

Duke of Cratlow

Portesane

(for H.H.'s reply see behind)

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Sir,

Bondstreet July 31th 1765

According to the Commands with which I was honored, I presume to send your Majesty by the Substance of the Conversation that pass'd yesterday with Mr. And^r. Mitchell, to at which Mr. Sec^y. Conway was present.

We first explain'd to him the Intention of your Majesty to open an Intercourse with the Court of Berlin by such means as should be consistent with your Majesty's Dignity & Honor; & said that we apply'd to him as a person experienced in the Knowledge of that Court as well as of the particular Character of the King of Prussia, to hear from him the most eligible methods to answer that end as well as the good Understanding, which might (according to Circumstances) hereafter become desirable. He thought that Mode of any Felicitation on the event of the Marriage would be a Step too forward,

especially as he had omitted on a much greater occasion sending
your Majesty an Embassy of congratulation: an omission
which Mr. Mitchell wholly attributed to the Ministers
who had neglected putting their Master in mind, in so-
bering a time, of the propriety of such a ceremonial.

He imagined also that any Letter from him either to the
King in person, or to his Ministers would always be considered as
overtures from your Majesty's Servants, & if boasted of as
such, would by no means suit your Majesty's Intentions:
that, should Mr. Burnet be applied to from Mr. Mitchell
to deliver any Message it would still be construed as coming
from the same source, as it would be well known that
neither of them would dare even to hint so far unless they had
authority from hence.

Gen: Conway, Sir, is in constant Correspondence with Prince

Duke of Grafton
(for H.K.'s reply see behind)

Portsmouth

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Ferdinand of Brunswick, who retains a real friendship
for him: it was therefore agreed by us & is now submitted
to your Majesty's Decision, whether by a private
intimation to him from Gen. Conway this affair may
not be brought about to your Majesty's Satisfaction, &
preferably to the various schemes we had hitherto thought
of, to which came with them many & the strongest
objections.

I am with the most profound Respect

Sir

Your Majesty's

Most dutiful & Loyal
Subject & Servant
Grafton

Fontesne

Copy of my answer.

D. of G. I have seen by y^r. letter y^e. very honest Advice
M^r. M. has given, & it occurs to me y^t. M^r. Sec. Conway
writing to D. Ferd. is much y^e. most eligible method as ye
pointed out; but y^e. letter cannot be too carefully worded
to prevent if y^e. D. of Prussia should decline any
correspondence My honour being wounded by it.

Richmond Lodge.

J. R.

July 30th 1765

July 30th 1765

Copy of my answer