

life. I won't tell you what sort of one it is for fear you should not like it.

Adieu. I can't help thinking when we are clubbing and shouldering here how little we shall probably contribute to support the Duke,¹⁵ or the King of Prussia, or save poor Hanover! Pray let me have a word from you sometimes; you will when you know the pleasure it gives

Your aff[ectionate] friend and coz,

H. S. C.

From LADY AILESBURY, Thursday 7 July 1757

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Essendon,¹ Thursday, July 6 [7], '57.

I SHALL have in my power to visit you at Strawberry any day you please after Wednesday with my small companions, Miss Rich and Missy, so you have only to name the day.² I thought it best to give this early notice that I might not interfere with any other engagement of yours. The lawn's face at Park Place is now just the colour of my face,³ and I hope when I have the pleasure of coming into the neighbourhood of Twickenham, to see but *one face* that is not of the same complexion. I shall not go home till Monday, so that if you have any commands for me before that time, pray send them to Essendon, near Hatfield. I am, dear Mr Walpole,

Faithfully yours,

C. AILESBURY

15. Conway wrote Devonshire 4 July that 'the news of this day has . . . given me more melancholy sensations both for his M[ajesty] and his R[oyal] H[ighness] than I have yet felt; I know nothing more to be pitied than they are. The Duke's situation was always bad but now it really appears desperate; to support himself till the K. of Prussia could assist him was I believe as much as his most sanguine friends could hope or expect from him, but now in truth I doubt the best

can only be a protraction of some disagreeable I won't say fatal event.'

1. Herts, 3 miles east of Hatfield (*Vict. Co. Hist. Herts* iii. 458-61).

2. HW told Chute 12 July that he expected Lady Ailesbury on Thursday, the 14th (CHUTE 98).

3. HW makes similar comments about the drought in his letter to Strafford 4 July 1757 (*ibid.* 282).