

APPENDIX 4

JOHN ANDERSON¹ TO PINKERTON, Monday 1 September 1788

Printed from MS now wsl; partly printed (with inaccuracies) in Pinkerton's *Literary Correspondence*, 1830, i. 205–8 (misdated 4 Sept.).

See *ante* HW to Pinkerton 14 Aug. 1788.

Endorsed by Pinkerton: Dr Anderson 1788.

Address: To John Pinkerton, Esquire, at Knightsbridge near London. Single.

Postmark: GLASGOW 4 SE 88.

Glasgow College, Sept. 1, 1788.

Dear Sir,

I HEARTILY thank you in the name of all my friends for the 'Hymn to Liberty' which you was so good to send me in your letter of the 16th of the last month. It is much admired, particularly the plan, the absence of hard words and Pindaric flights, and the 8th verse (*And soon the*) which is thought equal to anything that could have been written upon the occasion by Lucan and Milton, while at the same time it is historically correct. Some various readings have been proposed which you will be pleased to adopt, to alter, or to amend. The whole, to wit, the Toasts, Song, and Hymn will be printed in a sheet for the use of the drinkers and singers, and it is wished to get it inserted in the *London Chronicle* and *Gentleman's Magazine* a few days after the 4th of November next is past.² After I shall have received your corrections, some of the printed copies will be sent you by water in a bale to Elmsly.³ In the mean time, believe [me] always to be, dear Sir,

Your faithful servant and obliged friend,

JOHN ANDERSON

Hymn to Liberty

1. Hail, brightest daughter of the sky!
Lo Caledonia, from her hills,

1. John Anderson (1726–96), professor of natural history at Glasgow.

2. The toasts, song, and hymn were not

printed in either the *London Chronicle* or the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

3. Peter Elmsley or Elmsly (1736–1802), bookseller in the Strand; see *DNB*.