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Duchess of Württemberg

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D. of Württemberg  
Autograph Dec 7. 1798  
received Jan 7. 1799  
now in the possession of  
Mrs. de la Roche Jan. 22. 1799

The gracious manner in which  
Your Majesty is always so good as to  
interest Yourself about the Duke and  
me, makes me look on it as my duty  
with my Husbands leave to acquaint  
You of a most vexatious event which  
has taken place here within these few  
days. — The Duke has discovered that  
a set of wicked intriguing men had  
got hold of the Hereditary Prince  
and availing themselves of his Youth  
drawn him into taking unconsiderate



steps which had his Father not instantly  
put a stop to, must hereafter have  
made the Young Man very unhappy.

The Duke feels doubly wretched at  
being obliged to have some people who  
were concerned in this cruel business taken  
up, as he fears he shall be necessitated  
to punish one or two of them.

Your Majesty I am sure will pity me  
and as a Father feel how miserable  
the Duke is at seeing this business  
made public, he is very fond of all  
his Children but particularly so of  
this Son, and is wounded to the Soul  
at his being drawn into mischief

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I am washed to death out of love to  
the Duke and to his Children which I  
look on as my own. I have been  
doubly uneasy as at first I had great  
reason to tremble for the effect it would  
have on my Husband's health, thank  
God he is now better, though I fear  
he will be very long recovering this  
severe blow. I am very anxious by  
every attention in my power to ease  
his mind and show him the affection

I so strongly feel for him

I must however retreat to your  
Majesty not on this one misfortune  
to form a bad opinion of our Son  
whose Heart I believe to be very good.



but from that very Cause is the more  
open to be drawn into mischief when  
hid under the Cloak of friendship.

The world is very bad and what I  
think most horrid is that people are  
not satisfied with being wicked themselves  
but they wont allow any body else to  
be good and try to undermine and destroy  
the principles of Youth.

The Duke begs me to present his  
humble duty to Your Majesty and I  
have the honour to be with great  
respect

Your Majesty's

Stuttgart

December 7

1790

Most dutiful Daughter  
and devoted Subject

Charlotte Augusta Matilda