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## Letters from Lord Elgin to Harford Jones

<b>Holding Institution</b>	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
<b>Reference</b>	IOR/L/PS/9/76/103
<b>Date(s)</b>	16 Nov 1799-21 Dec 199 (CE, Gregorian)
<b>Written in</b>	English in Latin
<b>Extent and Format</b>	1 item (2 folios)
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### About this record

Two letters from Lord Elgin, newly appointed HM Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, to Harford Jones, Resident in Bagdad [Baghdad].

The first letter, sent from Constantinople [Istanbul] and dated 16 November 1799, announces Elgin's arrival in Constantinople and assumption of his duties, offers assistance, and asks for information regarding Bagdad and Persia [Iran].

The second letter, sent from Constantinople and dated 21 December 1799, orders Jones not to open or read any letter addressed to Elgin from India.

Duplicates of these letters can be found in IOR/L/PS/9/76/106.

To  
Harford Jones Esq.<sup>r</sup>

Sir

On the 6. Instant, I reached Constantinople in the Character of his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and have resumed accordingly the direction of the Business of this Mission.

I found here on my Arrival a Letter from you, to which I shall be happy to pay every Attention, the Moment my presentations are over, and that I can enter upon Affairs with the Members of this Government.

Mean while after much Conversation with M<sup>r</sup>. Dundas respecting you, and the Communication which he made to me of your Correspondence

J



Letters from Lord Elgin to Harford Jones [1v] (2/4)

I beg to offer you any assistance, in my Power here,  
and to desire to hear from you as often and as circum-  
stantially as possible.

I shall have more Leisure shortly to  
enter into Subjects worthy Attention. At present I shall,  
merely request you will be so obliging as to furnish me  
with full Information, relative, to your Situation and to  
the Commercial Interests, of the East India Company con-  
nected with the Establishment at Bagdad. Every notion  
you can procure me respecting Persia, comes to be of  
much consequence at the present Conjunction; and I  
am anxious, to have this Information with the advantage  
of your Authority.

I have the honor to be  
with much Respect  
Sir

Constantinople  
the 10: November 1799.

Your obedient humble Servant  
Elgin



Sir,

(2)

Not being acquainted with the orders under which you may act, relative to Letters passing thro' your hands, I must beg Leave, to say that my Instructions for corresponding with India, being in many Instances of a most Secret Nature, no Letter enclosed with my Name, or directed, to me, and coming to you on the passage is on any account whatsoever to be opened or read. And I have to request, that you will by the first opportunity send me, a written Acknowledgement of your having received, and your Complying with this official, direction.

I have the honor to be  
with the highest Respect  
Sir

Constantinople  
the 21. December 1799.

Your obedient humble Servant  
Elgin

True Copies  
Harford Jones



Letters from Lord Elgin to Harford Jones [2v] (4/4)

