

Dr Keble's Windsor March 10 - ¹⁸⁹⁰

9.1812

My dear Sir Henry,

I wrote to the Prince this morning, as he desired. I am quite a stranger (and have no wish to be otherwise) to the reasons which made him order one of the Willis's to write the letter when I was here. But it would have been hard indeed, had he reproached me for a measure, which was entirely his own.

I am pleased to find your sentiments so much in unison with my own on the subject of the Willis's. I have a little curiosity (I hope not an ill-natured one) to see how long the Council will be satisfied to persevere in a system, under which the poor thing has evidently been growing worse.

I think it right to detail to you the following circumstances. Soon after ten o'clock this morning, being in the King's room with Dr J. W. (Dr Robt. having previously set out for London) the K. at his harpsichord *nudo capite*, Dr J. proposed to me to speak to H. M. then, or at any time I might chuse. I asked if he had any particular object in view; and upon hearing that he had not, I told him I would ^{talk} ~~speak~~ with him upon the subject afterwards. When we had returned to our usual sitting room, I said to Dr W. that if at any time I saw reason to think that my speaking

to the King would be productive of advantage, I should with his approbation expect to do so: or if he thought any good could be obtained, I was now, and at all times, ready to do it: but that, though he knew I had always objected to the present system, I did not wish to interfere with it; unless indeed he thought it time to put an end to it, in which case I should be most happy to cooperate with him.

Dr W. said something about getting the King to take some salts. (By the by a curious proof of the influence he has gained during these six weeks, that he cannot so much as do this but through our means) I then explained to him my view of the K's situation, so far at least as regarded his bodily health. That eating freely as he did, and taking no exercise, there was danger of H. M. becoming stuff'd and oppres'd; and that, for my part, I should be glad to see the K. effectually purg'd, and afterwards take such tonic medicine as could be administer'd; of which kind he had before used a grain of the Ferri ^{Carbonas} ~~Carbonas~~, with apparent advantage. Dr W. concurr'd with me in these sentiments; in consequence of which we gave H. M. six grains of Calomel with his dinner, and determin'd, that if this failed to purge him, I should endeavour to prevail upon H. M. tomorrow to take a dose of salts.

There seems to be less vomiting this week; but the K. appears to be more than ever engros'd by the images

of his disorder ~~in my family~~ family.

I am, My Dr Henry,

Yours very truly

W. Hubbard

My conversation with Dr Willis this morning took place just previous to my going up to The Queen, to whom I thought it right to mention what had pass'd; and I had the satisfaction to hear Her M. say that she thought I had done quite right.