

had possessed a great share of your esteem, and you could not have bestowed it on one who would have valued it more. Perhaps it will not occur to you that I have cause of accusation; but I am so anxious about my friends that I am easily alarmed. It is three months since I wrote to you,² since which time you have not taken any notice of me; and even in a letter my Lord got from you today,³ you did not say one kind word to me. I am heartily sorry to hear the gout still plagues you, but I hope soon to hear you are perfectly well in London. The recess begins tomorrow, and the Houses are adjourned to the 28th of April;⁴ we shall all be glad to get to England, but don't expect it till the end of May. My Lord and my son desire to be remembered kindly to you; their reign goes on gloriously, and they are quite happy and in perfect health.

You would be pleased to see how much my daughter⁵ is already settled in a family way,⁶ and is vastly happy and satisfied. She and Lord Drogheda are gone out of town today for the holidays, to his sisters.⁷ Excuse my writing in such a hurry, as the packet-boat is going to sail; adieu, dear Sir, repent of your ingratitude, and believe me at all times

Your most faithful and affectionate

I. HE.

We go to Lisburn on Monday⁸ for a fortnight or three weeks.

2. Lady Hertford had last written to HW *ante* 20 Jan. 1766.

3. HW's letter *ante* 10 March 1766.

4. The Commons had adjourned 27 March; see *Journals of the House of Commons . . . Ireland* xiv. 248.

5. Lady Anne, now Countess of Drogheda.

6. Her first child, Lady Isabella, was

born 22 Nov. (Mervyn Archdall and John Lodge, *Peerage of Ireland*, 1789, ii. 115).

7. Lady Sarah Moore (d. 1778), m. (1748) William Pole of Ballyfin, Queen's County; and his half-sister Lady Lucy Moore (b. 1739). Another half-sister, Lady Alice, b. 1740, died young (*ibid.* ii. 114, iii. 69).

8. 7 April.