

Wm. Lloyd to the Hon. Bute

Dec. 3 1760

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My Lord,

Humbly intreating Your Lordship's Pardon for presuming to address Your Lordship by the ordinary Method of the Penny-Post; but I was constrain'd to that common Course to avoid the Difficulties attending the curious Interrogatories, commonly, so peculiar even to monial Domestics, especially to those that are in Subordination to great Personages: — Therefore, my Lord, the Penny-Post was the only Means I could suggest by which this humble Address might be favour'd with an immediate Access to Your Honours.

The great Confidence I entertain of Your Lordship's Goodness, (even to an utter Stranger) and having been some Time out of Employment, induc'd me to present Your Lordship with the inclos'd Performances; hoping for Your Lordship's Favour so far as to communicate it to the Royal Notice, in such Manner as Your Lordship shall judge proper: And if it, most propitiously, meet the Royal Approbation, Your Lordship's Interposition in so great an Honour to me, shall ever be acknowledg'd with the greatest Respect and Obligation that the most grateful Heart can be inspir'd with. — The Print-Writing, of which the Title-Page of the Inclos'd is a small Specimen, might, on any Subject, have been perform'd on a larger Scale to much greater Advantage, with respect to the Quality of the Writing; but a larger Dimension would have been totally defac'd if cramp'd up within the narrow Limits of a Letter.

With the utmost Deference, my Lord, I beg Leave to communicate the following Fact to Your Lordship's Notice. — About the Year 1748 I had the Honour of being Clerk to a Society (long since dissolv'd) consisting of several Lords, Members of Parliament, and other Gentlemen of Distinction; of which Society the late Lord Gages was a Member: I presented his Lordship with a small Piece of Print-Writing, who was so generous (even without my Knowledge) as to lay the same before His late Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who, immediately, was graciously pleas'd to order me a Place in one of his Offices; but this Royal Appointment was instantly oppos'd by a Member of Parliament, the likewise One of the same Society, who happen'd, unfortunately, to be then present at Leicester-House; which totally debarr'd me of the Royal Favour intended: This Gentleman, who on that Occasion was so very prejudicial to me, had always behav'd to me with the greatest Civility; and this most unfortunate Incident was the Effect of a private Rique that Gentleman bore to the late Lord Gages, and not from the least Objection to me; — but, my Lord, I was the only Sufferer by it. — This Affair, if Your Lordship pleases, shall be more minutely relat'd when I do myself the Honour of waiting on Your Lordship, which I intend next Saturday-Morning: In the mean Time, ardently intreating Your Lordship's benevolent Disposition in my Favour, I beg Leave to subscribe myself, with the greatest Deference,

May it please you, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most devoted, and,

Most obedient Servant,

Wm. Lloyd.

December 3, }  
1760.

At Mr. Staples's, Harp-Court, Black-Horse-Alley, opposite St. Bride's-Church, Fleet-Street.

Sr

The Right Honble

The Earl of Bute.