

Thomas Wittoughby

Aug. 1768.

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May it please yr. Majesty.

Your most dutiful & loyal Subject most humbly implores most gracious Sovereign of  
kind indulgence, whilst the enterprising power of desponding Love renders me  
so desperate as thus to approach yr. Sacred Majesty.

The mercenary & unfeeling disposition of a  
parent from the consideration of a deficiency in fortune only withholds from  
me a virtuous Loving & beloved Woman. his avarice tho' in affluence makes  
him relentless; & tho' his parental love is great, so far blinded is he by  
the love of money, that he is inexorable, while the least deficiency remain<sup>ing</sup>  
in that particular.

Suffer me then most gracious Sovereign most  
humbly to assure yr. Majesty, that my rashness in this application to  
yr. well known feeling & generous heart was the sole remaining  
ray of else exhausted hope, & that it stood the ultimate boundary  
of all future expectations.

No Stranger to the parental benevolence of  
my King, nor to the many Instances of his most singular goodness  
& heart, I venture in the most humble manner to lay <sup>before</sup> his sacred  
Majesty the embarrassed Situation of two Lovers, sensible, that  
his Royal heart can conceive the feelings of the tender affection  
in distress.

Your present most humble Suppliant most

gracious Sovereign is descended from predecessors, whose rank in life & professions were not inconsiderable, & whose loyal services to his Majesty's most glorious Ancestors were not held in the least degree of estimation. their unhappy profusion prevented any of their large possessions from descending to him. the Education of a Gentleman has been however bestowed on him. he flatters himself, he is not wanting in Capacity, & presumes to say, he is possessed of honesty & integrity to fill any gentle post to which his gracious Sovereign will vouchsafe to appoint him & which he most humbly craves.

My hopes my faithful reliance on the benevolent Goodness of his Majesty embolden me to conclude, that I shall not in vain implore the Royal Generosity, but that his most gracious Majesty will by condescending to appoint me to some place enable me to support in some decent degree the woman, who, if not attached to me by virtuous Love & affection, could inherit many thousands with any other.

Your gracious Majesty's concurrence in appointing your Suppliant as most humbly requested to some civil employment may be the happy means of raising some loyal subjects to his Majesty, & of enabling me by antecedent prudence & Economy to revive in them the rank of our family, if it pleased God to grant me life, & of forming them usefull & worthy members of Society. I should be further enabled to assist some in the nearest ties of

blood who are now distressed, one of whom an only brother  
serves now under yr. Majesty.

The singularity of an application of  
this nature, I am sensible, would if known draw the eyes of the  
world on him who made it. I therefore most humbly further  
beg leave to intreat yr. most gracious Majesty, that you would  
be graciously pleased to screen me from that inconveni-  
ence, as I imagine, it would be rather considered an imper-  
tinent forwardness than to have been dictated by Love & distress.

The object of my wishes lives in Dublin  
in yr. Majesty's most loyal Kingdom of Ireland. in that City it would  
be most advantageous for her & me that yr. most gracious Majesty  
would vouchsafe to appoint me. Should my most humble request of an  
appointment be improper, your Gracious Majesty's bestowing  
a pension of two hundred pounds a year <sup>for our lives</sup> would suffice to  
render us a happy competency & thro: the medium of a private  
life above the feelings of Necessity to live comfortably with never  
ceasing thanks & gratitude to our bountifull Creator & King, con-  
stant & fervent in our prayers & wishes, that the Lord of the Uni-  
verse may fully bless & prosper our most Gracious King & his  
Government & the Royall family, with truth & sincerity I most  
humbly desire to subscribe myself, most Gracious Sovereign, yr.  
Majesty's most faithfull most loyal & most dutifull Subject Tho. Willoughby

If I have been wanting, most Gracious Sovereign, in any Expression  
or form of Duty or respect to yr: Most Sacred Majesty, Be pleased  
to impute it to ~~impropriety~~ solelly of word & not of Sentiment, as I  
am not at liberty to avail myself of the assistance of those, who  
could direct me. I could receive yr: most Gracious Majesty's  
Commands directed for me to the Smyrna Coffee house Ball  
Mall, or I could receive intimation of any appointment in  
my favour by yr: most Gracious Majesty's Commands through  
the Channell of Publick papers. pardon, I most humbly entreat  
yr: Most Gracious Majesty the provisions & other faults in  
this most humble petition. My hand & Style are ~~no doubt~~  
greatly affected by what my happiness or Misery depends  
upon.

Smyrna Coffee House August 4th 1768

Were yr: Majesty's most dutifull Suppliant honoured with appearing  
in yr: Majesty's sacred presence, his fidelity would be hopes be founded  
limited & if employed, usefull & faithfull —

May it please God of his infinite mercy to  
 influence your most sacred Majesty with gra-  
 titude to receive this unceremonious petition  
 to pardon the undignified impudence of your  
 most humble subjects of this day & in con-  
 sideration to grant his most humble & earnest petition

The King's most excellent Majesty

To