

parted; she to the Hereditary Princess,<sup>7</sup> I to this inn, where is actually resident the Duchess of Douglas.<sup>8</sup> We are not likely to have any intercourse, or I would declare myself a Hamilton.<sup>9</sup>

I find this country wonderfully enriched since I saw it four-and-twenty years ago. Boulogne is grown quite a plump smug town, with a number of new houses. The worst villages are tight, and wooden shoes have disappeared. Mr Pitt and the City of London may fancy what they will, but France will not come a-begging to the Mansion House<sup>10</sup> this year or two. In truth, I impute this air of opulence a little to ourselves. The crumbs that fall from the chaises of the swarms of English that visit Paris, must have contributed to fatten this province. It is plain I must have little to do when I turn my hand to calculating; but here is my observation. From Boulogne to Paris it will cost me near ten guineas; but then consider, I travel alone, and carry Louis most part of the way in the chaise with me. *Nos autres milords anglais* are not often so frugal. Your brother,<sup>11</sup> last year, had ninety-nine English to dinner on the King's Birthday.<sup>12</sup> How many of them do you think dropped so little as ten guineas on this road? In short, there are the seeds of a calculation for you; and if you will water them with a torrent of words, they will produce such a dissertation, that you will be able to vie with George Grenville next session in plans of national economy<sup>13</sup>—only be sure not to tax travelling till I come back, loaded with purchases; nor, till then, propagate my ideas. It will be time enough for me to be thrifty of the nation's money, when I have spent all my own.

Clermont, 12th.

While they are getting my dinner, I continue my journal. The Duchess of Douglas (for English are generally the most extraor-

7. Princess Augusta (1737–1813) of England, m. Karl Wilhelm Ferdinand, Hereditary Prince of Brunswick-Wolfenbützel. The Hereditary Prince and Princess were paying a visit to England, and had arrived in London 9 Sept. (*Daily Adv.* 9, 11 Sept.).

8. Margaret Douglas (d. 1774), m. (1758) Archibald Douglas, 3d M. of Douglas 1700, cr. (1703) D. of Douglas.

9. The memorable cause between the houses of Douglas and Hamilton was then pending (HW); see 'Paris Journals' loc. cit.

and *ante* 12 April 1764, n. 11. HW is alluding to his aversion to meeting any English abroad; see MORE 48.

10. Of the lord mayor of London.

11. Francis Earl of Hertford, then ambassador at Paris (HW).

12. See *ante* 6 June 1764.

13. Grenville 'valued himself on his knowledge of finance, and . . . wanted not redundancy of words' (*Mem. Geo. III* ii. 62). As first lord of the Treasury he had of course been responsible for the budget.