

G. Colman to Col. McMahon

Followed  
by 19112,  
to which  
this is  
the covering  
letter

18645-6

31 October 1811.

My Dear Sir,

Accept my cordial thanks for  
your attentions to Mr. Winton, & for the very  
kind and friendly readiness you express'd to him,  
in respect to presenting my Memorial to the  
Prince Regent: — which Memorial I now  
enclose to you open, that you may be convinced  
there is no Gunpowder put into it, with a  
view to blow up any of my regular Allies.  
I am merely acting upon the principle of  
preserving myself. — Much innovation has  
already taken place in Play-Houses; & the  
clouds of Revolution are gathering over the heads  
of the old theatrical constituted Authorities.  
I think, in such times, my old Colleagues, King  
Sheidan, and King Harris, should (for their own  
interests) support me; & not suffer my small  
State to be annihilated, in a grand impending  
convulsion. — The little Theatre is a little  
Poland: — I would, if possible, still preserve my  
dominions. — In regard to Mr. Sheidan's  
interests, I know not how to express my sentiments  
better than by enclosing you an Extract from



C. Colman to Col. McMahon

a letter, which I have just written, on the subject of my Memorial.

I think it will be much against Mr. Sheridan's solid & ultimate interests to oppose me: - I think it will tend much to his solid & ultimate interests (for reasons which you will perceive in the enclosed Extract) to forward my plans. - If Mr. Sheridan, under the present difficulties of the late Drury Lane Theatre, must cooperate with any body, I should imagine that his policy, - I should hope that his sentiment - would make him lean towards me; - his old Ally in particular - his Adverser in common with all those who are capable of feeling the force of his talents. - If your friendly propensities towards me should induce you to explain all this, at the time the Memorial is presented, you must be aware of the infinite obligations under which you would place

Yours, as ever his,  
most truly,  
J. Colman

18646

P.S. Excuse, my Dear Sir, the very rough sketch I have sent you of an Extract of a letter. - I am fagged, by theatrical business, almost to death.



1888

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*