

From CONWAY, ca Wednesday 1 April 1761

Missing; written after his arrival in Holland and answered *post* 10 April 1761.

To CONWAY, Friday 10 April 1761

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Arlington Street, April 10, 1761.

IF Prince Ferdinand had studied how to please me, I don't know any method he could have lighted upon so likely to gain my heart, as being beaten out of the field before you joined him.¹ I delight in a hero that is driven so far that nobody can follow him. He is as well at Paderborn,² as where I have long wished the King of Prussia, the other world. You may frown if you please at my imprudence, you who are gone with all the disposition in the world to be well with your commander; the peace is in a manner made,³ and the anger of generals will not be worth sixpence these ten years. We peaceable folks are now to govern the world, and you warriors must in your turn tremble at our subjects the mob, as we have done before your hussars and court martials.

I am glad you had so pleasant a passage.⁴ My Lord Lyttelton

1. Conway was on his way to the army in Germany (below, n. 4). Prince Ferdinand and the Allied army had been forced to retire after the Hereditary Prince was attacked and defeated near Grünberg 21 March (MANN v. 498, n. 10; MONTAGU i. 353 and n. 3).

2. He had established himself there about 1 April (MANN v. 498, n. 11; MONTAGU i. 353). Conway wrote the D. of Devonshire from Paderborn 5 May, 'I met with as favourable a reception from the Prince and as much politeness as it was possible in any reason for me to expect; which has continued the same ever since; he shows great attention, and has a manner that makes him easy and agreeable enough without entirely forgetting the

dignity of his station and character . . . I dine with him two or three times a week' (Chatsworth MSS, 416/67).

3. Negotiations for peace between England and France were about to begin on the basis of a *mémoire* and letter from Choiseul of 26 March (MANN v. 498, n. 9).

4. From Harwich to Helvoetsluys (HW). Conway and 'several officers set out in post chaises for Germany' 26 March (GM 1761, xxxi. 139; *Daily Adv.* 30 March) and Conway wrote the D. of Devonshire from 'Newmarket Friday,' 27 March, 'I could not stop at Newmarket without paying my compliments to you . . . I proposed going on board today but found our ship would not be ready till Sunday morning so had just time to run down and back