

St John Macpherson to H.R.H.

38628 - 9

Lausanne, 14<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1791.

Sir,

Lord Southampton has done me the honour of communicating your R. H. <sup>s</sup> observation upon the letter which he was so good to present. It was perfectly just: yet I could not have been more explicit. The General peace which has ensued from the conference at Pilnitz; and above all, the reconciliation at St. James's, have completed all that was wished, or that details could suggest.

The Princes Royal of Austria and Prussia, are informed and consulted in every transaction of importance, relative to the present Situation of Europe, and the plans which are concerting for its Repose. The Prince of Wales had equal rights to confidence and communication. It was the wish and the interest of the great Parties concerned, to look to His Eventual approbation. It could not come effectually, except from reconciliation with the King, and His Majesty's Explanations. If your R. H. will be pleased to recollect the different hints I took the liberty to suggest, they all led to those two important points.

It was natural for certain Persons to suppose, the P. of W. was not well inclined to a system, which differed with that which some of his leading friends seemed to countenance in France. It was artfully attempted in England, and on the Continent, to represent former civilities of hospitality to the Duke of Orleans, as an approbation of his Recent Conduct.

To oppose such opinions at the Hague, at Berlin, and at Vienna, I naturally as a Traveller, spoke my real Sentiments; and exposed the Calumnies of Ignorance and Party Misrepresentation. Fortunately, every foreigner who had enjoyed the happiness of approaching the Prince of Wales, rendered him equal Justice. He has now, by his filial visits at St. James's, divested Malice and Party, of their Weapons. The Nations who look up to him as their future Ruler and friend, see him in his true light; and surrounding Nations will fix their confidence in him, as their Hope; as the eventual Pillar of the great Commonwealth of States which is forming; and whose Compact is rendered necessary, by the Relations of their Commerce, the Intermixture of their Anticipated debts, and the rapid progress of Letters and of Freedom. Yes! He is the Hero apparent to an exalted Rank in the destiny of Nations! And Leopold the wise, the laborious, and the good, looks to him in this light. May not one of his devoted and disinterested admirers, say to the Prince upon such an Occasion, and in the words of his own favorite Poets,

"Hoc erat in votis"

"Magna rerum tibi nascitur ordo!"

If you R. H. listens to the opinions of different Persons relative to the Emperor, they will suggest their prejudices, tinged to the natural Errors, the Humanities, of the Man: but they know him but little. Our Ministers are not satisfied with him, at home, or abroad. But how can they be so with a great Sovereign, maintaining the complex interests of

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his various Kingdoms and allied Engagements, who acts as his own Minister,  
and cannot tell them all his Situations and News? The King of Prussia,  
the best of Allies, is highly satisfied with the Emperor, tho' once his Rival.  
And an affectionate Brother, truly fortunate in the Love and Esteem of  
that good and great King, is now returning to your R. H. He will  
have naturally informed himself of, and be ready to communicate, the  
present State of Affairs upon the Continent.

No Period in the History of Nations, could ever render similar  
Intelligence more interesting than it ought to be at present to those, who  
are born to Empire. My devoted Attachment will induce me to suggest  
ideas, and mention Circumstances, as they strike me; without presuming  
to expect, or even to wish, any reply from your R. H. There is not any  
secret in my Ideas of Politics, for the Heir apparent. I know to what  
his Mind is equal. I shall never forget his words at the Duke of  
Suessburg's, when I first conversed with him, about the Interests of his  
Country.

I venture only to add, that my Admiration and  
Hopes are participated relative to him, by the first Personages in  
Europe. May the God of Nature bless him!

+ 1788.

What can I say more?

So prays

Copy

To the Prince of Wales  
from  
Sir John Macpherson  
Lansdowne 14 October  
1791  
—

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14 Oct. 1791.