

[Edinburgh, Summer, 1763]

My Lord¹

When I came to Town, the End of last Week, I immediatly enquired about your Lordship, with an Intention of waiting upon you at Balencrief, and was told by Jemmy Ferguson,² that you cast up³ in Town every two or three days and that I had better wait till I should see you, and could make myself sure not to take a Journey for that Purpose in vain. But as that Event has not happen'd, I became impatient to be in your Lordship's Company after being deprivd so long of that Pleasure; and for that reason, I now use the Freedom to write to you. If your Lordship proposes to be at home, next week, I shall wait on you on Tuesday, and I shall beg the Favour of you to inform me on Monday. Otherways, you will be so good as to appoint me some other time. I have now provided myself of Chaise; so that it is no Inconvenience for me at any time to transport myself to any place, and am perfectly idle, so that all times are equal to me, and all place where I can propose to pay my Respects to your Lordship. I mention this Circumstance, that your Lordship may not constain[constrain] yourself in the least, in case you did not otherwise propose to be at home next week

I am My Lord

Your most obedient Servant David Hume

注1 ヒュームは、1763年5月自分自身に馬車を手に入れた。そしてロンドンに向けて、8月10日エディンバラを出発した。

2 推測するに、ジェームズ・ファーガソン (James Ferguson. 1700-1777) である。彼はスコットランドの裁判官になり、1764年にピットフォーア卿 (Lord Pitfour) の称号をわがものとした。

3 NED. *Cast up* (83K) : "To 'turn up'." *Sc.*