

Aristarchus

Mar. 10 1781

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On the Demise of the late Empress Queen, Aristarchus had an Interview with the oldest General on the Military List, the purport of which was to learn from his own lips whether he should approve of being sent to the Court of Vienna in a public Character. The General's answer was, that neither He nor any other British Subject could (be apprehended) he negotiate any important business there, on account of the numerous Spies which the Court of Versailles at present entertain in every public Department, nay in every private Family of consequence in Vienna. But the General was well-ascured, that were it your Majesty's pleasure, that He should go to Aix la Chapelle as a private discontented Individual, and seemingly without any Commission or Credential Letters from the Court of London, he might then be able to render your Majesty some essential Service, because in that line & that line only he should give the Court of Versailles not the least jealousy of his Mission, and in that line, Count Rice who is privately in the Confidence of Prince Kaunitz, and who lately owed his forfeited Life to your Majesty's Clemency & Mercy, might unsuspectedly pay the General a friendly Visit at Aix, & through his secret mediation a correspondence might be opened between the General & Prince Kaunitz.

Doctor Franklin's Emisaries have given him to understand, that your Majesty hath relinquished the Rendez-vous House in the Greenpark, in Exchange for a more private one in Chelsea.

No. 60.
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