

# Gatehouse Postal History

**1789 – 5<sup>th</sup> February**

William Hannay, Kirkdale to James Lock, Edinburgh

Postal charge was 5d.

Front



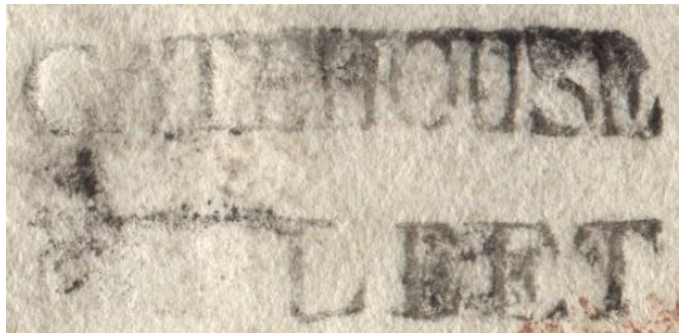
Back



Entire opened up



Hannay seal  
"per ardua ad alta"



"Gatehouse of Fleet"  
receipt of letter for posting.  
Note 2 rows : Gatehouse / of Fleet

My Dear Sir

I wrote to you on the 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> & have since been favour'd with yours of the 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Smith is at present here & I believe by this days post means to address you on the subject of McNaught. In my letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> I mentioned Minister Gordon of Anewoth to you as one, from whom there was a probability of procuring useful information, & I hope you have had opportunities of questioning him confidentially on the subject of the Bishop & his different manœuvres to procure a cautioner. There undoubtedly was a communing at Dumfries between J.B. & the Bishop on the 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>, in the course of which the latter is said to have made extremely tempting offers to the former. Young John Thompson was present & told Mr. Smith, they were such, as astonished him at B's resisting them, but he did not reckon himself at liberty to tell what they were. Perhaps Mr. Gordon also was present, & may hold himself under no such obligation to be silent respecting particulars; he may even be able to tell you more on that head than John Thompson was witness to. I do not apprehend that any thing that pass between J.B. & Mr. N. can be

material in the discussion of the first question - vizt. whether  
Marrison's right to the purchase was forfeited by his failure  
to procure caution in 30 days from the day of sale, but in  
the event of that decision being in your favour, which surely  
there is some variation in the wording of the articles of sale  
between (Laughtred & Newlaw) I can hardly entertain a doubt  
of; it must be of consequence in the question, what price  
you are bound to pay for the land. - I am expecting  
a sight of McNaught's Petition every post, I hope you  
may have been able to get a frank from some one to  
enclose it to me - Will you also tell me, what further  
you have learnt respecting JB's interference in the  
business - I am not at all satisfied on that point - In  
my judgment McNaught himself, Scoundrel as he is,  
would be a far preferable neighbour to John Anderson  
with the younger Inyone for his factor. - I observe your  
famous Distillery cause has gone in favour of the Comm<sup>rs</sup>  
of Excise, in a manner agreeable to justice I believe -  
Remember my books, the plants, let me hear from you  
& assure yourself I shall always be your dear Sir most faithfully  
Hirkdale 5<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1789 Yours John Wainman