

positions for landing the Queen on the 7th,² by which I suppose I am to conclude the wedding over.³ If I find by tomorrow's post that I can get to town in time for it, I intend going directly to London; if it is over I shall make Ragley in my way for the sake of my family, but shall even then be very soon in town, I believe, to pay my duty to the King.

This is my present scheme, which I hope you will approve; my head and stomach have not yet recovered the want of sleep and sickness to enable me to add more than that I am with the best compliments of the family, dear Horry,

Always most truly yours,

HERTFORD

From LADY AILESBUURY, ca Monday 21 September 1761

Missing; answered *post* 27 Sept. 1761.

To CONWAY, Friday 25 September 1761

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Arlington Street, Sept. 25, 1761.

THIS is the most unhappy day I have known of years: Bussy goes away!¹ Mankind is again given up to the sword! Peace and you are far from England!

Strawberry Hill.

I was interrupted this morning, just as I had begun my letter, by Lord Waldegrave; and then the Duke of Devonshire sent for me to

2. The newspapers of the 7th contained many reports of the arrival of the Queen, including one of a messenger who arrived in London at five that morning with the report that Anson was making dispositions to land her at eight (*Lloyd's Evening Post* 4-7 Sept., ix. 238).

3. It took place on the evening of 8 Sept. (*ante* 9 Sept. 1761).

1. He had been recalled 17 Sept. (*London Chronicle* 26-9 Sept., x. 311-12). Peace negotiations had collapsed in a series of Council meetings and conferences between the 15th and 21st with the rejection of a French *mémoire* of 1 Sept. and accumulating evidence of a Franco-Spanish alliance (below, nn. 7, 9, 11; MANN v. 536-7 and nn. 16-17; *Hardwicke Corr.* iii. 274-7, 322-7).