

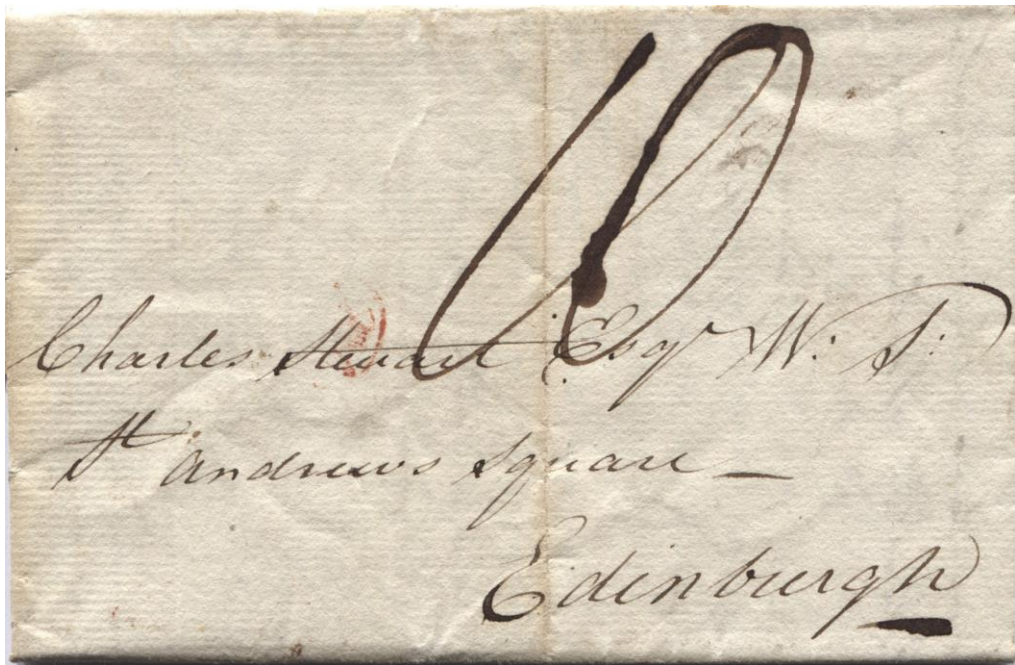
# Gatehouse Postal History

**1796 – 15<sup>th</sup> March**

William Hannay, Kirkdale to Charles Steuart, WS, Edinburgh

Postal charge was 10d.

The entire enclosed an extra sheet.



Wm Manning  
Kirkdale 15 March  
1796

Charles Stewart Esq W. S.  
St Andrew's square  
Edinburgh

GATHERED  
Kirkdale

Thirkdale 15<sup>th</sup> March 1796

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Current I duly received, and should have answered them long ere now, had I been able to fulfill your wish as well as my own, in bringing the different matters to the necessary period, before my departure for Edin<sup>g</sup>, but on account of my confinement to the house with Rheumatism and a severe Cough, which has stuck to me rather too long, I have only got a part of the business executed, — In the first place after very investigation possible respecting the payment M<sup>r</sup> McConnell's letter herewith sent will I presume satisfy the Court that the four years rent claimed by Dalrymple was very shilling paid & a discharge granted, which you'll observe by his letter, was lodged in the process against me by Murray & Plathorn, M<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Adair was their agent and therefore you must call on him for that Voucher — You are right in so far with regard to the stopping of rent by the M<sup>r</sup> Masters, but still there is no deduction for the four years I was in possession before their entry, neither have I any right to receipt of M<sup>r</sup> Dowalls lease at the end of fourteen years, as it was then of no service to me, nor was it ever occupied by the M<sup>r</sup> Masters, therefore the seven pounds M<sup>r</sup> Ann<sup>rs</sup> ought to be deducted throughout the whole of the lease, or should a reference take place, whatever sum the arbiters may think proper to allow, which I dare say will not be much under the sum claimed — But what appears to be the heaviest charge against Dalrymple, is his extraordinary conduct in telling the Fishings &c before the expiry of my lease, and that without ever giving, or even supposing it necessary to advise me of his intention; and altho I was the principal Farmer, never had the least intimation of the new sett, till I heard it by men accident some few days before the term of Martinmas — Now my good Sir, it is for you to represent this notorious fact in such a manner —

may have it in their power  
as the Court, to correct such abuse of Contract, standing on  
Public Record, and I can not doubt of their awarding very  
high damages against Dalrymple for so gross a breach  
of the Law - Pray think of his plea, for such a stretch of power.  
That the lease was forfeited by allowing three terms rent to  
stand in arrear, But then he will be found grossly mistaken  
and indeed no body can doubt of his being in the knowledge  
of all the rent claimed, being paid, and must appear in the  
Rent Book however be that as it will, I think you will  
now be able to prove that there was no arrear of rent  
but the annual sum withheld for non full payment of  
my lease, and to conclude on this head, it must also appear  
very clear to the Court that his claim for repairs of fishyard  
dykes &c is another monstrous imposition, as, in the first place  
it can be proved that they were in as good or better condition at  
last Whitsunday then at my entry, and in the next place  
allowing them to have been much out of repair, his letting  
the fishings, six months too soon put it out of the late tenants  
power to repair them, neither were they call'd on to do so  
and lastly I beg your will claim fifty or sixty pounds as the  
profits of last seasons fishing, being the best known for  
many years - I am sure you had him fair before the  
wind and if you spare him God forgive you

I have seen John Halliday and settled with him as to  
his own concern respecting the farm for which he has given  
me down the interest of my Bill for £320 in total till the  
1<sup>st</sup> of next Month amount £57.10 which was all that  
I could make of him and the other claim I had against him  
he refuses to pay it being a debt of his deceased son in law  
M<sup>r</sup> Chesney, but he has promised to see it fairly settled,  
Halliday promised to write his agent M<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Smith, what  
him and I had concluded upon - I have never been able to  
get old Mary Mevis here, I saw her yesterday, she says she  
will make it out some day this week - with respect to what  
M<sup>r</sup> Cornock advances, it is all a fabrication, and the Bill  
was

was never indorsed by old John M'Comack, so that the whole statement of that business is false, in short the contents of the Bill is totally Mary Muirs own property, being her share of her deceased Brothers effects that were recovered in this country, and no man can prevent her doing what she pleases with it, the attempt to deprive her of the money is unprecedented. I can make nothing of Blackmer or M' Muirs factor, as they appear to wish that I should never receive a shilling, neither can I get him out of the farm. Pray what is Lows doing I will write you again in a day or two when I shall advise what day I shall be in Edin<sup>g</sup>. Believe me

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Yours most sincerely  
William Hannay

P.S. I hope you will exert  
yourself to give Dalrymple  
a complete dressing