

Letter from the Earl of Essex to the Prince of Wales about the end
of January 1749/50.

Sir,

I have been informed, that your
Royal Highness has a Lease from Lady Betty S^t Andrew
for her Life of the House and Estate at Kew Green,
But in case of her Death without Issue
the same is devised to me by the Will of Lady
Capell. I understand also, that Your Royal High-
ness has Laid out great Sums of Money in the
Improvement of the House, & Estate, that You
have had, and have a Design to make further
Improvements There, as an Inducement to which
my Late Father did enter into Articles to have
made the same Kind of a Lease to You, if he had
survived Lady Betty. Therefore that Your
Royal Highness may not be discouraged from proceed-
ing in any such your Intentions on Account
of the Precariousness of your present Lease, I do
beg Leave to promise and assure Your Royal
Highness, when the Estate comes to me, that I will

not disturb You in the Possession of it, But as
soon as it is in my Power I will grant to
Your Royal Highness such Further Term, or
Interest therein as You shall desire, (Not exceeding
Ninety Nine Years) under the same Rent and
Terms, which that Estate is at present held by
the Lease from Lady Betty St Andre, and I will do
Every Act in my Power to render such Terms safe &
Agreable to Your Royal Highness, and in such
Manner as Lawyers shall advise, or think necessary
For I am desirous of the Earliest Opportunity to
assure You that I am with greatest Respect

Sirs

Your Royal Highnesses,

Most Dutifull

and most Obedient
Humble Servant

Yours.