

John
Paterson

Dear Mr Harry

Your kind Epistle gives me
infinite pleasure as it brings me of agreeable
news of your safe arrival & that of Miss
Adams had of good fortune to please you & to
put you in mind of one who loves and honours
you with all his heart. My Lord Prute need
not have added of weight of your recommendation
to his own which so far as I can obey consistently
with my small judgment will always have
of force of a command. My situation in my
present case is this — One Mr Milne a
Country man of ours was introduced to me upon
his first arrival from Rome — I found
him in conversation a man of Skill in his
profession joined to an elegant Taste, upon
which I encouraged him to depose his intended
return to Scotland & to give me a Plan
This he has done so well to command

Satisfaction & so fully answerable to my
most sanguine Expectations that I have
warmly disposed of from its first appearance
& I believe not without success. I did not
know Mr Chambers or see his Plan till
very late, yet if upon y^e whole I had
been convinced of y^e Superiority of his Indit
I should have thought it incumbent upon
me to have given up my Prejudices in favour
of Mr Melus, But (as far as I am able
to judge) tho Mr Chambers has ~~great~~ Indit
Especially in the Magnificence & Elegance of
his Taste - yet in points of propriety with
respect to y^e amended parts & of economy
which must be attended to as our fund is limited
I cannot help thinking that Mr Melus
has greatly y^e advantage - To explain my
Meaning ~~expressly~~ a little better - It
appears to me that there is a magnificent

Simplicity in Madnes' Plans, there being
 no ornaments but what are essential &
 constitute the parts of a Bridge, & that
 its principle Beauty arises from the form
 of the whole and the harmony and proportion
 of its parts. — If my dear Brother will
 permit me to trouble him on the occasion
 I will do my best of honour to wait upon
 him with both Plans when his Lordship
 good sense will (I am sure) soon be
 rest. If I am in an error. My Principle
 view is to discharge my Trust with honour
 to my City & myself. And I shall be glad to
 have the benefit of his Lordships Judgment
 to direct my own. Do me the favour to
 present my best respects to his Lordship
 whose polite reception of me when I
 last had the honour of waiting upon him
 has laid me under of great obligations

The Happiness of knowing two Lordships
I actually owe to your good Office which
wanted a Motive would have bound me
to be whilst I live

Your most faithful &
devoted humble servant

Barbers Hall
11 Jan 1759

John Paterson

John Paterson to Lord
Barbers Hall 11 Nov. 1759.