

said, *Doctor*, you are to deal. You may guess at their astonishment, and how much it made us all laugh. I wish it may make you smile a moment, or that I had anything better to send you. Adieu, most affectionately.

Yours ever,

HOR. WALPOLE

TO HERTFORD, Tuesday 27 September 1774

Missing. Immediately after learning of the forthcoming dissolution of Parliament (see *ante* 27 Sept. 1774, n. 4), HW wrote to Lord Hertford, earnestly pressing him to sound the Duke of Grafton on his brother's situation immediately [Grafton was Conway's sponsor as M.P. for Thetford], and telling him, if the Duke was adverse, that I depended on his finding a borough for his brother: but thinking him in Suffolk, as he was, I ordered the servant to deliver the letter to Lady Hertford, who was warmer in zeal, and had more weight with her nephew [Grafton] than her husband did' (*Last Journals* i. 381). See *post* 2 Oct. 1774.

TO LADY AILESBURY, Tuesday 27 September 1774

Missing. 'I . . . wrote to Lady Ailesbury to insist on Lady Hertford's dispatching a messenger [with HW's letter to Hertford 27 Sept. 1774] immediately, which she did' (*Last Journals* i. 381).

TO CONWAY, Wednesday 28 September 1774

Printed from *Works* v. 160-3.

Strawberry Hill, Sept. 28, 1774.

LADY Ailesbury brings you this,¹ which is not a letter, but a paper of directions, and the counterpart of what I have written to Madame du Deffand.² I beg of you seriously to take a great deal of

1. Mr Conway ended his military tour at Paris, whither Lady Ailesbury and Mrs Damer went to meet him, and where

they spent the winter together (HW).

2. Missing.