

Ms. A. 1. 1. 20. 78

Edin. 6<sup>th</sup> April 1783.

My Dear Sister,

Be so good as to present  
the inclosed to Miss Clarke. Will you  
never leave off drawing me into corres-  
pondencies? Remember M<sup>r</sup> D. Hill,

Since my arrival ~~here~~  
I have done nothing but Heard. The affec-  
-tionate reception I meet with from my  
Friends here amply makes up for the  
cold insipidity of my London Relations.  
Talk not to me of English politeness, which  
consists in a stiff Curtsey or bow and an  
invitation to a Route. Compare this  
with a clean Hearth, a good Fire, a good  
Supper & a hearty welcome. Blush for your  
English Proceeding, & allow that we excel  
John Bull in real hospitality. Neither  
are our Misses more forward than  
Yours (recollect your conversation with  
me). To be sure they neither Paint, nor draw  
the expression of their feelings from  
their countenance. If they esteem you

they are not ashamed to acknowledge  
it. Now Madam, I have seen  
Miss L. I have been displeased & determined  
never to make a second offer to her. When  
she did not accept of me, secrecy was regained  
from me. I kept it inviolably. She as  
her friends (prone of the proposal) have  
told it to my Relations. Guess my surprise  
when within twenty four hours of my  
arrival, it was mentioned to me by four  
different People. Some approving & vice  
versa. I have visited her twice & am much  
taken notice of by her Relations, have handed  
her out of the Playhouse & to her Chair at  
a Private Ball & can be as indifferent as  
the D. of Atholl. Yesterday I dined & supped  
with her at her Aunt's. Her father was  
present. My spirits happened to be <sup>up</sup>afloat &  
I flirted openly with another Lady. Is not  
this admirable.

No accounts yet of my Watch.  
Your advice was good, but had been put  
in execution before I received it. The eve-  
ning I was robbed I wrote to the Man who  
made it, directing him to acquaint Goldsmiths  
Men & to offer a reward, but I have not  
the most distant idea of recovering it.  
Your conjecture about my Nerves was ill

founded. The Gentleman I was to have wrote  
to is expected in England with the first fleet  
from Canada. Had you been present at  
my Adventure, an unconcerned Spectator  
it would have amused you; when we  
meet, you shall have a full account  
of it. The conversation lasted full ten Minutes.

Mrs Hunter begs her best Complts  
to you. At present her Breachth considerably  
exceeds her Length. Next Month she intends  
to make me an Uncle & from the good  
Health she is in, we have the most flatter-  
ing hopes of her being more fortunate  
than she was last time. Adieu. Write to  
me soon & long. Believe me never more  
sincere than when I add

Yours affect. Brother  
and Friend  
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