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GEO/MAIN/

Apr. 24 1799

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My dearest Son. At my arrival in London one Monday
I was told You was arrived the Night before & that
unexpectedly, which made me put off writing that Day
& in the Evening I was rejoiced to hear that Mr Ferrington
had given a very excellent account of Y^r Health to
Harcourt, which I trust will encourage You of going
on with the Waters in a Temperate way as the best means
of insuring Success. You ask me about the
Report of the Duke of York's House being upon
Sale, & desire me for once not to be too Prudent.
What I know about it at present, I was told by
Y^r Brother Ernest, & that it was believed by the
World that the King had granted Him some Ground
in the Park for Building, that the Duke however
denied both the Selling His House & the Grant.
Two Years ago I remember hearing that a Great
Builder was about York House, & instead of Paying

down the Money, He was for the Value to Build a
 New House for the Duke near Whitehall. This was told
 me by the King as a Scheme of which He Himself
 had no Great opinion, & in a few Weeks after that
 All Part of this was given up. Last Year when we
 Breakfasted at His Office He said that He was
 so well lodged at Whitehall that He had thoughts
 of putting up a Bed ^{chamber} & make it His entire habitation
 to which I answered, why not! for as You live at
 present a Great House is Useless for as the Dutches
 cannot be there. My Family is always divided. This is
 all that passed between Him the King & me. but I believe
 Nothing has passed this Winter more particularly, only
 that variety of Furniture has been transported from
 London to Oatlands which probably has given
 rise to the report at least for renewing it. The
 Dutches has been so very Ill that the Duke was sent for

on Saturday
 & was not
 to send to
 Brothers
 Well, it has
 Ad
 Stephen
 to the Queen
 as it is but
 Happy She
 The Duke
 at God's
 to Chichester
 presented
 of course
 Ireland.
 the Dowager

id a on Saturday last, she has kept Her Bed for four Days
 was not to attempt getting up till Yesterday, I mean
 myself to send to Day to make inquiries after Her. If two
 Brothers are to go to the levee pour les baise mains.
 Well, it has lasted long enough before it came so far.

Ed Mac is arrived safe & well, to live with Her
 Nephew, she talks of taking a better House, of Subscribing
 to the Opera, & to see company every Saturday Night
 as it is but fair to be absent one Night in the Week.
 Happy she who enjoys such Spirits at 81.

The Duke of Rutlands Wedding was very quiet
 at Lord Carlisle's House. The Young Couple are gone
 to Chevaly & if I am well informed, are not to be
 presented until the deep Mourning is over, which
 of course can not be till after the Dukes return from
 Ireland. Lady Elizabeth & Mr Norman are both with
 the Dowager Dutchesse de Belvoir & very happy, c'est une bonne

Prospective your Monsieur Forest. ^{by Antoin} is to
be Married to Morrow. Oh! how I wish that ^{God}
Marc Ferr was arrived to marry ^{by} Charlotte Her
Sister. She is but in a bad State of Health, & the in-
cessant Dalls & hot rooms I fear will injure Her much.

& Now for poor Mrs Barber, indeed if I could
not grant Her request. The applications are ^{very}
exaggeration above 20. some of which of ^{the} ^{Princes} ^{of} ^{France}
others of such a Nature, as to require ^{some} delicacy
in choosing without offending. & She is ^{right} in saying
Her Age is against Her.

I have seen little Charlotte She was delightfull
& declared She would not leave the House till she
had seen us go to the Play. She grows very Tall indeed.

& now I think it is Time to release You, & I will
finish by wishing You fine Weather which is very Essential
to make the Waters Beneficial, & to clear my Head, which is very Dull,
but not so Dull, as not to feel the Pleasure of Subscribing myself
2. St. St. 29th April. 1799.
Your affectionate Mother & Friend Charlotte