

anticipated by, my dear Sir,
ever yours most truly
Jane Porter

Dedicated one of her works
to Smith.

For Drury Smith, K. I. G. G. C.

Paris

J. Porter

84
83
Conisbroke - Isle of Wight.

March 20th - 1826

My dear Sir!

Some weeks ago I ventured to write a
little petition to you; but which, having sent
under a very vague direction, I fear has never
reached you; and, as its purport is very dear
to my heart, I cannot refrain from adven-
-turing another letter, through perhaps a better
channel - the Foreign Office - where your ^{certain} address
must assuredly be known. - Lady de Mors was
the first who told us you had moved from the
Royal St. House, and probably from Paris; but if
this letter does reach you, may I hope you
will indulge me as soon as may be after-
-wards, with a few lines in some reply? - For,
at any rate to hear from you at all on the
subject, would be a gratification to the feelings
of the young soldiers in whose behalf I prefer
my petition! - In short, a young kinsman of mine,
who has enough of the true spirit about him, to

feel on his own mind the animating influence
of any personal notice from the real Exemplars
of his future life - he is ambitious of the distinc-
tion, (even to enrich the memories of that life
please heaven it be prolonged!) to have one line
of kindly wishes in his favour, from his Sidney Smith.
To this purpose I addressed my former letter ^{(which}
I sent per post, to the care of the Secretary of the
British Embassy at Paris.) requesting of your goodness
to give him an introduction to the General on the
Jamaica Station - Ormerot that is, or indeed to any
of the Captains on the Station. - But rather than we
have the highly prized honour to him, and to some
of your friends noticing him as I wish, if you do
not know any of these navy men, a line to
any of the persons to whom he has already very
gratifying letters, would yet be from you - but
that is all he wants. - The Dutty of Michon
has kindly given him letters to the Duke of Montagu
and Colonel Broule the adjutant General, and our
old friend Sir Charles Doyle, also Sir George Pollock,
have furnished him with similar introductions.
Therefore, Dear Sir, you see it is not the Intro-
duction he so much thinks of, as the ambition
so honourable to him of having his name at all

noticed by you - Should my former letter, therefore not
reach you, it will be necessary for me now to add
that his name is Henry Gill, and an Ensign in the 50th
Regt: now stationed in Jamaica. - He's not yet twenty years
of age, he has been a Soldier five; three of which he
served in Jamaica, till ill health sent him home
two years ago; and now, on convalescence, he is un-
der orders to return, which he will do in the first
embarkation for that Island. - Were he not in every
way worthy the esteem of his Sidney Smith, I
should not introduce him thus, even by name;
and I have the pleasure to say he stands well
in the esteem of both
his Uncle Doyle and his
Aunt Torrens, and the
Duke of Gloucester has
taken the most cordially kind notice of him
while he was lately in Town. Henry Gill is my
Mother's nephew, and by his Mother's side of the
truest race; which, latter, if I mistake not portends
even of yours, by the House of Douglas! -
You see, Dear Sir, how I would claim
kindred for him to you, by blood, as well as
spirit! -
I shall be here with his mother till he sails,
and best your answer will be anxiously