Sir C Wyndham afterwards
Earl of Egremont.

Dear Sir

I hope you received the letter I wrote you in answer to the favour of yours with the best account I was able to give you of our old friends health: by the accounts I have lately had I hope it is not much worse, but I find it is declining gradually, & Doctor Bailey says that in the last fortnight he found him visibly wasted; & that little is now to be hoped for but a gentle decay. I find by all my letters. A shock which he had some time ago, has produced the most unheard of peirce of indecency that I beleive ever was done: some officious person informed his son that all was over, upon which the son writes immediately to an agent of his to enter a Caveat in the Commons against his will, & signs this letter with the new title he would have had a right to had the event happend: the agent obeys his orders immediately, & propagates the story of our old friends death, & says that he has received a letter from the new Duke signd S——. The Caveat is actually entered in form in Doctors Commons, & the story publick to all mankind. All our friends in Sussex are in the most terrible apprehensions lest this should come to be known by our old friend; for from the disorder which the least motion of passion now causes in his weak condition, they all think, & so does the Doctor, that the agitation of mind this insult would occasion were he to know it, would probably be such as to put an end to his life.

Most probably you will have heard of this before now, but lest you should not I was resolved to trouble you with this account: by which you will see what trouble is likely to happen whenever we have the misfortune to lose the good old friend, whom I fear we cannot hope to keep very long.

I hope in God you will not be very long before you return from the North, for should any accident happen in your absence, you may imagine the distress every body would be in, to be probably immediately attacked, in the absence of the only person who could give advice or assistance. I am Dear Sir with the

Truest regard your most faithfull & obedient

humble servant

C Wyndham.

Witham Sept: 21. 1748

Colonel Conway

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