

FROM LADY HERTFORD, Monday 16 November 1772

Printed for the first time from a photostat of BM Add. MSS 23219, f. 97.

Address: To the Honourable Mr Walpole at Strawberry Hill near Isleworth, Middlesex.

Postmark: 16 NO (apparently an error for 17 Nov.).

Monday night, 11 o'clock.

My dear Mr Walpole,

LET me in a few words entreat you to come to town.¹ Your cough is worse, your gout is not lessened, and I hear your apothecary² says you cannot mend till you change the air. Don't fear London because of busy visitors, for we shall all wish you so much to be quiet that we won't one of us enter your door till you are stronger. My Lord comes to town tomorrow.

Yours most affectionately,

I. H.

FROM LADY AILESURY, ca Sunday 27 December 1772

Missing; answered *post* 29 Dec. 1772.

TO LADY AILESURY, Tuesday 29 December 1772

Printed from the MS now wsl. First printed in part *Works* v. 564–5 and in full Toynbee viii. 221–3 and *Supp.* ii. 142–3. For the history of the MS see *ante* 23 Aug. 1760.

Arlington Street, Dec. 29, 1772.

I SHOULD not even thank you, dear Madam, so soon for your very kind letter,¹ as I have nothing to tell you, if it was not to join my tears to your Ladyship's for the death of dear little Colas!²

1. HW did not go to town until late December. See MANN vii. 450; *post* 29 Dec. 1772.

2. Perhaps Stirling Gilchrist (d. 1791), surgeon and apothecary at Twickenham.

See MORE 205 and n. 1; BERRY i. 369 and n. 1.

1. Missing.

2. Evidently a pet.