

I am sorry I must adjourn my mirth, to give Lady A. a pang; poor Sir Harry Ballenden¹³ is dead; he made a great dinner at Almac's for the House of Drummond, drank very hard, caught a violent fever, and died in a very few days.¹⁴ Perhaps you will have heard this before; I shall wish so; I do not like, even innocently, to be the cause of sorrow.

I do not at all lament Lord Granby's leaving the army,¹⁵ and your immediate succession. There are persons in the world who would gladly ease you of this burthen.¹⁶ As you are only to take the vice-royalty of a coop, and that for a few weeks,¹⁷ I shall but smile if you are terribly distressed. Don't let Lady A. proceed to Brunswic:¹⁸ you might have had a wife¹⁹ who would not have thought it so terrible to

in the Age of the American Revolution, 2d edn, New York, 1961, pp. 163-7; MANN v. 487, nn. 1-4).

13. Uncle to the Countess of Ailesbury (HW). Hon. Henry Bellenden (d. 7 April 1761), Kt, 1749; Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, 1747; Keeper of Hurst Castle, 1745 (*Scots Peerage* ii. 73-4, which quotes this letter; GM 1745, xv. 389). His sister was Lady Ailesbury's mother.

14. HW gives a few details to Montagu 16 April (MONTAGU i. 359).

15. Granby arrived in London 14 April, left 25 May, and sailed from Harwich to return to Germany 1 June (GM 1761, xxxi. 186, 281; *London Chronicle* 11-14 April, 4-6 June, ix. 360, 542; Hist. MSS Comm., 12th Report, App. pt v, *Rutland MSS*, ii. 250).

16. According to HW, Conway's appointment had been opposed by the Bedford group 'in favour of General Waldegrave' (*Mem. Geo. III* i. 37). Conway wrote the D. of Devonshire Friday [27 March], 'I saw Lady Y[armouth] and am much obliged to your Grace for speaking to her as I found she had actually *writ* and was in the best humour and the civillest imaginable' (Chatsworth MSS, 416/65); and again 10 April, 'Mostyn goes over too; he is not with Lord Granby but probably on the road.—I suppose he will make some push if any accident prevents Lord G.'s return in which case I must recommend myself to your Grace's friendship to have a little care of me' (ibid. 416/66).

17. On 27 June from Soest Conway

wrote Devonshire, 'When I had the command you mention, which before the army came up here grew to be the advanced guard towards Monsieur de Soubise, Lord Granby and W[aldegrave] were not come up; it continued a good while after they did.—I suspect a little that was not quite liked, however this is mere conjecture. I have seen no sign of the least ill humour at all or from any quarter: but without that and apart from it *il y a quelquefois une petite jalousie de métier*.—H.S. [P. Ferdinand] told me the day the army came up [24 June], "Qu'il était très content de tous les arrangements que j'avais pris mais qu'il avait *les mains un peu liées* et qu'il ne pouvait pas faire tout de qui était de son inclination." He did not explain this farther.—I that day fell into the line with my command and the following night Lord Gr[anby] was detached with another: and had G. Waldegrave under him. They lie at a league and half on our left.' Conway concludes, 'I liked my command, and gave it up with some regret' (ibid. 416/68).

18. Where Lady Mary had planned to go; Conway wrote the D. of Devonshire 10 April, 'I won't say by whose fickleness it is that she [Lady Mary] has for the present, I believe, abandoned her Brunswick scheme, though Lord Granby's account of the security of the road has a little revived her former inclination' (ibid., 416/66). Lady Ailesbury remained at The Hague.

19. Lady Harrington, with whom Con-