

1805

I am very happy, my dear Princess
Charlotte, in this opportunity of writing to
your M^t, and of assuring you once more
of y^r. deep interest w^{ch}. I take in your wel-
fare.

Permit me to congratulate your M^t
on y^r. advantages w^{ch}. you possess in being un-
der the direction of such a preceptor as
y^r. bishop; & allow me to express my hope
that you will improve those advantages,
whilst your early years afford leisure & abi-
lity for y^r. attainment of wisdom & virtue.
Oh your age, my dear Princess, a day is a
period of serious importance; every day
some knowledge may be acquired, some
good principle strengthened; and a day
unimproved is lost for ever.

When I had y^r. honour of attend-
ing on your M^t, pardon me if I say
that you had a failing, w^{ch}. I trust you
now anxiously endeavour to conquer. A
tendency to dmit can never remain in

GEO/ADD/22/113

a mind, however young, which is strongly & properly impressed with a sense of y^r. constant presence of God; and therefore I am willing to hope that y^r. religious instruction w^{ch}. forms an essential part of your education, may have eradicated this fault in your character, & have answered, so far at least, the wishes of those by whom that instruction is imparted, and who devote themselves wth. unceasing anxiety to promote your happiness, both temporal & eternal.

Your Mth will, I am persuaded, treasure y^r. liberty which I take in addressing you with so much freedom; - your exalted station will procure you many flatterers, but it ^{will} prove an impediment to the acquisition of real friends; - You can never therefore sufficiently value that advice & information which proceeds from sincere affection & faithful duty. In the course of your future life, such advice will be offered

only in proportion as you appear to prize it; and if you slight kind and useful counsel, flatterers will remain, but friends will retire.

I feel assured that your Mth will ascribe to the true motive all which I have ventured to say, and that you will believe me to be your much attached and affected friend, though, with the respect due to your rank, I am also

Your Royal Highness's
obedient & devoted servant

Mary Stuart

Sept. 12th. 1805.

Copy of my
Letter to Mth
The Princess
Charlotte.
Sept. 12th. 1805.