

[Enclosure]

GEO/MAIN/

23. Oct. 1811

36579

My Lord

Altho' Your letter of the 21st Instant did not appear to require any immediate reply, I have felt that it would be advisable to convey to you previous to the Meeting of the Council on Saturday next, a few Observations which have occurred to me & which I had at first proposed to have stated verbally on that day.

I am glad to find that the Order which the Council left with D^r Wether was not intended for I had conceived it to be considered as dispensing with the Condition which I had prescribed that the Consulting Physicians should attend here conjointly, but I cannot deny to you that the Representation made on Saturday by D^r Simmones added to my Knowledge of his Presumption & to other Circumstances which have occurred, confirms my Suspicion that he has it still in view if possible to introduce himself into the exclusive Management of the King & is therefore proceeding towards the Attainment of that Object, by such Means as shall appear to him, best suited to his

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Supra. I am confident that upon reflection it must strike the Council as it does me, that no well grounded or even plausible plea of personal convenience, can be assigned by Dr Simmon which should render it a matter of necessity during His & Dr Munro's occasional conjoint attendance, that either should have acced separately to the Kings Proem, The nature of their Practice does not render them liable during their short attendance here, to any Applications from the Neighbourhood, requiring even a temporary Absence from the Castle, & the particular Object of their Attendance must be more actively enured by their joint Observations of the Kings Demerit — There cannot therefore be any reasonable ground for Dr Simmon's Presentation, & while it strengthens the Suspicion to which I have before adverted, it adds to my Desire that the condiction upon which I consented to His having Acced should be executed in its full extent.

I am sensible that it may occur to the Council that I am more pained & more determined in my Opposition to Dr Simmon than to any other Person, & that having waived my original Scruples, the present Objections may

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be termed preposterous or at least superfluous. I must however observe to you that the original ground of Opposition which applied equally to Dr Simmons & Dr Willis was confined to a principle of Deference to the King's Injunctions, & was wholly free from any personal Objection which I, or any of my Family ever entertained towards Dr J. Willis. This is far from being the case in respect to Dr Simmons whose conduct & Proceedings (exclusively of the Prejudice generally imbibed by the King towards Individuals similarly circumstanced in regard to His Majesty) had rendered him justly obnoxious to the King, to myself, to the whole Royal Family & to the Individuals Attendants. I believe I have more than once expressed my sentiments verbally to their effect to you & to others of the Council, & altho we have unfortunately differed in this point & altho you have considered it necessary from Motives to the Purity of which I do full Justice, to urge Measures in which I could not concur, or to which I could assent only with Reluctance, I am persuaded that you are all sincerely disposed to consult as far as you may consider it to be consistent with what is due to Public Feeling & Prejudice, the Comfort & the

Tranquillity of the King's family, & that You will
not therefore press upon me & these any measure
which while it must at best appear to You one
of very doubtful Utility, to us one of hopeless
Benefit, would be calculated greatly to heighten
the Displeasur & to increase the Difficulties by which
our feelings are already so greatly harassed
of such nature would certainly be any Proposal
for extending to Doctor Simmons faculties of
Access beyond those already given, still more for
Sanctioning any Interference on His part in
the Management, which, I must repeat, I am
confident is the Object of His wishes & of His
Proceedings -

I am aware that He has laid great Stress upon
having attended the King in the last Illness from
which it pleased God that he should recover, but
I do not see upon what grounds He presumes
to claim exclusive Merit as it stands on Record
that the King had recovered from two previous
illnesses under the Management of other Phy-
sicians. The Disappointment of our anxious
hopes on the present melancholy occasion has
been, I verily believe, attributable under Pro-
vidence, not to any want of skill or Attention
in those who have attended Him, but to circumstances

of a general & Public Nature which had upon no former occasion prevailed to such extent.

I am not callous to the great Responsibility which attaches to the Situation of the Council & far be it from my Intention to add to the Difficulties which they must encounter in the Discharge of their painful Duties; But for serious as I am that I am maintaining certain Sentiments upon just grounds & from the purest Motives, Confident as I am that no Individual Subject of the King can feel more tenderly alive to His Welfare & Interest, more warmly anxious for His Recovery than I do, I am willing to share the utmost Responsibility which may be thrown upon the Council, & further shall not shrink from that of having persisted in my Opposition to a measure the Adoption of which I shall never cease to deplore.

Oct. 23

Windsor Castle

signed

Charlotte

Postscript. In vindicating Dr I. W.'s Character I beg it may be understood that I do not wish either him or Dr Monro to be established here.

The Queen
Oct. 23. 1911.