

NAM/11/20/25

Edin^g 1st Nov^r - 1779

I have this moment
received your Epistle, & being in
the most intolerable bad humour, owing
to a sore throat & pain in my throat,
I cannot resist a secret impulse
I feel, to tell you, that I imputed
your silence to none of the three
reasons you are pleased to
mention, & I can assure you that
your Vanity has every reason to be
mortified.

Sistresses have been
multiplied upon me even to the
length of not making me feel
them. An Uncle, a young man I
doated upon Deac; disappointed in
a Company I had agreed for. Lady
Northth so dreadfully burn't by her
head dress taking fire that she had

been confined to her Bed these three
Weeks & unable to see any body —
Lady Hopetoun (my other Counsellor)
is likewise ill, & invisible. If I continue
to visit the South this Winter, I am
determined to finish the matter one
Way or other, by applying personally
to Mrs L. She is of such a temper, that
should I make proposals & not be
accepted of, her mauvaise honte is
so great, that she would not be able
to be in Company with me; this be-
sides a thousand other Substantial
reasons, not proper to be trusted
upon paper, determines me to
postpone all further proceedings,
till I am more certain of my
own Motions.

If you will be good
& sprain your hands, all I can
say is, they are your own & you may
treat them accordingly.

I am not perfectly certain
whether I ~~can~~ ^{can} give you credit, for
your character. Of His H. R. I agree
with you as to being born a Prince
that excess of dissimulation with which
they are surrounded, & that thing of
necessary for them to know & to make
use of, must ~~destroy~~ ^{destroy} the seeds of
many virtues & amiable qualities
which. I dare say many of them are
so great, that she would not be able
to be in Company with me; this be-
sides a thousand other Substantial
reasons, not proper to be trusted
upon paper, determines me to
postpone all further proceedings,
till I am more certain of my
own Motions.

I should make a
bad Courtier, being unable to flatter
the actions of a Prince, when
incompatible with the virtues of a
Man. I hope the young Man you
speak of, will be surrounded with
honest people; the chance is won-
derfully against him. Tho' a good
deal of an Antic Courtier, I assure you
I am a very loyal Subject, & would
with pleasure furnish the last
shilling of my fortune & last drop
of my blood to promote the welfare

of the most gracious Prince
that ever sat upon the throne of
this or any other kingdom. The
Peers of Ireland are ungenerous,
not to say unjust. Their demand of a
free trade, at a time when we dare
not irritate them & when they know
that to be the case, puts me out
of all patience. God grant more
fortunate times, for I am sure
we never had more need of them.

I am pleased with
Lt. Stormont's promotion. He is a
Man of business & I really believe
capable of filling the office with
Credit & Reputation. Your intelligence
about Mr. Graham I suspect to
be premature, as his departure
is quite unknown to me.

I find you still have
compassion for poor J.H. his name
has not been mentioned in my hearing
since I came down. Adieu.

P.S.
whether you are at
Windsor or at Kew, you
have not thought proper to communicate

Yours affectionate Brother
M