

Draft to the Earl of Ailesbury
Queen's House June 4th 1776.

16087

My Dear Lord, This comes from one who knows Your excellent heart, and can therefore attribute the uneasiness he has felt to its true cause, and would not consequently have been just, if he had allowed himself even in the first hurry of surprise, to have lost sight of the pain and grief You must have been tormented with, at the thought of the effect it must naturally have on his mind; for he is but too fully convinced of the real affection You have for him.

From the moment I had laid before Your excellent Brother my distress, and the certainty of Your Duty and Warm Attachment to me, the strong tie of Brotherly Affection for You, made him without the smallest hesitation see the line he ought to pursue.

I was then relieved from my personal distress and had no wish left, but that Your mind should be as soon as possible at ease. A letter from me at that moment would not have been of any advantage to You, I therefore desired the Duke to call on You, which he did twice without being able to get a admittance; when I saw him late at night we neither of us were surprised, but he promised to write a note, which I readily in the strongest manner pressed might be sent at night; for I was certain that early yesterday morning You would leave Town. Your amiable Brother and Successor, by shewing to me the last evening Your answer, has set my mind at rest, which I must repeat was then alone grieved on Your personal Account, but now let me quit this unpleasant Subject, and as Your friend turn to one more serene.

The Duke has not thought it right to accept of an Earl hood, that the World may see ~~he~~ has no view in coming to my aid, but
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the honorable one of doing his Duty. I have therefore signed the
Warrant for the Earl^{dom} of Ailesbury, and hope when a little time is
elapsed to see you, but first in private, and from this hour you
shall never hear me mention what has happened, and the Earl of
Ailesbury will through life find in me the affectionate friend
Lord Bruce knew he had.

Too strong feelings of the heart may frequently give a man
pain, but they shew the Virtue he possesses, and must obtain
the esteem of those who prefer that Guide to the more artificial
and practiced one, I mean the Head.

Lucas House
June 4. 1776.

George J.