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Onsporch June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1800

I think it my duty  
to acquaint Your Majesty that the  
French having crossed the Danube  
yesterday on many points and a  
column marching towards Nordlingen  
it was necessary for us to remain at  
Heiltingen and we have taken refuge  
here for a few days, till the Duke  
can get a House at Etlangen. I  
hope tomorrow he will get an  
answer having sent Monsieur de  
Göthlin off yesterday to find one.  
I hope that at last the Field

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Marshal will attack the Enemy  
 to free us from the constant anxiety  
 and distress we exist in. I fear  
 very much that if the French  
 retreat they will again go through  
 part of the Dutchy which would  
 be destruction to us.

It rains incessantly and I believe  
 will do much harm to the Harvest  
 the Rowley beginning to look quite  
 yellow which is looked on as a  
 very bad sign here.

An Officer who is just come to the  
 Duke from his Troops brings the  
 account of their having suffered  
 dreadfully. They are so brave it

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makes one Heart bleed to see them  
Sacrificed to so little purpose.

The Duke begs me to present  
his humble duty to Your Majesty  
I have now the honour to take  
my leave and remain with  
great respect Your Majesty's  
Most dutiful Daughter  
and devoted Subject  
Charlotte Augusta Matilda

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Duchess of Saxe-Coburg

20<sup>th</sup> June 1880