

22 Jan. 1797

36481

Sir.

Your Majesty saying on Fryday last at Dinner that You supposed I would Shut up Shop until the Town filled, induces me to beg leave of You to Shut up Shop entirely as far as relates to Assemblies, Before any thing unpleasant happened last Year I found the Fatigue almost too much for me, & at times was so great, that the Princesses can ^{bear} Witness how often I was inclined to beg leave of You to be excused the going out on Wednesday Evening & Thursday's to Court. I then sent for Dr. Turton who gave me Dory & by that means I did go on, but certainly not without great exertion, & Y^r Majesty will I am sure be sensible that From Monday to the Saturday We live in a constant Duffle either upon the Quad or in Public, I may now begin to feel the consequences of that Life

Since ~~all~~ the Unpleasant affairs of the Prince
 & Princess of Wales began I will own fairly to
 yr Majesty that my dislike to every thing Public
 is greatly increased, & I have given full proof of
 that by appearing but three Times on the Terrace
 last Year & not oftener on the Esplanade at
 Weymouth. I found every Word I spoke in the
 Papers & thereby was convinced that Spies were
 sent to watch me. & As yr Majesty at the Time
 could not clear my Character when things were
 at ^{the} worst in London, from being privately connect
with Lady Jersey, I then determin'd never to appear
 but where my Duty call'd me. I have been so thorowly
 wounded at that Time, that Nothing ever can make
 it up to me. & my dislike to Mankind is so general, that
 I distrust every Soul & every body that surrounds me.

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I trust that my Sincerity in telling Y^r Majesty
the Truth will lead You to acquiesce in my request.
I shall have no objection to see the Princess
Princess of Orange at the Queens House to Dinner
where of Course I suppose the Princess of Wales
& the rest of the Family will be invited, ~~but~~ a
small increase to Our common ^{Evening} Parties will
of course make the Parting very well. If instead
of Dining at four those Days You would dine
at Five it would certainly make the evening less long
for the Females of the Family, as so many Complaints
were reported last Year of those Afternoons spent
in my rooms. & As there is no Possibility to depend
oneself, nor to find any Lady to do it for one, the en-
couragement is not great for me in doing any thing but
what is merely my Duty. I shall wait Your Orders

28107

when the Dinners are to begin & shall obey them
with Pleasure.

I have the Honour to be

Your Majestys

Windsor

most Dutifull & affectionate Wife

the 22nd January,

Charlotte.

1797

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The Queen