

Lord Berkeley & John Hughes to HRH

Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>  
[1810] [Aug 12]

50940 1

Sir

Your Royal Highness has continued your regard and friendship for me, by every act of your life, for more than twenty years; you have continued it to me even on my sick bed, and my heart and soul is filled with gratitude towards you. Your Royal Highness with the same beneficent justice continued your regard to my Family, when your Royal Highness was acquainted with the situation I had placed my Wife and Children in, by concealing my first Marriage in 1785.

I am now Sir, reduced to that state, that I think nothing but a miracle can

preserve my life, and at this awful moment  
I presume to address your Royal Highness,  
to implore you to continue that regard to-  
wards my Wife and Family you have ever  
shewn to me: protect them in securing  
their just rights, and receive Sir, the  
latest blessings of one, who while he  
continues to live, will pray God to shower  
his choicest blessings upon you.

Mr. Hughes is obliged to write this  
I am unable to do more than sign my  
name.

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50941

Berkeley Castle

Sir

I should not presume to address your Royal Highness but under the present awful circumstances; & I think it my duty to state to your Royal Highness how I came by the annexed letter.

On the first of August at half past Eight in the morning, Lord Berkeley being extremely ill, and considered in great danger, call'd me to his bed side, and asked for the <sup>above</sup> letter: I then read what he had dictated; he approved of it, and I supported him to sign his Name; which when he had done, he took the paper in his hand and said, remember Hughes, these are my sentiments, deliver them to the Prince with your own hand: when I received the paper again and was retiring, his Lordship call'd me back and observed, that he thought he had not express'd himself sufficiently strong with respect to Lady Berkeley's kindness.

I presume to inform your

Royal Highness that at the same time I  
address'd a letter to Lord Craven, and another  
to Admiral Berkeley, from his dictating,  
both of which he also signed.

I have the honor to be  
Your Royal Highness' most dutiful  
and devoted humble servant.

John Hughes

Lord Berkeley