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[Enclosure]

[? Jan. 16 -

of covering
letter]

Madam,

Nothing can exceed my
gratitude to the Prince Regent
for the confidence he has been
pleased to place in me. It will
be ^{imprinted} deeply in my mind
while I have life.

My attachment to the Princess
Charlotte is my great joy and there

is nothing I would not do to
prove it. I am also most
sensible of your Grace's kindness,
but although Her Majesty has
been graciously pleased to say
that she leaves me unbiased
as to my decision, duty and
gratitude oblige me to consider
myself as belonging to her, and
therefore not at liberty to accept
what would otherwise have been my

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ambition.

As this is my only reason
for declining the honor offered me,
I will entreat your Grace to
communicate it to the Prince
and to believe me,

Madam,

Your Grace's

much obliged and obed^t.^s

E. C. Knight.

Paris^{fr}

15th Jan^y

