

I suppose he must have spent a great deal in this war, for this will not be dying rich.

Yours most truly,

HERTFORD

TO HERTFORD, December 1760

Missing; answered *post* 13 Dec. 1760.

FROM HERTFORD, Saturday 13 December 1760

Printed for the first time from a photostat of BM Add. MSS 23218, f. 36.

Ragley, December 13th 1760.

Dear Horry,

**W**HAT can I say to you from hence but that we feel vastly obliged for the news you send us from London. We are here only with our children about us; I shoot chief part of the day, and my Lady is not so well amused.

I cannot be very sorry for the Duke of Richmond;<sup>1</sup> I have no opinion of his Grace's judgment, and his temper will bear humbling.

My new painted ceiling is finished not ill nor very elegantly; I hope you will be satisfied with it, and with an improvement I have lately made in the front of the house which opens the meadows and a part of the river at present to our view.

My eldest sons are to be here next week. I am to leave it to be in

1. Who had resigned as a lord of the Bedchamber on 8 Dec. after a quarrel with King George III, in protest against the promotion of Lord Fitzmaurice to be aide-de-camp to the King over the head of Lord George Lennox, the Duke's brother (*Letters from George III to Lord Bute 1756-1766*, ed. Sedgwick, 1939, pp. 50-1). Richmond's own sister, Lady Caroline Fox, echoed Hertford's sentiments about the event: 'He had indeed made a fine *tripotage* altogether. . . . I'm glad I was

angry at him before, else I should have been exceedingly hurt at this; as it is I am very sorry, for it's a thousand pities with so many good and pleasing qualities as he has, to give himself such a *travers dans le monde* and throw away the prospect (at least of a most agreeable situation in life) before him. . . . The King's behaviour has been, by what I find, very sensible, very polite and very firm' (*Leinster Corr.* i. 304). See also *Mem. Geo. III* i. 19-21.