

the dancers of the Opera danced;<sup>19</sup> and then danced the company;<sup>20</sup> and then it being morning, and the candles burnt out, the windows were opened; and then the stewed danced assembly were such shocking figures, that they fled like ghosts as they looked.—I suppose there will be no more balls unless the French land, and then we shall show we do not mind it.

Thus I have told you all I know. You will ponder over these things in your little distant island, when we have forgotten them. There is another person, one Doctor Franklin, who, I fancy, is not sorry that we divert ourselves so well.

## TO CONWAY, Saturday 3 July 1779

Missing; mentioned *post* 10 July 1779.

## FROM LADY AILESBURY, ca Thursday 8 July 1779

Missing; answered *post* 10 July 1779.

## TO LADY AILESBURY, Saturday 10 July 1779

Printed from the MS now wsl. First printed, with omissions, *Works* v. 571–2; first printed in full Toynbee x. 446–8 and *Supp.* ii. 160–1. For the history of the MS see *ante* 23 Aug. 1760.

Saturday night, July 10, 1779.

**I** COULD not thank your Ladyship before the post went out today, as I was getting into my chaise to go and dine at Carshalton with my cousin T. Walpole,<sup>1</sup> when I received your kind inquiry<sup>2</sup>

Pt IV, iii. 1831, 1910; Pt V, i. *passim*, ii. 828; *Enciclopedia dello spettacolo*, Rome, [1954–62], i. 1207).

19. 'A group of dancers [from the Opera House] descended from the galleries, representing the Four Seasons. . . . Mr Simonet and Mrs Bachelli danced a *minuet de la cour*' (*Public Adv.* loc. cit.).

20. 'The young part of this brilliant assembly went to country dances, and continued till between five and six' (*ibid.*).

1. HW mentions the visit in his letter to Lady Ossory 14 July 1779 (*Ossory* ii. 110–11).

2. Missing.