

Lady Berkeley to Wm Adam

50991-2

no 1

Dear Sir

I have received your
Letter this morning telling me you
could not conceive my Eldest Son would
remain in Town for any thing which you
had to convey to me - Is it then strange
that he should feel anxious for the name
of his Mother, and his own Birthright?
Is it strange that he should have had
expectations amounting almost to certainly
from the Prince Regent having commanded
him to be presented to him upon the
Death of his Father as that which
his Mother ~~Myself~~ said he knew him
to be the Earl of Berkeley - Adding here
you forget that the secret of your Marriage
was entrusted to me from the beginning
Is it strange that he should only

rely upon the word of the Sovereign Prince
so often, and so repeatedly given, that he
would be his guardian and protector.
~~and~~ Who after the investigation, commanded
him not to be presented to the Queen
as any thing but Earl of Berkeley? —
And when he first appeared at the levee
his Majesty said to him in a
low voice, Berkeley, I cannot in conscience
call you any ~~other~~ name if not by
the title of your father, or words to that
effect. Is it strange that my sons
expectations have been kept alive
when his Majesty has given
it under his hand that ~~he~~ had read
my Evidence with the greatest attention
and that to his knowledge I had spoken
truth? add to this the repeated promises
which have been made to him

Lady Berkeley to Wm Adam

50992
Upon the subject of his creation —
and you will cease to wonder at his anxiety
to know what answer I should get
to my letter to the Prime Minister
bearing date the 10th of June and to you
dated July 3rd — you were commanded
to write upon me and as there had
been misrepresentations I therefore requested
you to set on paper my humble wishes
to the Prime Minister which you did, and
I carried the paper to my Eldest Son
for his approbation: you left me with
a promise of returning at the end of a
few days — and now I learn the Prime
Minister was advised to send to Lord
Grantham instead of as I suggested laying
the subject before the Cabinet — and
taking their advice upon it — who
made Lord Grantham a Judge of the

28907
Claims of me and my Family upon the
Justice of the Prince Regent who
would find to find Grantly upon a
legal question of which he is not Master
and in what relationship does he stand
to this Family that he should be sent
to Court? If his Royal Highness had
wanted information upon the bearing
of his Evidence upon my Sons Claim -
and the injury we had all sustained
for want of it why not have sent for
Mr Spontlangue, he only knows the
value of his Royal Highness Evidence
and how it bears upon the Case -
and the hardships which we suffer for
want of its being before the Publick.
And I can most truly state that in
all the Advice he ^{has} ^{me} given, he never lost

Right of the Dignity of the Crown, and
 the honor of the Man, for without
 preserving those, the Evidence could not
 be useful to my Family - Who retained
 the Counsel on the Death of my Husband,
 whose advice did I act under in suffering
 the Duke of Cumberland's visit,
 who taught me to fear the Lord Chancellor
 and when I employed his Grace Highness
 a few Days before the investigation ended
 to send to the Lord Chancellor and tell
 him all he knew of the business

I received for Answer, "that while the"
 "restrictions were upon him, he should"
 "not take any step, that he should become"
 "involved with the Chancellor, and oblige"
 "to continue him in office - that he
 looked upon the Chancellor as a Man
 like the Duke of Cumberland capable
 of any thing - laying out to entangle

him if possible - having stated this
much allow me Sir, to say it does
appear incomprehensible to me that
the parts of Lord Berkeleys confession
which I received from his Grace Fitzroy
and which he has read twice since
the investigation and commanded you
and Col^l McMahon to tell me by letter
were correct - were not put in the
evidence which his Grace Fitzroy
sign'd - it does appear strange to me
that in the packet of papers which
you desired Col^l McMahon to send
me from Carlton House - that I find
minutes of conversations between you
and the witness present, with different
dates from those given me in the
evidence, particularly as respects
the registers of my marriage,
and to my great surprise I learn

that his Royal Highness told Lord Grantley
that I had been presented to him as
Countess of Berkeley before the second
marriage took place - I know I was
and the Prime Minister since the investigation
commanded me to be told the unpleasant
it - But I was not suffer'd to
have it inserted in the Evidence -
I appear to have laboured to drag
forth the truth which I now
propose - There has been much
reluctance somewhere, the Strings
of Justice appear choked before
they come to the fountain head -
For while I found such difficulties
in getting the Prime Minister's Evidence
He was expressing himself with
every feeling of honor and justice
towards me - and repeatedly commanding

50994

For Mr Mason to write to me to
say he wished knowing, I had a
high opinion of Mr Southey
him to be consulted with you that
his Evidence might benefit my Eldest
Son as far as truth would allow
And that any step which you and
he might advise him to take to
relieve the misfortunes of my Family
and do Justice - he would take. I have
above twenty notes to this effect -
And his Royal Highness appear'd to me
to be quite as anxious to have his
Evidence before the publick as I could
be - If it had not been for the
opinion that my Marriage had
been given up as hopeless - And when
in the year 1799 Mr Southey with
the anxiety of a Father -

entered into all parts of my unfortunate
situation - the Prince might meet Step
by Step with him - and when I thought
from the trial which I felt I might
be exposed to - from the long concealment
of my marriage the prejudice of my
Birth - and the state of my Brothers
John when I employed Lord Shaftesbury
not to think of me - that I could
hear any thing - and said to her
"rather let me pass as having been"
"the mistress of my husband than"
"risk a disappointment to my children"
Lord Shaftesbury repeated this conversation
to the Prince - and on my going to
the Pavilion in the evening the Prince
called me to him - and told me how
much he admired my story and

20802

50

good feeling towards my Family —
that he had a Memorandum of my
words — and it only made him the
more anxious for the Children
of such a Mother — And his Royal
Highness added "that Lord Pembroke"
"had said the Confession of Lord"
"Berkeley to him made so long before"
"the second Marriage was thought of"
"And when he could not know"
"his error publicly here of themselves"
"sufficient to secure the rights of"
"Quincy" My Eldest Son was obliged
to go to his Regiment — and I have forwarded
to him a copy of your Letter with my
answer — If it is the Persons
pleasure that I should meet you

50996

And God grantly it is my Duty
to do so, otherwise I fear nothing
satisfactory can arise to me

at all events Mr Polblange must
be present and if you will fix
with God grantly and let me
know the hour I will be there

I remain Sir
your Obedient Servant

M Berkeley

Berkeley House
Aught 2nd

1813

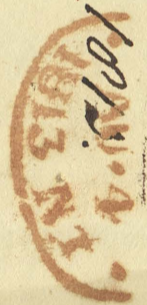
20888



William Adams Esq
Abey House



Lady Berkeley
Augs 12



X