

not, the honestest part one can take is to look on, and try if one can do any good if matters go too far.

I am charmed with the Castle of Hercules;⁸ it is the boldest pile I have seen since I travelled in Fairyland. You ought to have delivered a princess imprisoned by enchanters in his club: she, in gratitude, should have fallen in love with you: your constancy should have been immaculate. The devil knows how it would have ended—I don't—and so I break off my romance.

You need not beat the French any more this year: it cannot be ascribed to Mr Pitt; and the mob won't thank you. If we are to have a warm campaign in Parliament, I hope you will be sent for. Adieu! We take the field tomorrow sennight.⁹

Yours ever,

HOR. WALPOLE

PS. You will be sorry to hear that Worksop is burned.¹⁰ My Lady Waldegrave has got a daughter,¹¹ and your brother an ague.¹²

From CONWAY, ca Thursday 26 November 1761

Missing; mentioned *post* 10 Dec. 1761.

8. Alluding to a description of a building in Hesse Cassel, given by Mr Conway in one of his letters (HW).

9. Parliament opened 3 Nov. (*Journals of the House of Commons* xxxix. 6).

10. 'On Wednesday evening an express arrived at the Duke of Norfolk's, with an account, that about nine o'clock on Tuesday morning last [20 Oct.] a fire broke out at Worksop Manor, his Grace's seat in Nottinghamshire, which in a short time

entirely reduced the whole building to ashes' (*Daily Adv.* 23 Oct.). The estimated loss was 'upwards of £100,000' (*ibid.* 24 Oct.; see *ante* 17 Sept. 1758, n. 13). Conway had visited there in 1758 (*ante* 27 Aug. 1758).

11. Lady Charlotte Maria Waldegrave (11 Oct. 1761–1808), m. (1784) George Henry Fitzroy, styled E. of Euston; 4th D. of Grafton, 1811.

12. See the previous letter.