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Stuttgart April 13, 1814

My dearest Brother

I am quite overcome by the very affectionate kind Letter I recd the happiness to receive from You words can never do justice to my feelings on the occasion. But the kindness with which you have ever treated me my beloved Brother has imprinted the strongest gratitude on my Heart which makes me hope I need not inform you of the sincere joy with which I should have accepted of your most affectionate invitation as the idea of having the blessing to see you again and enjoying for some time the society of my beloved Family would have been a delight to my Soul; but alas there are some untoward circumstances which too frequently destroy the best laid Schemes for happiness. My health which has been far from good of

late years and has gone on growing worse since  
the misfortunes which have befallen our family  
is a bar which it is impossible to remove at  
present. The Physicians which were consulted  
two Months ago and again on Monday have  
advised both the King and myself they thought  
at this moment a Journey either by Sea or Land  
might be dangerous. As I suffer sadly from  
violent sickness if I attempt either going in  
a shut Carriage or quaker than a foot here.  
In addition to this since November a Spasmodic  
Cough and a variety of other little unpleasant  
Complaints. This is the real state of the case  
and obliges me with the most heartfelt sorrow  
to decline for the present accepting of the  
kindest and most affectionate of all invitations.  
The King desires me to express his gratitude  
for your Message my dear Brother with

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many Compliments and to add that as soon  
as the physical people think it safe for me to  
travel he will not fail to acquiesce you with  
it and will then agree to my having the joy and  
comfort to visit the dearest and best of Brothers.  
He has himself written to the Queen to explain  
the reasons concerning my health and to give  
her the same assurances. I hope my dear  
Brother by this you will see how much we both  
regret the unfortunate difficulties which have  
arisen to prevent my having the delight to go  
to England, the spending some time with you  
would have made me the happiest of Beings.  
But now I must seek to submit with resignation  
to this very severe disappointment, in the  
midst of my sorrow one only thought soothes  
my mind which is your affection, this in every  
situation of life I look up to and know I

can depend on it. God grant that the impediments  
which prevent my seeing the happiness to see  
you my dear Brother, may soon be removed,  
and that in a short time I may have the  
happiness and comfort to find myself in the  
midst of my family. It would have delighted  
me to have assisted at the wedding of your  
dear Daughter, most sincerely do I congratulate  
you on an event which I trust will be a  
source of happiness to her and of much  
satisfaction to you. The Nation of old were  
ever anxious for an Alliance with Holland  
therefore am sure Princess Charlottes being  
united to the heir of the united Provinces  
will diffuse universal joy ---- I hope my  
dearest Brother that the untoward circum-  
stances which prevent my paying you a  
visit at present will soon be over and that

They will neither diminish your affection for me  
nor alter the kind intentions you entertained in  
favour of the King's interests and mine. I am  
sure that I need not repeat this as your own  
good heart will lead you to diminish and not  
increase the sorrow I feel at being for this  
moment deprived of the blessing of being united  
to my beloved Relations and will not wish  
me to fret at the idea that my health should  
put a stop to your kindness, of which I stand  
every way in need of. — I am all gratitude  
my beloved Brother for your considerate  
goodness in having had the odious article in the  
Times of Feb. 22<sup>d</sup> contradicted. You can have  
little idea of the trouble and anxiety it has  
occasioned here and in most parts of Europe  
where either the King or myself have any  
relations, most of them having either written  
to enquire into the truth of this Report

or had us spoken to on the subject which is very  
unpleasant. — I trust my dearest Brother  
that you will by this time be quite free  
from the Gout, and able to go through all the  
Fatigues which the Great Dutches Catherine  
being in England and after that the wedding  
will occasion — How happy would our dear  
Father have been could he have seen this  
match, he always loved Charlotte very much  
and was very kind to the Prince of Orange's  
Family. His situation is a draw back on  
every occasion and ever makes me melancholy  
God grant that he may not always continue  
in this wretched state but recover sufficiently  
to enjoy at least his Family. Sophie I am  
sorry to hear continues very weak, and the  
rest of the Family pretty well though my  
Mother has undergone so much of late.  
My dear Brother having heard that

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poor old Monsieur de Salgas was fallen into bad  
 circumstances I did every thing in my power  
 to find him out intending to assist him till  
 I should have acquainted you with his unhappy  
 situation; but after Count de Goltzheim the  
 Imperial Minister had taken much trouble  
 on the subject we heard he was dead. I take  
 the liberty to send you a small Note I have  
 received concerning his affairs as I think you  
 will like to know what is become of his fortune.

May I beg of you dear Brother to accept  
 of the Drawing which accompanies these  
 lines its only merit is its being my work  
 which I hope will induce you to look on it  
 with indulgence and perhaps to hang it up  
 in one of the Apartments at your Country  
 House. Flattering myself it will sometimes  
 put you in mind of a Sister that loves  
 you dearly — Much do I regret that poor

Sir Thomas has had this fatiguing Journey for  
nothing and that you have out of kindness  
for me deprived yourself so long of one of  
your most attached Servants. This is surely  
a great mark of affection which I feel deeply.  
Adieu my dearest Brother ever think of me  
with Regard and be convinced of my very  
sincere love and attachment. Your dear  
Letter I shall never part with as long as I  
live but put it into a Pocket book with  
my dear Fathers which I have constantly  
in my writing Box, and on which I have  
written that they are to be burnt in case  
of my death. God bless you my beloved  
Brother and believe me just as ever.

Your most Affectionate  
Sister and Sincere Friend  
Charlotte

1 Queen of Wurbembury

to  
Mr Pince Regent

April 13<sup>th</sup> 1684.