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51557-8

Goepfingen August 31st
1799

Sir

I must acquaint
Your Majesty that we have again
had a worse alarm from the
French than in March, as they
directed their march towards
Lunenburg; the moment the
Duke was apprised of the extent
of our danger he sent me off at
twelve o'clock at Night, on the 28th
here; with directions to stop till
he wrote to me; as if things got
worse I should be within three
Hours at Ellm, and then proceed
towards Augsburg. But thanks
to the Almighty who watched
over us the Two Austrian

Regiments of Cavalry and the
 Habourgers who had been forced
 to retire on the 28th because they
 had no Cannon, were able to take
 a good post as the Duke sent
 some Troops and eight Cannon to
 their Assistance and the French
 remained in or near Houlbron
 the whole day - General Mestfeld
 sent by General Masey has now
 come round by Dautack and is at
 Dautack with a considerable
 body of Troops which obliges the
 French to retire and I trust in
 a few days I shall again join
 the Duke at Louisbourg. - Though
 he had promised to follow me
 if he found it impossible to

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prevent the French advancing
I cannot express to Your Majesty
what I felt at taking leave of
him and thinking that most
likely in a few hours our dear
Louisbourg would be destroyed.

I can never be sufficiently
grateful to Providence who has
protected us so wonderfully, and
must acknowledge that being
convinced he always acts for the
best I at all times submit
quietly to his will.

I hope Your Majesty will
excuse this scrawl but I
cannot get either better Pens or
Paper here, the moment I get
home I shall again have the
honour of writing, and I hope
that we shall now have

sufficient Troops: sent to cover
the Rhine. I have the honour
to be with the greatest Respect
and Affection

Your Majesty's

Most dutiful Daughter
and devoted Subject

Charlotte.

Duchess of Württemberg
31st August 1793