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**JAMES STEPTOE LETTER TO FRANCES LANGHORNE, 16 October 1821**

James Steptoe writes to his daughter, Frances Langhorne, wife of Henry Scarsbrook Langhorne, concerning the purchase of “some articles of dress” for the daughters of “Mr. Johnston” and asks that her husband, “Harry,” lend him \$45.00.

James Steptoe, 1750-1826, was clerk of the court in Bedford County, Virginia, for 54 years. His daughter, Frances, married Henry Scarsbrook Langhorne in 1816. “Mr. Johnston” is probably Charles Johnston of *Sandusky* who married Steptoe’s daughter, Elizabeth Prentiss Steptoe in 1806.

Mrs. Frances Langhorne

near Lynchburg

Dear Frances,

I promised Mr. Johnston's little daughters sometime ago that I would give them a small present of some article of dress. By Mr. Johnston a good opportunity now offers to send them up something. I have no money by me. Ask Harry to lend me \$45 and take the order which I have drawn on Mr. Pettyjohn. It will be promptly paid to the day as he has sent me word that he would be ready on the first day of the next month. You must judge yourself what would be most proper after consulting with Mr. Johnston. Some article of dress no doubt.

Yrs aff<sup>y</sup>

Jas. Steptoe

Oct. 16 1821