th May last, and Meade's father's letter requesting his son's name be withdrawn for purchase is dated 9th Oct - A representation from the Colonel has been sent to the Military Secretary & how it will end I know not. Comps to Mrs R Yrs DA SOUTAR

230324KC To DR, Kindrochet. Adjutant General's Office, Dublin 24th March 1823. Sir, I have the honor to inform you that Lieutenant General Lord Combermere has granted the following Leave of Absence which you will be pleased to notify.

88th Regt Captain D Robertson prolonged from 25th February to 10th April next when His Lordship expects he will be present with the Regiment. I have etc E O'Brien Col, AA General Copy sgnd Thos J Wooldridge Lt Col AA Gen. Major Gen Sir J Elley KCB Athlone OC 88th Reg Castlebar

230605KC 5 June 1823. GPO Dublin, Receipt 7s 6d Newspaper

230227KC In DR's hand 'Adj Soutar with copy of form of sick certificate 27 Feby 1823' COPY. Castlebar, 27th Feby 1823. My Dear Robinson, I am desired by the Colonel to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th Inst with Medical Certificate which only reached here last night. Consequently you were returned in the monthly returns as absent without leave. I have sent you annexed a copy of the Certificate required and also of a District Order for your information and guidance - I have to mention to you that when the Colonel forwarded the Appl for a renewal of your leave it was returned with the remark that the Major General wishes to know if any other Captain wishes leave before this leave can be renewed, and as there are others wishing leave the only way you have to do is to forward the necessary Sick Certificate and the letter required by the District Order - I wrote you a long letter about a fortnight ago and imagining you would call on Mr Dallas on your way to join, addressed the letter to his care, in that letter I mentioned all regimental news but as it will reach you soon I will not now repeat with the exception of informing you of your being ordered to Clan Morris to take Command of the detachment there, and that 30 of your company have marched to that place to relieve O'Haras, and Napier's Company had relieved yours at Ballina and Crossenolina and Killallen, the remainder of yours Company is at Minola and Head Quarters at present, but the Detachment at Minola will relieve the one at Ballypounis - Allow me to recommend your making your Application for as short a time as possible - Sergeant Grilles and your Baggage etc is still at Ballina but as his presence at Clan Morris will be necessary I will write to him to move there and all your Baggage, and as the Detachment there for the meantime will be commanded by Ashmore I think you should authorise him to Pay it & settle the Accounts of your Company until you join. My kind respects to Mrs Robertson and believe me to be yours sincerely DA SOUTAR

230210KC Soutar to DR c/o Dallas. Castlebar, 10th Feby 1823, Dear Robertson, As order has just been received for a Reinforcement of 1 Captain, 1 Sergeant and 11 Rank & File to the detachment at Clare, and as you are the Captain fixed upon for that station, I think it proper to inform you of it so as you can make your arrangements accordingly - Captain Bray goes to Foxford in place of Hill who has got a Light Coy - Your Troop is to be relieved by Napier's as soon as the good weather will permit - Faris and part of his Troop are at Newport, and Hartopp has the charge of the Minola Detachment - Ashmore has been ordered by Sir John Elley to Head Quarters for an unfortunate neglect of Duty - there are no other changes since you left us, only the promotions which you have seen I doubt not in the public prints - The Pay Mr has obtained three months leave of absence for England for recovery of health, and will leave us at the end of this month - Hill and his Lady joined the last 24th - You know the Lady, I think her a very nice creature - Your Company has been rather troublesome within this late, and several of them sent into Head Quarters & ultimately to Solitary Confinement. Mullany is still in jail but I think that they are now brought to their senses.

Sir John Elley goes off the Staff in March and I hear that Major General Taylor will succeed him in that case. O'Hara will be on his Staff and the 88th will move to Athlone.

Captain Bray joins on the 20th of this month, I understand he is a married man - I suppose you have heard of Follett having lost his right hand - All here are in good health & spirits - Mr Johnston has had another daughter. My kind compliments to Mrs Robinson Yrs DA SOUTAR

230825KC DR from Jno Stewart. 1823 Aug 25. Kindrochet Aug 24th 1823 Sunday 10am. My Dear Duncan, With the deepest grief I have to acquaint you that your worthy old father is extremely ill. On Monday last he felt slight pain in his throat but continued going about as usual until Friday following when the pain got worse with some difficulty in swallowing but not such a degree as to alarm your sisters or himself. About 10 o'clock last night he suddenly became alarmingly ill. I arrived here about 6 o'clock this morning & found him very distressed. His breathing very laborious with great difficulty in swallowing, pains in different parts of his chest. I immediately applied a mustard sinapism to his throat which has blistered it already, but I am sorry to add without offering the slightest relief, he is getting hourly worse & from his present alarming state, unless he soon gets relief which I

must reluctantly confess to you that there is very little hope of, he cannot sustain many hours, This unexpected distress has plunged your poor sisters into the greatest grief. I need not say how extremely anxious they are that you should endeavour to be here as soon as possible. There is nothing to be expected from present appearance so you & them must be prepared for the worst. Helen has your letter of the 15th instant a few hours after writing to you. Mr & Mrs Stewart arrived at Derculich on Friday in high health and spirits from Portobello where they left your Lady and little Sophy as well as you could wish...JNO STEWART.

230825KC To DR, no address, from Jno Stewart. Kindrochit, Aug 25th 1823 Monday 8am. My Dear Duncan, I wrote you a few lines yesterday morning intimating the distress of your worthy father. It is with pain and sincere grief I have now to tell you that he expired about thru 8 o'clock this morning like an infant going to sleep. He was perfectly sensible and recollected all day and down to the last hour he could swallow & did not seem to be suffering much pain. The funeral is to take place on Saturday. Your poor sisters who had too much experience in like melancholy occasions hope they will be able to conduct everything to your entire satisfaction. They are perfectly aware that it is impossible for you to be here. Mrs Robertson is expected in the course of the week. All here unite with me in affectionate regard to you. I am yours affectionately JNO STEWART

231121KC To DR probably by hand from Wm Stewart Dalchalloch. Dalchalloch 21st Nove 1823. Dear Nephew, Inclosed I send the last bill you signed for me and from its date you can make out the time the other bill will come due - I could not lay my hand on the letter you sent with the last bill but by the date of the old bill you can come near the time so that you will prevent it from being protested, With best wishes to all at Kindrochet - I am dear N your Uncle WILLIAM STEWART PS I paid £1 3s of expenses on the Bill.

[Separate Sheet, a cancelled bill] Kindrochet 11th April 1823 [later dated] Perth 14 August. Four months after date pay to me Capt D. Robertson, 88th Regt or my order within the Sheriff Clerk Office, Perth, the sum of Fifty one pounds seventeen Shillings & 6d DUNCAN ROBERTSON Capt 88th Regt. To Mr William Stewart Dalchalloch

261030KC To DR from GD of Strowan. Aire Pas de Calais, Sept 30 1824 . My dear Sir, I am favoured with your letter of the 16th inst & I return you many thanks for your very kind attention, the information you give may be very useful to myself and family & I have to request you continue your good offices whenever you find out any thing necessary for me to know. I have wrote to Lord Strathallan nearly what you advised me to do. I am of the opinion his Lordship will do the best he can for the interests of my father and myself & I think him an unlikely man to be disembagged by Mr Condie & if this gentleman considers it acting contrary to the wishes of the late Strowan to sell any more of the Estate, he should give up the factorship. I believe he would have more credit for his way of thinking. Old Dr S I should suppose to be in his dotage & fond of talking & probably says more than is intended. I had a letter some time ago from Mr J Condie he says "I have been proposed with a view of liquidating the debts still outstanding & enabling the trustees of the estate sooner to sell the lands of Invercomrie including the barracks, Georgetown & a portion of the farm of Finnart, with a view to this, by desire of Lord Strathallan, Mr Buist went up to go over the ground so as to enable him to state in the event of Invercomrie having to be sold, what would be the best boundary line to be adopted for the Estate of Strowan on the event & what in his opinion would be the value of the ground on the westward of this line, one to the westward of Georgetown, straight south almost by the boundary of the possession of Invercomrie only he proposed to take in about 200 acres of the farm of Inverarity, which he says would very much enhance the value of Invercomrie. Mr Buist thinks however it would be a better lot to include Georgetown and about 600 acres of Finnart in the lot to be sold & he estimates the rental at the yearly sum of £525 which at 30 years would be £15,750, he excludes the value of the game which he thinks might bring £100 annually. Were this lot to be sold the purchase money would go far to relieve the estate of all debt. It is making a very great sacrifice however to part with the Barracks & the Trustees are therefore desirous to have the opinion of your father and you upon this important subject before they come to a determination."

I wrote to Mr Condie that it was most decidedly my opinion & wish that the ground should be sold to pay off the debt but with respect to the boundary & what farms were to be disposed of I was quite ignorant as I did not know the places mentioned, even by name, except the Barracks, but that I had such confidence in Lord Strathallan & the other Trustees that I should be satisfied with their determination. My Father, poor man, is I am

afraid very unwell, but if he can get a little sound again, his spirits will help him wonderfully. I have had but bad shooting this season. The weather has been so hot and continues so, game is very scarce here. My son George is at home, he begins to shoot, he can kill a hare & bring down a partridge, but the young dog puts me in a great rage, he begins to be full a match for me in walking. Mrs Robertson is still in London, ? has been a long time but very feeble & has prevailed upon her mother to remain with her, she is now getting much stronger & I expect Mrs R in a few days. Pray do all you can to lend us a helping hand to get into the Estate, I wish most heartily to live amongst you & it is full time that George should have a Scotch or English education. I do not want him to think too much of dancing and fiddling. I beg my very kindest regards to Mrs Robertson & say to your little daughter I do not forget her. I am my dear Sir, yours very faithfully GD ROBERTSON

300623KC To DR from ?sister of Strowan. Dall 23rd June 1830. My dear Sir, Since I had the pleasure of seeing you I received the Packet that accompanys this and I beg leave to send it you for your instructions - I also had a letter from General Robertson for the Stone of Colours and the Seal with the Robertson Arms etc etc to be forwarded by the Coach and to get Box Booked. Where shall I send it to meet the Coach and get it booked? I trust in your indulgence for the trouble I give at present. Indeed I know not sufficiently to express my gratitude for all the obligations I am under to you. With kind regards to you, Mrs Robertson and Miss Sophia, Believe me to be sincerely J ROBERTSON

301115KC To DR from ?sister of Strowan. Dall 15th Nov 1830, My dear Sir, I am favoured with your esteemed letter by your servant and glad to hear that you are all as is said all is well that ends well. I know not sufficiently how to thank you for all the trouble you have had on my account and also your kindness in sending the stamp. I shall attend to your instructions. I hope now that the crop is in that you will have more time when you come to Rannoch and that I will have the pleasure of seeing you here. I hear nothing of what is going on in the marts.

I had the happiness of receiving a letter from Jamaica last week. They had the melancholy news of their Father's death. Robert says that it grieved him much that he had not another sight of his Dear Father before his Death. with kind regards to you and your, I remain, my dear Sir, affectionately, J ROBERTSON

310418KC To DR from Strowan. Elgin April 18th 1831 My dear Sir, I last night received a letter from Mr James Robertson with the pleasing news that the law suit concerning the Strowan property was at an end. Mr Keay, Mr Oliphant's council had wrote to that gentleman to say our case was fully made out. It therefore cannot be supposed that Mr Oliphant will take any further steps against us. Mr James Robertson it appears has managed this business with very great zeal & ability, and I hope it mat be useful him in the Professional way. I take this opportunity of turning you my most sincere thanks for your aid on this occasion. I [appreciate] you have been a great means of our success in this business. I still remain much satisfied with our situation here & follow my amusements of fishing and shooting almost daily. However if it could be contrived with Lord Grantley so that I could take up my quarters at the Barracks I would most willingly do so. I have wrote to Mr Condie to put my wishes before the Trustees. All my family join me in best wishes to you, Mrs & Miss Robertson. Have you heard any news of the Foss family lately. I am my dear Sir, Yours most faithfully GD ROBERTSON

310713KC To DR from Strowan. Elgin July 13th 1831. My dear Sir, I received a letter last night from Mr James Robertson to say Mr Oliphant has abandoned his action against us & means to give us no further troubles. This gentleman was not satisfied untill our Evidence was laid before another Council, a Mr Riddle, who advised him to give up the business. My dear Sir I again beg to repeat to you my most grateful thanks for your powerful aid on this occasion. Your nephew from all I hear has done himself very great credit in conducting this business. The Trustees of the Strowan Estate will not object I believe to my taking up my quarters at Mount Alexander, but I am afraid the House is too large for my establishment & together with the garden and grounds will be expensive in keeping in good order. I understand there is some furniture in it. The Trustees think it will be of great advantage to inclose, I believe it is called the Black forest & have asked my consent. It is supposed the expense may amount to £500. Will you be so good as to favour me with your advice on this subject. The Trustees mean to give me £200 per annum out of which I allow forty pounds yearly to my late father's widow. I have had an idle summer here, in consequence of the want of rain. Yrs etc GDR



320118KC To DR from Strowan. 1832 Elgin Jan 18th. Private. My dear Sir, I have been endeavouring lately to get the Trustees of the Strowan Estate to give me a Residence on the property but there is some difficulty Lord Grantley will not give up the Barracks, Carie will not suit as the farmer will not give up an Acre of Grassland which I could not well do without. Mount Alexander I am afraid will not do for me. If I am to pay rent for the House & also for the little shooting it would be too expensive for: so I am banished. This is all very unnatural. I most sincerely wish I could get done anyway with this Trust. It seems to do nothing in relieving the debt. I venture to note your advice how in your opinion I could set about it. There is not any person whose opinion I would sooner have than yours. Money can be had at a ? rate but insurance on my life would be very high. The debt of the estate is trifling, say £10,000, in that sum I have embodied £4000, so that we will say £13,000. If I had the estate in my hands I might be able to pay off a good deal by selling wood from the Black forest. I understand wood is very plentiful therein. The Trustees probably know very little about the Property & Mr Condie is at a great distance. It is very possible farms may be let at very low rents & short leases may be expiring and many other things I might do for the advantage of the Estate if I had it in my hands. I would not do anything -till the Law ? was ?. But now it behoves me to use ?caution. But before I can do anything I must be certain that I can get money to pay off the debt & this I must do with the utmost secrecy & quickness

350103KC To DR from Strowan. Elgin January 3 1835. My dear Sir, Many happy returns of the season to you and Mrs Robertson. I have much happiness in reporting to you that Sophia is in most excellent health & strength & I understand perfectly content with Miss ? & a favourite with her companions - As the general Election will take place in a very short time, I have to request the favour of you to make known to the tenants who have votes on the Strowan Estate that it is my intention to give Sir George Murray all the support in my power & that they come forward again to give him their votes as they did at the last election. I sincerely hope there will be no opposition to Sir George as I am in bad condition to travel to Weem, my health continues very indifferent & I should not like to undertake the journey at this time of the year. Miss ?Evershade has just got into her new house where they will be very comfortable; Sophia has been with us during the vacation but goes to school today; All here beg their remembrances to you & Mrs Robertson. Yrs GD ROBERTSON

3407--KC 1834 To DR at ?Tilt Inn and Hotel from McInroy of Lude. My Dear Kindrochit, I trust you will not consider I am breaking your rules to request that instead of John Gordon making his appearance ? propria persona also you ?accept of a list of six pibrochs (one or two of which I have attempted to translate into Gaelic) which he is ready to play in competing for Mr Maules prize, My reason for wishing to keep him is that having a few friends to help my toil I cannot very well do without a head for it. If you are at a loss for judges tomorrow which you seemed to be apprehensive of when we last met would it not be well to ask Dr McDonald (who is well qualified as a Piper himself) to lend a hand. I merely throw out this suggestion for your better judgement to ask or not as you see fit for I do not know if it would be ?acceptable to him, Yours always most sincerely J P MCINROY, Lude Thursday

Can't you come up to breakfast at 1/4 past nine I see you have mentioned eleven but I fancy twelve will be good time as formerly JPM. Princes Salute, Grim Donald Sweetheart, McIntosh Lament, Muldoon & ? Piobreachd (a favourite Pibroch), McLachlan's march, Finger Lock. John Gordon Piper to J. P. McInroy Esq of Lude

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Stewart, Chas, son to Donald of Shierglass ok at Vittoria 130623KC

Stewart, Alex. Milntown & Dalreoch. Send stock to your shieling 910524KC. Dalreoch, Don Roy Robertson wants to settle 010205KC. Plough wanted 010207KC. announcing death of Maj A Macdonald, Dalchosnie. 08KC.

Stewart, Sandy at Glentilt, nephew of Thos Robertson. 821001KC. ?150928KC. ?150928KC

Stewart, Daniel, at Ardhalichen coz of Thos Robertson 821001KC

Stewart, David of Garth, letter from 060217KC. 060710KC, mentioned + Clemmie 080303KC. Seen in London 080917KC

Stewart, Donald. re petition v peasants 840424KC

Stewart, Coz Duncan, financial 18KC. Financial 010105KC. W'm mentions 021223KC. Re locality 0403KC. Kind to JR 150928KC. Helpful to Christie's son 170614KC

Stewart, Miss J of Bohally, mentioned by DS of G 060217KC

Stewart, Jas at Dowally, bro of Patty. Please pay Dr S's bill 830401KC

Stewart, Jas Duntanlich 42nd, ok at Vittoria 130623KC. Killed 140722KC

Stewart, John, son to Peter Stewart, Perth, ok at Vittoria 130623KC

Stewart, John, Crossmount news of 150928KC

Stewart, John, ok at Vittoria 130623KC

Stewart, John, Shierglass. Re Volunteers 030809. promoted to Major 051123KC

Stewart, John, Pitlochry, paymaster of Volunteers 051123KC

Stewart DR Jno, Findynate. Letter, grats on birth of Sophy. Helen R is dead 210221KC. DR's father death 230825KC, 230825KC

Provided for 060710KC

Stewart, Joseph of Foss. I can't lend money & my bro may be dead in Egypt 010520KC. Has he taken his pa-in-law's property? 060310KC

Stewart, ?M, Give me money for Little Sandy's silver 001230KC  
Stewart, Patrick, Dunkeld, re Gow's bill 860414KC  
Stewart, Robt, Financial 010105KC  
Stewart, Robt, Fort George, Does DR want into Perthshire Militia? 010813KC  
Stewart, Tom of Blackhill. Seen by DR in London 080917KC  
Stewart, Misses, at Port re Volunteers 030809KC  
Stewart W, Dalchalloch to nephew DR. Cancelled bill. 231121KC. Pos partner for JR 050906KC. Wife sick 151223KC  
Stewart, Derculich 210221KC  
Taylor, ?J 121030KC  
Stewart, John, Temp Lieut 88th. Elopes with Mrs Macdonnell 180702KC, ? mentioned disparagingly 190524KC  
Thomson, Rev Andrew, St Geo's Church, Edinburgh, Attack re princess Charlotte's death 171515KC  
Thornton, 40th Regt, involved in Glasgow riot 170614KC  
Tryon, Chas. 88th 190524KC  
Walker, escape 121030KC  
Watkins, Lieut of 88th to half pay 170206KC  
Wallace, Lt-Col Alexander, CO of 88th, chairing meeting 170614KC. expected 171215KC. being pleasant 180204KC, re badges 180421KC. re Coy moves 180529KC. Ambivalent about DR's leave 180529KC. On leave 190524KC  
Wallace Maj, Artillery Thanks for looking after Gunner Forbes 180402KC  
Young, Wm W.S. employing Jas, DR's nephew