

1 Sep. 1815

36750

My Dearest Son. Unwilling as I feel to trouble You upon a Subject on which We have unfortunately differed and which therefore has become doubly painful to Me; I am driven to the Necessity of acquainting You that I received last Night a Letter from My Eldest Nephew written in Terms so offensive and so insulting to My feelings as a Mother and a Woman and in which He has so entirely lost Sight of what He owes to My Station and I may add to Yours also, that I cannot with any regard to Decency shew it to any Individual of my Family— You will however be able to judge of its Tenor from the Answer which I have sent to it and of which I inclose a Copy which I request You will shew to the Duke of Clarence. Strong as it may appear I must assure You

that every word in it is mild when compared with that to which it replies and I trust that My just Indignation has not caused Me to lose Sight of My Dignity, Altho He has set it Completely aside.

I have too frequently experienced proofs of Your Kindness & Affection to allow Myself to believe upon this Occasion that You could ever have invited or encouraged any Proposal for bringing My Nephew to this Country, if You could have foreseen that He was to be brought here for the purpose of bullying & Insulting Your Mother, — but I cannot deny that I have felt most acutely the want of Support which I might have expected in the course of a Proceeding which, being decidedly repugnant to the feelings of Affection & Solitude which

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which I have ever entertained towards My own Family, could only be adopted and persisted in from a Strong and deep rooted Sense of what I owe to My own Station in this Country, to the Maintenance of respectable Society, consequently to the Welfare and Credit of My Family here and above all to the Support of Your Character as Representative Sovereign, during the lamentable Illness of My beloved Husband to whose Counsels I cannot any longer resort, but whose bright Example is ever before My Eyes.

My Conduct has been fair and open throughout this unpleasant Transaction and if all had acted on the same Principle, the Embarrassments which have arisen would have been obviated

* Thank God I have both the Will and

the Spirit to protect Myself under Distress
and difficulty which would otherwise have
overpowered Me, as they have already Materially
Affected My Health— I have desired the
Messenger to wait for Your Answer, trusting
that it will convey some comfort to

My dearest Son

Windsor
the 1st Sept^r
1815.

Your very affectionate
Mother & Sincere Friend

Charlotte

1st Sept^r 1815.

The Queen to Mr
Gavin Keppel

GEO/MAIN/

36752

Copie

A Windsor, le 1^{er} Septembre

1815

Monsieur,

Vous vous m'oprenez sur Mon
Caractère, et Vous avez mal interprété la Modération
et le Management, avec lesquels J'ai répondu à tout
ce que Vous m'avez dit, si Vous pensez qu'après avoir
eu devoir résister aux Instances auxquelles il
m'auroit été si doux de Me prêter, Je pourrois céder
à l'Insulte et à la Menace. — Mon Sexe, mon Age
et ma Position auroient dû Me mettre à l'abri de
l'une, comme la Conduite que J'ai toujours tenue
Me mettent dans le Cas de mépriser l'autre, et
Je ne puis croire que le Roi de Prusse ou Mon
G^{ne}

Grâce

Frère Vous sachez gré de l'abus que Vous faites
de leurs noms dans la Lettre révoltante et indécente
que Vous Vous êtes permis de m'écrire.

Il est inutile que J'ajoute que
Vous pouvez Vous épargner la peine de venir ici,
et que des Lettres dans lesquelles Je ne dois m'attendre
qu'à des Insultes ne seront plus reçues.

(Signé) Charlotte