

Lady Berkeley to Wm Adam

50983-6

Dear Sir

I feel it is due to you  
before it is more publick, that I should  
place my last letter to the Prince Regent  
in your hands, as well as copies of those  
papers which accompanied it, your Name  
being so often mention'd - The Sessions  
of Parhament are nearly closed - and I have  
no hope that the Lord Chancellor will  
lay his Royal Highness's Evidence before  
the House of Lords - The road is short  
smooth, and easy, to do a common act  
of Justice by this Family - If his Royal  
Highness would take my last letter to him  
in his hand to the Privy Council when  
they are assembled - and call upon them

20883

for their advice, stating the contents  
of my letter to be true - And that the  
important Evidence which he had communicated  
to Mr J<sup>r</sup> Best was by some unfortunate  
omission not before their Lordships as  
they will perceive by Mr J<sup>r</sup> Best's letter  
to me. Let him tell them as an  
honest Man he feels himself bound to  
take some steps upon the occasion, having  
most solemnly pledged himself to the  
late Lord Mansfield, in their last interview  
to protect his Family, and that his mind  
would not be quite satisfied till he had  
done it, that he should not have waited  
upon me in Spring Gardens, and given me  
a written Statement of the Evidence which  
he was prepared to give, but under

Lady

Lady Berkeley to Wm Adam

50984

the strongest conviction that I was married  
in 1785 and after the most careful  
examination of the Evidence which I had  
given in the House of Lords - His Royal  
Highness may surely call upon them for  
advice upon any point in furthering the  
ends of Justice - but more particularly in  
a matter of Precedence, it being his bounden  
Duty to protect the rightful Succession

It is a new case, and all the Counsel  
say His Royal Highness may take any  
Steps he chooses, and that any Steps which  
it is his pleasure to take in promoting the  
ends of Justice must be right - in withholding  
it, or giving it reluctantly wrong, and open  
to much remark - I suggest this Mode  
unaided by any one, it should spring from  
himself

20384  
And I am sure his Royal Highness wishes  
to do Justice by me and my Family - after  
his Royal Highness has laid his wishes  
before the Privy Council, and the Lord  
Chancellor is prepared, Lord Broun or  
some Peer no matter who' might get  
up in his place and ask the Lord Chancellor  
if he had received such a Document - and  
move that it be laid upon the Table the  
result will be whatever the Lord Chancellor  
thinks, at all events the Evidence will  
be placed upon the Journals, my Character  
cleared, and if it does not seat my Son  
it will prove him the Child of Misfortune  
not of Disgrace, and the Prince Regent  
will have done his Duty. Remember Dear  
Sir, I have an imperious Duty to perform

50985-6

towards myself and Children and one that  
I shall never turn from and if his Majesty  
His Highness does not take some step, The present  
The present Sessions close I shall be compelled  
to publish his Evidence in a Second Edition  
of my address to the House of Lords - and then  
as vouchers for my own veracity not from  
want of respect and duty towards him,  
I am obliged to bring forward matter,  
and publish Letters never intended to  
meet the publick eye - Letters which  
I much fear will be most unpleasant  
to the Prince Regent, the Lord Chancellor  
and more particularly the Duke of Cumberland  
It will be Brother against Brother -  
I shall be obliged to publish the private  
Letters which I sent by Col. McMahon  
to Oatlands with my Manuscript address,  
bearing Date Nov<sup>r</sup> 20<sup>h</sup> 1811 yet I do not

20282

no stranger to the contents of it - The  
Vice Chancellor states in the case of  
Lady Percival that when a Mans Character  
at Stake letters essential to his fame  
cannot nor ought not to be considered  
private, and surely my Name cannot  
be expected to remain longer under a  
Cloud - For two years I have waited  
patiently, It was my Duty to do so -  
when the Prince Regent had pointed out  
the course which his Evidence should take  
but it never can be expected such a Document  
should remain unnoticed in the hands  
of the Lord Chancellor - I know it requires  
a strong mind to confess an error of Judgment  
and his Royal Highness's Evidence proves  
the Lord Chancellor's Speech to be founded

50986

on Thursday the last Day of the investigation  
I have once more intruded myself upon  
you - I ask no favour unless it is that you  
will lead me to obtain Justice without  
wounding the feelings or giving offence to  
any one - And do not forget I have had  
no hint from you - Say therefore my  
wishes most humbly before His Royal  
Highness - Tell him my sole object  
is Duty to my Sovereign Prince and affection  
and Justice for my Children

And believe me Dear Sir  
yours sincerely

M. Berkeley

Cromford House

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1813

Lady Berkeley  
2<sup>d</sup> July 1813.

To

Will<sup>m</sup> Don Esg<sup>r</sup>

Lady Berkeley  
2<sup>d</sup> July 1813.