

The Duke of York

13<sup>th</sup> July 1759

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Lectet. July 13<sup>th</sup>  
1759.

Dear Brother

I left Wilton yesterday evening after the race, and lay at Dorchester, which Town I was through last summer from Weighmouth. And arriv'd here at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 12 o'clock. I shew'd me the Dorsetshire Battalion of Militia, which is a very fine one to look at, as there are a better sort of Gentry as private, than can possibly be supposed to be invol'd in a <sup>unit</sup> regiment rais'd like <sup>rest</sup>, I mean from the scum of the People. The obedience of the Men and their desire to improve and to serve cannot be too much commended

and by all accounts the Officers and  
even some of the Private, are people  
of fortune, and the very flower of the  
County. I am assur'd likewise that  
the People of Dorsetshire, as well as  
those of Wiltshire could easily furnish  
triple their quota if the Publick  
service requir'd it. I must own at the  
same time that the former were not  
in luck with their firing, but that is  
an accident that will happen  
sometimes to the best corps.

I should think my self highly  
to blame if I did not  
acquaint you with the great zeal  
and loyalty <sup>of this City</sup> toward the King and you.  
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I am inform'd I was not always so.  
The great attention & politeness they  
shew'd <sup>me</sup> I am very sensible, but wou'd  
very gladly have compensated with,  
as it was heridly troublesome. For  
the Corporation met me with a compliment  
at the Gate which put me out a  
good deal not expecting it, and  
then insisted on my receiving the  
Freedom of the City, which I am  
just return'd from. Many good and  
loyal hearts were drunk, and we  
might have all of us have been  
too merry if after a decent time  
I had not got up and made my bow  
to them all. But this cou'd not  
be

be done before the good Corporation  
had expressed their zeal in emptying  
a bottle a piece. They were so obliging  
as to desire me to recommend as many  
to be made Deermen as I chose. I sh<sup>d</sup>  
Col. George Pitt & Leut. Col. and Major  
Budenell & Merrison are then  
made. all this you may believe  
has given a great deal of trouble  
but occasion'd some few diverting  
scenes. I sh<sup>d</sup> is quite facetious.  
— I had almost forgot the complete  
receiving from the good Bishops  
and Prebendaries, as for the Bishop  
if he was not too sacred a Personage  
to laugh about, I shou<sup>d</sup> write  
you word that he is as wicked a fellow  
as

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or any of us. I leave Lecter tomorrow  
morning and dine at Mount Edgecumbe.  
I cannot close this without taking  
notice that from the attentions  
I have met with from those who  
are not Courtiers, and in places  
not incline'd to court measures,  
I am led to believe very much  
that it is not convenient for you  
at present to take a Tour, as it is  
impossible for you to imagine the  
effect it wou'd have on all ranks  
of People, not one person in the  
County but wou'd be proud of being  
first to shew his zeal and attachment  
to your person. Think how happy it  
must

enable me & Mother to be able to say  
<sup>2d time</sup> benediction witness to the general  
unanimous disposition. as every wish I  
have will be completed in your glory  
and in the happiness of seeing you loved  
and esteemed by those whom you must  
one day govern. Permit me to add, that  
this with the continuance of your  
friendship and countenance will  
make me the happiest creature alive.

I remain Dr Brother  
your most affectionate  
and obedient Brother  
Dward.

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I beg my Duty to Mother and compliments to  
all.

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