

1912

To

Mrs Hester Wilkins at

Lanblethian near Cowbridge

in Glamorganshire
turn at Ross

Brecon Aug. 25th
1729

Hon^r Madam

Last week I rec'd your letter &

the things by David the Tyler, & am very sorry
to hear you are lame, but I hope 'tis well over
by this time. I have had a very kind letter from
my Brother Cann, he said he was not certain
whether he could come this circuit or not, I have
had a constant pain in my Stomach every even
ing for this month, & about a fortnight since I had
a very bad sore throat, I took several doses of Physick
for it, & am very well now, the feaver has been very
high in Hereford shire, & is now begun there again
Jack has been sick of the feaver as 'tis supposed, one
of my Grandfathers clerks was at Hereford and saw
him, but he was better then, than he had been, he
had been ill the day before, & was then about the house
last Thursday my Uncle Edward & his wife, & Mr
Scurfield & his Lady & Mrs Phillips, & two other young
Ladies & my selfe, went a pleasureing upon the
Welsh pool, they brought meat & liquor & dined upon
an Island that is in the middle of it, there is a very
pretty boat that will hold thirty people, it was very
pleasant, the pool is about four or five mile out of town
& is 3 miles long or more, I am sorry to hear Doctor Bates is
sick, pray send me my Welsh bible, & I should be very
glad if you could spare me a book of preparation for the
Sacrament, I want the shift of my mothers that is in my
drawers, and a night cap with an edging border

If my black feather which is put up with my ribbons
if you please to pack them up tight I send them to Cardiff
applies to my grandfather he will bring them me, unless Mr
Evans Williams brings them in the summer if he will be
so kind, Madam I have nothing to add, but that
all the family are well & give their service to you

I am Dr. Madam your Dutiful & affection
- son Daughter E. Williams

There is somewhere among my things a brown silk handkerchief
if you can find it send it me

Brecon feb. 23^d

1730-31

Dear Mamma

I wrote to you my last letter by

a person of Cardiff, who was to go with letters to
my Brother, which I hope you received, I desire you
will send me by the Circulators the work'd waistcoat for
Jack, I this day had a letter from him he is very well
& desired his duty to you, I beg the favour of you to
send me at assizes My mothers Christening Suit that has
the edging on it, for it will be of great use to me, tho'
perhaps formerly I should not have thought the edging
good enough to wear, but now I find the price of edgings
I must not expect to have such fine ones as when you
were so good as to dress me in your fine things.

I see every body here has hanSom whips that I am
asham'd of my ordinary one, & have sometimes borroWn'd
one to go abroad with, I should be ver^g to know what
yours cost, or if you would please to sell it, I would give
your own price for it, & send you the money when they
returne from the assizes, for I should have a greater
value for any thing that came from you, then I should
for a thing of double the price that I bought any where
else, I allways think of you with thankfullness for all
your loving indulgence to me, & I'll assure you there
are not many in Brecon that have finer edgings then
that you were so good to give me when I saw you last
F'r madam If my Circumstances would permit there is
none in the world I would sooner live with then my dear
Mamma, but tho' absent I hope I shall never live
to be ungratfull, I beg you will please to send me the
3 last volumes of don Quixot by the assizes folks, for
I brought the first with me, all this family & my
aunt Churchey's are well & join in Service to
you with L^r mother your dutifull & affectionate

25/1

over the
Brecon 8. 18. 1737

Hon^d. Madam

I rec'd your kind letter with a great deal of pleasure & should have answer'd it sooner if my health had permitted me, I was taken ill when they were at cardiff assizes, with a violent disorder in my Stomach & bowells so bad that I was forced to consult a Physician, which was the first fee I ever gave a Doctor, he call'd my distemper an hyseric cholick and order'd me a great many medicines, which at last removed it, I had after that a violent pain in my limbs, that I could find no ease whatever posture I was in, but by continuing the medecines I thank god I am now perfectly recover'd, and have been now a week without any returns, and now begin to venture abroad again, my obunt has been very ill near this two months, but is now recover'd we had a melancholy house here, she and I keeping our chambers at the same time, I hope you enjoy a good share of health, and that the gout will contribute to a long life & keeping off all other disorders, which is the sincere wish of her who with a gratefull Duty desires to be esteem'd

F^r Madam your affectionate & obliged daughter
Eliza: Watkins

Brecon May 8.th 1735

D^r Mamma

I am ashamed to think how long
tis since I wrote to you, but hope you will excuse
it, for I have not often an opportunity —
I thank you for the kind token you sent me, but
this family were then in such a hurry & I among the
rest that I had not time to write, tho' I desired my
Brother to do it for me, he brought me the agree-
able news of your being very well except the remain-
der of a fit of the Gout, which I hope contributes
to your health,

my Brother Cann has dealt very hard with Jack
and my self, & started several objections relating
to my Fathers will, though I am sure what we
had, was inconsiderable to his fortune,
he has obliged us to give up ^{of} our right to the
plate and furniture, which must now be his —
so Mrs Wilkins of St Georges will now have her
wish, & live in hopes of shining in your jewels
but I hope you will long live to use them your
self, I have so much charity for my Brother as to
think he is naturally good natured

If you would favour me with a line, it would be
agreeable, & acceptable to

D^r Madam

21/1
all this family join in
Services to you, & pray for
D^r Mamma let me have
the pleasure of hearing from you
Jack presents his duty

your ever grateful
and dutifull daughter
Edga: Wilkins

22/1

Brecon Sept^r. 7th 1737

This is an addition to all the former obligations we
were under to you, for the tender care and fondness you
always shew'd us, and shall always be gratefully
acknowledged by

Dr Madam

your dutiful daughter
and affectionate
humble servant

Eliza. Williams

It would have been a great pleasure
to me, if my good Mamma had favour'd me with a line
by the bearer, by whom I had the agreeable account of
your health — I have writt you several, which I am
afraid you did not receive, I directed most of them to you
at Lanelthian, not knowing of your being from home
Mr Thomas tells me you have been at Bath, but I hope
it was not upon the account of your health, if it
was. I hope you received all the benefit you could wish —
the last letter I writt to you was about a month ago
I directed it to be left at Mrs Gabb's at Neath, in that
I gave you an account of my Sister in laws being brought
to bed of a daughter. my Brother with the approbation
of his friends, made a very happy choice in a wife
and I think my self particularly happy in having her
for a Sister, for we were always very intimate,
your present to little Nancey was very kind for which
I join in thanks with my Brother

24/1

Brecon Jan^u. 26.
1738/9

It is so long since I had the pleasure

of hearing from my dear mamma, that I thought you were gone to the Bath, till I was inform'd about a week since that you were at Mrs Mackworth's, where I hope this will find you very well, wishing you a great many successive happy years, it would be a great pleasure to me to hear from you, tho' it were but one line, if you would do me the favour, for I shall always retain a dutiful sense of the obligations I am under to you and should be glad if it was in my power to make a return —

Mrs Chorley and all his family join in service to you my Brother and Sister since their duty they have a brisk little girl, who begins to walk about, but I hope there is a coming Mrs I am afraid I have tried you with my long story of Mr Edmund's intrigue, but the poor gentleman's death, adds so much to his grief that covered it, that it made such an impression upon me, that I could not help telling you the whole affair —
Pray my humble service to Mrs Mackworth.
and believe me to be, Dear Madam.

Your Dutiful

an affectionate Daughter

Eliza Whiting

Brecon Feb: 5.th 1739-40

Hon^d madam

I was very much concern'd to hear you were not well, when my uncles messenger was at your house, I desir'd him to enquire where you were and would have wrote had I known you were at home I thought you might have been at Mrs Mackworths, by your last letter to my Aunt Churchey.

I hope your complaint was no more than a cold, and that you will do me the pleasure to let me hear from you — my Brother & Sister desire their duty to you, the little girls are both very well, the eldest a little brown lass reckon'd very like her father, the youngest is fair & grey-eyed.

yesterday the gentlemen here went about making a collection for the poor, and have got a subscription of seven pounds a week to be given to the poor during the frost, & a fortnight after. I am glad for the sake of the poor in Llanblethian that you are among them, for you were always very charitable, and I dare say merit the prayers of a great many poor objects of compassion this hard weather

all this family desire their humble service to you and join with me in wishing my Dear Mamma a happy new year & a great many of them in health and happiness which is the sincere wish & constant prayer of Dr. madam

Yours Dutiful
and affectionate daughter

Eliza. Hopkins

This is the third letter
I have wrote to you since
I had the favour of hearing from you



Dear Dr

J. D. car,

Brecon Aug^t. 24.

It is always a great pleasure to me to hear of the health of my Dear Mamma, and that you are so good as to think of me, I was so engaged when the messenger from Neath was here, that you kindly ordered to enquire for me, that I could not possibly write by him. Mr Thomas tells me you proposed making but a short stay at Mrs Mackworth's and thought you would be come home when he returned from Cardiff. I wish Brecon lay as near Llanblethian as Neath for then it would be in my power to see you oftener then I can now at this distance who have not the command of horses or servants, I have a great many services to you from all this family in general, my Aunt Williams of Winsorton, as we call her by way of distinction, has lately been very ill with a violent cholick so bad that the Doctor and all her friends gave her over, but is now very well recover'd.

Lord Mansell and Mr Bussy Mansell came here to our assizes to countenance a clergyman, that was tryed for un-happily killing an idle young man of this town, with one blow of a slight whip, after receiving great provocation for my Master, but my excuse must be that offices is a taking time and his now past one in the morning.

I am
Hon^d Madame
Your Dutiful
and affectionate Daughter
Eliza Wilkins

My service to Betty if you please

Brecon August 31.st
1745

32/1

Hon^d madam

I proposed to my self the pleasure of
hearing from you by Mr Edw. Thomas, but I find he
has not seen you some time, I am sorry he did
not wait on you to know if you had any commands
to your friends here which he might have deliver'd
by word of mouth, if writing was trouble som to you —
he tells me you complain of sore eyes which I am
very sorry to hear, for as you lived so lonely reading
was a great amusement to you, but I hope they are
not very bad, and you should endeavour to save them as
much as you can, and wash them with S^t Mary's well
water which they say is very good.

Mary James's Son is grown a very pretty boy, I was glad
to see him. I suppose Mr Richard Powel will be married
soon to our Townswoman they say he has rented the
great house at Neath, Miss Easton is a good fortune, and
was a very prudent house keeper to her uncle, so I hope
they will be very happy.

my Aunt Churchey's family are all well, and join with the
rest of your friends here in good wishes for you and service

My Brother & Sister are both well & the seven children
I suppose you will hear from him personally
My both Aunt Williams desire their services particularly
to you. I am Dr^r madam with prayers of good
wishes for you

Your most dutiful
and obedient daughter

Eiza Wilkins

Brecon Oct: 17th
1780

Hon^d. Madam

yesterday I rec'd yours & am

very glad to hear you are in health, I hope
you will excuse my putting you to this trouble
but I forgot in my last, to desire you to lend me
my worked night gown, & my fanns, & the silk part
of my shooes which is in my Drawers, for I want them
mighty, and ribbons or gloves if there is any, for
if I can avoid buying, I shall be glad, for one
to buy every thing one wants, every little helps
& S^r Madam this has been a very expensive
year to me, being obliged to buy, two or three night
gowns, Shifts & aprons & headcloaths, & a white
holland Quilted petticoat, & against last assizes,
was obliged to buy a Suit of black Silk, which came
five pounds seventeen shillings, the very silk, bes-
the lining & making, I have begun to work my self
a suit of Cloaths, upon a Holland, 4 shillings a
yard, in red & green silk, I find a great deal of odds n
to what it was, when I was my Mamma I should be
buy every thing for me, S^r Madam I should be
obliged to you if you could give me some piece
lace to make a french call, to the lace head
were so good as to give me, there is a fair here
the 23. of this month, so I hope you will have
the opportunity to send me
I may hear from you how long you stay
& things here at P^r C^r, which will be a great pleasure
to me.

all the family
here give their
umble service to,

I. M^r Mother your
affectionate & dutiful
Daughter Eliza Wilkinson

19/1

Hon^d Madam

Last Friday I rec'd your letter &

the linen gown, which, I has been come this month from Lanblethian. I writt to you by Mr Winsmore the Manchester man, who went to the last fair at Cardiff & promised to give it some of the neighbours to bring you, in that I desired you, to send me my two Suits of Cloaths & my blue Quilted petticoat but since I did not hear from you, I am afraid you did not receive it. I believe the Surest way I can have it now, is, to send it in the Sumpter by the curriers, if they can spare room for it for I want them prodidously, having but two Suits here, & especially as I am forced to wear my black Silk on all occasions this very particular, Dr Madam I am very much obliged to you for the stay buckles you were so good as to give me, & I beg of you, not to call your Self in your letters to me, as a mother in law, for I am very sensible you never behaved your self to me like one, I must do you that justice which I believe every one that knows you will to say that we were particularly happy in you Dr Madam I beg I may hear from you, as soon as you receive this, I hope Evan Williams will not scruple carrying my things in the Sumpter, if he doth I am sure he will be very ungratfull & so I shall tell him.

My Aunt Betty Church is at work, & has been there this month, I had a letter yesterday by a messenger by chance, from Jack, who is very well & desired his duty to you, My Aunt Morgan is very well, & is gone a visiting into Herefordshire, All the rest of this family is well & give their humble service to you I hear my Brother & Sister is in Glamorgan this I desire you may hear whether they are ~~settled~~ settled there for good, I writt to my Letter, when I heard they were come back have had no answer, so I beg when you see her you will ask whether she received it, pray madam don't think that I will scruple postage but let me hear from you as soon as you receive this

When ever I am able to walk so
Conbridge will go there where there
is som that I shall get them to signe my
Will I answered Mr William Williams
Letter as soone as I had his and when ever
he pleases to send me the Will I left with Mr M
which he told me he had sealed it up to send
it me by some of the family that will be coming
this way When I was at Cadoxton I left
with dear Mrs A M a Bundle of Writings
that belongs to my Brother Hawkins of that
Estate in Gould cliff that he or his will
enjoy at my death I wrote upon them wher
they ware and when I am dead to write to them
with a direct:ions to Muxton by Newport
in Shropshire I sent my brother word when
they ware placed in a safe hand for the promiss
to do I hope it will not be long before
your Honour will be able to travell to Bath
which waters will relieve that paine you endure
my Duty to my Good Lady and your self with
service to the little family.

I am
Honoured for
your most humble servant
Hester Wilkins

May 9th 1744
Sunday

I beg pardon for this long letter
all letters from Neath goes to
Cardiff and then here unless they are
given at Butten ferry with a penny
I mention this if another time

Hon^d Mother

S^t. Georges 27 July 1746

Yours of the 13th instant

I rec'd and am glad to hear by the
Boat that you are so well. I am sorry
of the bills of repairs in Monmouthshire
amount so high this year; as far as
you hint in yours by way of present as
I did my Cousin, I heartily wish I had
been by my father effect enabled to do
and that I had a sume for the support
of my wife & Children as you have for
y^r self & family. You had 6 Guineas of
me before I knew my father's circumst^{ns}
w^tch you was welcome to, and do assure you
that no body wishes you better than I do
who am w^t the due respect of this family
Hon^d Madam

Y^r most dutfull Son

10/1

Can Wilkins

Honoured Sir

I condole you for dear Mrs A Mackworth, and
hope this will meet your Honour much better
with thanks for your kind present of Chocolat

Mr William Williams sent me my Will and
varous places for me to name some things I made
some mistakes in doing it therefore wrote it with
my hand to doe it write as for that you ware
pleas'd to send me I approve being you are will
ing to be my Executor can give what you
please Mr Aly Husband his Rings and Jewells.
What calls so is a Guardel Buckell and two Rings
for my finger the Gould Necklace was his also
the Necklace is 23 pearl Beads that ware in
the Gould Necklace & took them out to ware
separate with false Beads

what was my owne is the Diment Cross and Relic
Rusher to the Cross my Earings with drops are
was mine also ~~of~~ these are what he calls mine
as for the Tvoier Cuff is but mettall & of no
value. I was informed by Mr Horne that
these things should not be named in my Will and
that I should take the Rusher from the Cross
for that would go to Mr Cann as being Legatee
Residuary.

I am desirous to doe nothing that shall occasion
any trouble to any one while I am living
and much more when I am dead. Therefor hope
that every one that shall enjoy what is mine
may have it without any expence to obtaine
it in any respect my desire to live and die in
good will to all the world

your Honour cant give to what Daughter
you please so could MR CAN had the box

I was much concerned to see
you in the Ghout, this fine weather
will amend your cold & lameness
the recovery of them both is my very
hearty prayers for ~~for~~ yourself
and family

I returne my humble thanks for
the tea you ware pleased send me
& often drink your health in that
good liquor

pray God mend Mrs Ann Mackworth
or take her to him self, I am much
concerned about her digestion
I thank your honour for sending
me an account of her I shall be glad
to here further of it

I am
Honoured for
your dutifull and
humble service
Anne H. an. Worcester Wilkins
April 28th 1749.

To
Herbert Mackworth Esq;
Member of parliament
at Gröll by Castle
Glamorganshire

My very respc'd

45; & 1000
crys wth

John Holler

Proton 15th April 1743

I write you a Letter in answer to that which
you sent me about my Brother but rated no answer
but hope my letter did not miscarre, I shd have —
come over to see you from Cardiff a piece but that my
time was not about me. My regards sent you by —
Mr. Thomas half a Dozen of Green tea, which I hope
is quite good, I propose myself the pleasure —
of Daging you a visit this summer and shd be
glad in the mean time to have a line from you
with an account of your health and am —
with my wife best complements to you

your dutiful son &
Sergeant

John Wilkins

Sept. 20. 1728

W^r. Wilkins

Since I havd had no Answer to my Letter

I sent by Mr. Mackworth's man I thought it not proper to send
the money I had Rec'd from Whistones, unless I had yr. Order
for the doing therof, which I have expected by every Post

I shall remaine very intirely & humblye at yr. returne of the
wid^w, to know how yr. doe bearing of are ill, and not able to write
I have been hindred upon Mr. Mackworth's Hardest Busines, that
prevented my journey to Boston, until now in a few daies I hope
to take a trip, and a Tyler along with me to repair the House in
some part, where it remains throw the Tyre, and does harme to what's
underneath — I think if yr. please to take off the old Paper
as much as is needfull, to prevent buying of new —

I Rec'd a Letter from Mr. Mackworth on Saturday last, wherein
he gives me an Acc^t of his and Mad^m Mackworths and little
Ladys arrival — reporting Mad^m had had a fall, being
several at present — he's in hopes to come here as soon
as the weather willles, and has send for S^r Hamptons Horse
Cart for that purpose, I had a Letter from Mr. powder with such
news I was very sorry to hear that Mad^m Mackworth is still
in danger of lossing her life, I most heartily wish it may
not be so — as soon as I receive the oth^t part of the
Money I shall gladly come with it to see yr. wife, whom
am —————— of old affad.

W^r. Wilkins
affd with affad.

Ep^t. D. faithfull humble
S^r. Thos. Plotting

Hon^d Mother

S^t Georges 27 July 1746

Yours of the 13th instant
I rec'd and am glad to hear by the
Beaver that you are so well. I am sorry
y^r bills of repairs in Monmouthshire
amount so high this year; as far as
you hint in yours by way of present as
I did my Country, I heartily wish I had
been by my Father's effects enabled to do
and that I had as much for the support
of my wife & Children as you have for
y^r self & family. You had 6 Guineas of
me before I knew my Father's circumstances
w^tch you was welcome to, and do assure you
that no body wishes you better than I do
who am with the due respect of this family
Hon^d Madam

Y^r most dut^l son

Wilkins

Last Saturday fortnight, died at Cowbridge in the 105th year of her age, Mrs Elizabeth Wilkins widow, who retained all her faculties in great perfection till she had passed her 100th year, and her understanding till the last.

She was a truly good woman.

Hereford Journal
27th January 1785