

Lt. Col. Gerard Lake (aft Viscount) to P<sup>ce</sup> of Hakee

Jan. 19 1781

38050

Sir

It is impossible for me ever to reconcile the Idea of departing from this Country, without begging your Royal Highness's permission, to trespass upon that goodness, you have always shewn me, to request the Favor of you, to present, in the most respectful & grateful terms, my duty to the King & Queen, & to abuse their Majesties, that I greatly lament, I have not an opportunity to pay my duty to them in person, & that I shall always retain the highest sense of gratitude, for the great goodness & kind attention, both myself & family have experienced from them upon all occasions—  
Allow me now, Sir, to offer

your Royal Highness, what I do with the greatest  
Sincerity, my most hearty wishes for your Prosperity &  
Happiness, & that you will believe me to be, with the truest  
respect & esteem,

In your Royal Highness's  
Most affectionate & faithful Servant  
G. Lake

Charges Street  
Jan<sup>ry</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1781