

Aug 1765

(8)

modest

My dearest William: I am very happy to find
by both Your letters that You are perfectly
well & so much amused, but cannot help saying
how sorry I am to see that You continue still
to Harbour such unaccountable Distiches to those
about You. Your reasons for living & distiching are
in general so trifling & frivolous that the best judge-
ment one could form upon them, would be that of Youthful
Volatility, but when one knows You to be ~~an~~^{an}
Years of Age this very Month, this excuse can
no longer ~~to~~ be made, & severer judgements must
arise, which can be no less than the want of
a good Heart, want of understanding, Ambition,
Vanity, willfulness & an uncommon share of Caprice
which imperceptibly will lead You ^{to} what You
will be ashamed to hear, A true trifling Character,
which is the most ^{despicable} ~~trifling~~ of all things in the World &

The higher the Rank the more it is observed, & it
is surprising that with the proofs You give to the
World of Your offensive Pride You do not feel the
Necessity of a proper Behaviour. ~~Excessive~~ want of de-
cency is want of Sense, & can there be a greater
proof of that, than Your Shunning the Company
of those whose experience could alone direct & guide
You. & the choice You make, of every Young Man that
comes to see Germany. believe me there is not so great
a Fool, and so bad a man, but He sees Your faults
& carries You as He finds You wherever He goes
& that is Your ease already, for it is amazing
how Your indifference of Behaviour, is talk'd of off
here & Abroad, & the World so far is just, in attributing
it, to Your want of minding the Advice of proper
People, & the great opinion You have of Yourself.
I beseech You to be a Great-Little Man

which in reality is Nothing at all, & return to those
who ^{are} ~~can only~~ put about you in order to guide you.
Do not think that all Princes share alike. The
Situation of some is Unfortunately such, that they
can never be in a way to hear their real faults
as it is peoples interest to keep them ignorant
of it, but a Younger Brother can never be in
that dilemma, for though you are the Kings
third Son brought up in an honorable Profession
I do assure you, you will not have it in your
Power to make People believe that your Proba-
bilities to a thing makes you worthy of it if you
are not, nay what is more to be feared is that they
will encourage you to think so in order to make
your Fall the Surer, & in the end profit by your
ignorance. Try for the future to be more reasonable
make no promises but let a right, honorable, open

part, this time is precious what is lost cannot
be recovered, & enjoy those who are good & their
company, & leave Vice & folly to those who think
but of the present & not of hereafter, Choose to
be a usefull member of Society & make Yourself res-
pected through Your Decency & good behaviour than
by Your Party. This Respect of Party is like that paid
to the Idols, but that which is gained by a Uniform
continued upright conduct is everlasting. whatever
I can contribute to Your Reformation I am very
ready to do at all times, but I beseech You
make no more promises, for they fill Your Letters
but have no effect upon Yourself. before You answer
I beg You will reflect a little and consider whether
it is not more for Your good to have recourse to Gods
Advice & to follow it than to be directed by Your own
little Consensient volatile Head. Adieu tout a Vous.
your very Affectionate Mother. Charlotte