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Duchess of Württemberg

51490-1

Sir

Fearing that it might be troublesome to
Your Majesty to receive Letters whilst You
had so much important business to take up
Your time. I withstood my inclination and
abstained from writing last Week, but fearing
that a trifling accident which has just happened
might be exaggerated and alarm Your
Majesty I take the liberty to write. Ever
since twelve o'clock we have had a dreadful
Storm of Thunder Lightning and Rain, whilst
we were drinking Coffee I heard a sad Crash
and could not help saying that I wished all
those who chose to pretend being unbelievers
might frequently meet with such Storms

as I thought it must impress them not only with great awe but also with the conviction of their being a Supreme Being. This brought on a long Conversation with some of the Gentlemen who had been at Sea in Storms, and all agreed that Religion alone prevented people from being too much alarmed, for all those they had met with who pretended to deny a Supreme Being had ever on those occasions shewn great fear. - Owing to our talking a good while on this Subject it was past three o'clock when I returned to my dressingroom and had but just began reading with Fanny, when Princess Ferdinand came into the Room to assure me she was not hurt but that the Lightning had struck in her Apartment. I instantly went to

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The old part of the Castle where the lodges
and found an old Figure in the Ceiling with
its arm broke and below it was a hole in the
Plaster and in the Pavement. However on
several Gentlemen examining the Spot they
opined us that it was only the violence of
the Shock for at the same instant two Men
were thrown down - I cannot pretend to decide
whether these things proceed from the Lightning
or the Shock, but in either case they are very
extraordinary.

Will Your Majesty now allow me to
offer my congratulations on the Almighty
having again manifested how much he
watches over the welfare of dear England
and that that dreadful Conspiracy was
discovered in time. Adieu God Your Obedient

are successful and I trust that they will continue
so. — It is in moments of danger that I
most regret the being absent from Your Majesty,
as from my Birth I have ever been with
you at those times, and though we could at
least flatter myself that I could share the
distress, and shew the sincere attachment that
I have for You — I must now take leave
of Your Majesty and entreat You to be convinced
of the respect with which I have the
honour to be.

Your Majesty's

Louisbourg

Most dutiful Daughter

July 6th

and devoted Subject

1790.

Charlotte Augusta Matilda

The Duke begs his humble Duty.

Original in brown
July 6 1790