

My dearest Prince

I cannot leave England without once more returning you my most sincere thanks for your great friendship & wonderful kindness towards me, & at the same time to beg your indulgence in suffering me to express the sentiments of a heart warmly attach'd to your service & full of the most anxious & best wishes for your future happiness & welfare - relying upon your goodness, I will endeavour to point out some few things, from which, in my poor opinion you are likely to suffer, in the first place I think your great good nature, is liable to be impos'd upon by people who have not the smallest pretensions to your civility or attention, & who will presume upon that goodness & become troublesome to you, I mention this as I know it has been thought, your good nature makes you too condescending, & thus one it is absolutely necessary to make proper distinctions between men, as the surest way, to gain the esteem & regard of the most sensible & valuable part of Mankind - Believe me a knowledge of the world & of men, is very necessary, & the most difficult to be acquir'd allow me <sup>to</sup> say it is more so for you, as the strict & private education unavoidably chalk'd out for a Prince, has prevented you from hearing so much of them, as young men, who have reap'd the benefit of a public school, in general do at your age; besides your situation is such as to make people very anxious to be upon the best footing with you, & I am

Sorry to say that too many there are in this world, who to gain your favor will  
acquiesce & encourage you in doing things that they themselves would perhaps  
be the first to condemn, & when they find the world disapproving your  
conduct, will lay the blame entirely upon yourself — As to Politics,  
you well know, I have ever except once in the great Park at Windsor,  
studiously avoided talking about, nor do I at this time, wish to  
enter upon the subject farther than to entreat you before you  
bind yourself to any party, to consider well, what you mean, your  
own good sense (of which as one has a greater share) if properly employ'd,  
will prevent your becoming the dupe of those who have no other  
design than to make use of you, for their own advantage; I mean  
to speak of no particular set of men, but my great anxiety for  
your future ease, perhaps leads me to say more than I ought, if  
you reflect a moment you will see that any engagements of this  
sort, will lead you into difficulties which it may be impossible  
for you to extricate yourself from, so long as you live, recollect  
what a large family yours is, & you will see how necessary it is  
for you all to live well together, & I am thoroughly <sup>convinced</sup> that it is for  
your own interest so to do, & that you will by that means not only  
enjoy more real comfort, but that you will be more at your ease in  
every particular. I make no doubt of a most excellent & sensible  
speech of the Duke of Cumberland as he having struck you as forcibly  
as it did me, it was, let our family stick by each other, & we need not

fear  
plag  
good  
not a  
that  
I can  
mean  
as to  
there  
of me  
mean  
to be  
Lord  
take  
I am  
= this  
my f  
the m  
of fa  
tatto

will  
steps  
er  
3  
don  
to  
your  
who's  
mean  
for  
if  
the  
leak  
is  
in  
ible  
ly  
2

fear the world —

38052

I fear you will think me importunate & troublesome for  
plaguing <sup>you</sup> with this letter, however I must still intrude upon your  
good nature, by adding one wish more, which is to beg that you will  
not write any more letters to a certain sort of ladies, & I should hope  
that what you have already suffer'd will be a sufficient warning —  
I really believe by what I can learn, that your lady is my street  
nears to behave in every particular with propriety & attention to you,  
as to myself you will know I am scarcely acquainted with her  
therefore can say no more, than to wish she may act so as to please you  
& merit your protection —

I do most heartily wish you may be pleas'd with the  
manner &c of your present establishment, which appears to me  
to be compos'd of good men, tho' many of them entirely unknown to me  
Lord Southampton very kindly call'd in Clerkenwell on Friday to  
take leave of me, we had of course some conversation about you, &  
I am clearly convinc'd he not only wishes, but is determin'd to do every-  
thing in his power, that can afford you pleasure or comfort, & it is  
my firm opinion that he will be perfectly faithful, & is too much  
the man of Honor to say or do anything but what is perfectly upright  
& fair towards you, I know that so much avers is to tattle  
tattle; that he is absolutely determin'd should any one person be

detected in bearing tales about your family to make a point of having  
him dismiss your service, let him be of what ever rank he will -

I have taken the liberty of setting down some regulations & recommendations  
<sup>which Col. Stovens is offering</sup>  
or to undertake to show to you, & I flatter myself you have no objection  
to them, you will order them to be comply'd with, at the same time let  
me beg of you to alter the whole or any part of them entirely to your  
satisfaction, or nothing would make me more unhappy than thinking  
any arrangement of mine should be in the smallest degree disagreeable  
to you, for believe me my only wish is to promote the good of your  
service, & to do all in my power to put every thing upon the best  
footing - Will you permit me, Sir, to trouble you with my duty

to the Duke of Cumberland, & return him my best thanks for his great  
civility & attention to me, & assure him how much I am oblig'd  
it is in my power to pay my respects in person to both their Royal Highnesses

Accept my dearest Friend (if you will allow me to call you by  
that name) my best thanks for your Picture which you are, I flatter  
myself, well convinc'd is the most valuable present you could  
have given me, & which I never <sup>will</sup> part with as long as I live - Adieu

God bless you, & may you enjoy every blessing & happiness in this  
life is the real & sincere wish of one who begs leave to subscribe  
himself your most truly attach'd friend & Servant  
By Lake  
Portsmouth, Jan 23<sup>d</sup> 1781