Bath. Decbr 19th 1817.

My dearest Son. I have endeavoured as much as it was in My Power to execute Your Commission with which You so kindly charged Me about the Duke of Clarence. At Our return from the Mansion House I read to Him Your Letter in the Presence of Elyza and after giving the Contents of it the most perfect attention, & talking it over for some time, I desired He would state His Sentiments upon Paper and to Speak as openly & undeservedly upon so Interesting a Subject as Possible being myself persuaded that by Your manner of representing the Subject You expected an Upright answer. I was the more anxious for His comming into this Proposal as it will prevent all misconception & open to You at once the difficulties under which He Labours and

without those can be removed I doubt He will think it advisable to Marry (by that I mean His Pecuniary affairs which lay heavy at His Heart) As to what relates to His Children I should think that is a Point which if He Marries must be settled amongst themselves, for as they are not to live under the same roof I cannot see why if the Princess is reasonable She should object to see those Children. I inclose the Copy & make no further Comments upon it as it will explain the whole.

I ought to have begun by thanking You for Yr kind inquiries after Me. I feel thank God well in Health but continue still to Puff when I go up & down Stairs but Dr Gibbs who is a Sensible Modest Man assures Me that I shall feel the good Effects of the Water some

hence. I was made very happy by a Letter I received last Night from Sr H. H. who assures me that He left You going on as well as He could expect after the Shock Yr Nerves have sustained lately. I would add more if My Head would allow it, but I must not overdo it, & am besides pressed for Time as I am a going to see a Collection of Pictures, I do not expect to find Yrs amongst them, but that Image is always present to the Eyes of

My dearest Son

Your very affectionnate
Mother & Sincere Friend

Charlotte

The Queen
to
The Prince Regent
Dec. 19th. 1817.

Bath Dec: 19th 1817.

My dearest Son. I have endeavoured as much as it was in my Power to execute Your Commission with which You so kindly charged me about the Duke of Clarence. At our return from the Mansion House I read to him Your Letter in the presence of Eliza & after giving the contents of it the most perfect attention & hearing it over for some time, I desired he would state his Sentiments upon it & to speak as openly & unreservedly upon so interesting a Subject as possible. being myself persuaded that by Your manner of representing the Subject You expected an upright answer. I was the more anxious for his coming into this Proposal as it will prevent all misunderstanding & open to You at once the difficulties under which he labours & without those can be removed I doubt he will think it advisable to marry (by that I mean his pecuniary affairs which lay heavy at his heart) as to what relates to his Children I should think that is a Point which if he marries must be settled amongst themselves, for as they are not to live under the same roof I cannot see why if the Prince is reasonable, she should not get to see those Children. I enclose the copy & make no further Comments upon it as it

will explain the whole.

I ought to have begun by thanking You for Your kind enquiries after me. I feel thank God with Health but continue ~~still to puff~~ when I go up & down Stairs but Dr Gibbs who is a sensible worst man assures me that I shall feel the good Effects of the Water some time hence. I was made very happy by a letter I received last night from Sir A. A. who assures me that the Opt You going on as well as he could expect after Prince Gordon Heroes had sustained lately. I would add more if my head would allow it but I must not over do it, & am besides prepar for Time as I am going to see a Collection of Pictures, I do not expect but to find Your amongst them, but that Image is always present to the eyes of

My dearest Son

Your very Aff.

Mother & sincere

Friend

Signed/ Charlotte

Copy of a letter to the Regent

The Queen
to
H. R. H. Prince Regent
Oct. 19th 1817.

[Enclosure]
GEO/MAIN/

36810

Bath. Decr/ 18th/ 1819

Dear Madam. Your Majesty having requested me to put my thoughts in writing on the subject of the letter from the Prince Regent I take respectfully pen to state as clearly as I can my sentiments and real situation.

I acknowledge a Private and Public duty and only wish to reconcile the two together: if the Cabinet consider the measure of my marrying one of consequence they ought to state to me what they can and will propose for my establishment: for without ~~being~~ previously being acquainted with their intentions as to money matters I cannot and will not make any positive offer to any Princess: I have ten Children totally & entirely dependent on myself: I owe Forty thousand Pounds of funded debt, for which of course I pay interest, and I have a Floating

Debt of Sixteen Thousand Pounds: in addition to all which if I marry I must have a town house and my house at Bushy completly repaired and entirely new furnished: thus situated and turned fifty it would be madness in Me to Marry without previously Knowing what my income would be: If that settlement is made which I can consider adequate I shall only have to explain my real situation as the fond & attached Father of ten children to the Princess whom I am to marry: for without a complete understanding of my full determination to see when & where I please my Daughters I cannot and will not marry:
As for the Princess I think under all considerations the Princess of Dannemark is probably the most proper provided her character is that which I should trust will bear investigation

I hope I have ex
satisfaction: one
I have opened my
and shall therefor
these Lines as the
ever dictate my
which both my P
I rem
De
Yo

[Enclosure]
GEO/MAIN/

36811

I hope I have expressed myself to Your Majesty's satisfaction: one comfort at least I have that I have opened my Heart most fully and entirely and shall therefore leave in Your Majesties hands these Lines as the complett sentiments that must ever dictate my line of conduct on a measure in which both my Public & Private Duty is concerned.

I remain

Dearest Madam

Your Majesty's most affectionate
and most dutiful Son.
William