

AB

Duchess of Württemberg

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Loiwbauq April 10th 1799.

Sir

Your Majesty's constant
goodness to me makes me think you
will be uneasy till you are certain that
we are quite free from the French,
and knowing the irregularity of the
Posts at present, may keep Your Majesty
some time in suspense: I send an
express to Hanover, to inform you we
are thank God quit of them; they have
done vast mischief and destroyed almost
13 Towns in the Upper part of the
Country, but the People have most
Providentially behaved wonderfully well,
universally hating the horrid Monsters
who have ruined them; and acknowledging
they love their Sovereign, and can rely
on him as a just man giving them
every Assistance their situation requires

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I shall in a few days have the honour to enter into greater details on all these Subjects: as on the 7th the Duke received by a Messenger a Letter from his Sister the Empress of Russia according to her wishes he intends sending a Confidential person to Vienna and at the same time to my great comfort has begged me to acquaint Your Majesty with his humble duty, that he thinks himself bound to send to London a very sensible Man as his Minister, who has been employed ever since Duke Charles's time at Berlin Vienna and Petersburg, the whole of the two or three last Campaigns he was with the Archduke at Head Quarters. General Baron de Melius. He has

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Duchess of Württemberg

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been with us in the Country ever since we left Stuttgart, and knowing him by that means. I am very glad the Duke's choice has fallen on him, looking on the General as fit for the situation. The Duke will have the honour of writing by hurri a long letter to Your Majesty.

I write in a great hurry as I wish very much your Majesty to receive from nobody else the account that Citizen Trouve the French Minister left Stuttgart the 16th accompanied by an Austrian Officer and a detachment. On the 15th the Duke received a very polite Letter from the Archduke to say the Austrian Armies would

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suffer if the Citizen was allowed to remain here and carry on quietly his Correspondance with the Republic he therefore desired that it might be intimated to him to leave Stuttgart in 24 Hours. On the whole Trouwe behaved better than could have been expected, he begged to take leave of the Duke. And set out at five o Clock on the 16, by travelling all Night he was beyond the Frontier Yesterday Morning.

Your Majesty cannot imagine the Joy I feel at being able once again to write to You a Letter I am certain will arrive safe, had I followed my inclination I should long ago have sent off a Messenger but feeling ourselves surrounded by

Republican Ministers and Spies it was impossible for me to expose the Duke to the mischief which would have ensued, had it only been surmised, that I ventured to acquaint Your Majesty with the many unpleasant transactions I have either known, or been witness to. But our all was at stake, and silence was the wisest conduct, till circumstances again gave me freedom.

Till last Sunday we had not seen any Company from the moment we left Stuttgart, but Count and Countess Metternich who have left Praxdorf in their way to Pratisbonne came here on that evening. She is a very pleasant woman and having seen much of the world has a great deal of Conversation.

I will now take up no more of
Your Majesty's time than to beg of
You to be convinced of the Respect
and attachment with which I have
the honour to be

Your Majesty's
Most dutiful Daughter
and most devoted Subject
Charlotte Augusta Matilda