

dinary persons that we meet with even out of England) left Amiens before me, on her way home. You will not guess what she carries with her—Oh! nothing that will hurt our manufactures; nor what George Grenville himself would seize. One of her servants died at Paris; she had him embalmed, and the body is tied before her chaise:—a droll way of being chief mourner!

For a French absurdity, I have observed that along the great roads they plant walnut trees, but strip them up for firing. It is like the owl that bit off the feet of mice, that they might lie still and fatten.

At the foot of this hill is an old-fashioned château belonging to the Duke of Fitz-James, with a *parc en quincunx*¹⁴ and clipped hedges. We saw him walking in his waistcoat and ribband, very well powdered; a figure like Guerchy. I cannot say his seat rivals Goodwood or Euston.¹⁵ I shall lie at Chantilly tonight,¹⁶ for I did not set out till ten this morning—not because I could not, as you will suspect, get up sooner—but because all the horses in the country have attended the Queen to Nancy.¹⁷ Besides, I have a little underplot of seeing Chantilly and St-Denis in my way;¹⁸ which you know one could not do in the dark tonight, nor in winter, if I return then.

Hôtel de feu Madame l'Ambassadrice d'Angleterre,¹⁹

Sept. 13, 7 o'clock.

I am just arrived.²⁰ My Lady Hertford is not at home, and Lady Anne²¹ will not come out of her burrow: so I have just time to finish this before Madame returns; and Brian²² sets out tonight and will carry it. I find I shall have a great deal to say: formerly I observed

14. *Parc en quinconce*, planting arranged in groupings of five (four at the corners, and one in the middle).

15. Seats of the Dukes of Richmond and Grafton, descendants of Charles II through his mistresses Louise de Penancoët de Kéroualle, Duchess of Portsmouth, and Barbara Villiers, Duchess of Cleveland; Fitzjames was descended from a mistress of James II.

16. HW arrived at Chantilly at 9:30 ('Paris Journals,' DU DEFFAND v. 260).

17. Stanislaus King of Poland, father to the Queen of Louis XV, lived at Nancy (HW). See *ibid.* v. 259; *post* 10 March 1766.

18. For HW's impressions of Chantilly and St-Denis, which he saw 13 Sept., see 'Paris Journals,' DU DEFFAND v. 260.

19. Lord Hertford was at this time recalled, and the Duke of Richmond appointed to succeed him in the embassy at Paris (HW).

20. HW reached Paris at six o'clock (DU DEFFAND *loc. cit.*).

21. Lady Anne Seymour Conway, afterwards married to the Earl of Drogheda (HW). She was apparently quite shy (*ante* 11 March 1764; *Leinster Corr.* i. 435).

22. Presumably one of the Hertfords' servants.