

15<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1772.

Duke of Gloucester to H.M.

54334

Sir,

I cannot enough express how sincerely I feel, the very gracious, and friendly manner you spoke to Mr. Delgrand yesterday, upon this most unhappy affair. And as y<sup>r</sup> Majesty was so good to send me word; If it still remained secret I might come to you as usual; I thought it my Duty to give it twenty four hours fair consideration. It is most distressful to me, to find myself obliged still to offend you more, by not being able to come into your Majesty's proposals. I very heavily feel the misfortune I labour under, and always meant to keep my marriage secret untill my Death, or the birth of children; but this unhappy Declaration of my Brother's, I fear calls upon me as a man of honor, not to conceal it any longer. I have then but two things to chuse either to abandon Her, which your Majesty could not



not approve of, or to Declare it, and submit  
to a proscription from your presence, which  
I will flatter myself may end after a certain  
time.

I have the honor to be  
Your Majesty's most Dutiful  
Subject, I Brother

William Henry

Sept<sup>6v.</sup> 15. 1772