

do not give me any more such joys. I shall be quite content with your remaining immortal, without the foil of any alarm. You gave all your friends a panic, and may trust their attachment without renewing it. I received as many inquiries the next day as if an Archbishop was in danger, and all the Bench hoped he was going to heaven. I wish your Ladyship joy too of Miss Campbell's³ recovery.

Mr Conway wonders I do not talk of Voltaire's Memoirs⁴—Lord bless me, I saw it two months ago; the Lucans⁵ brought it from Paris and lent it to me: nay, and I have seen most of it before; and I believe this an imperfect copy, for it ends nohow at all.⁶ Besides, it was quite out of my head. Lord Melcombe's Diary⁷ put that and everything else out of my mind. I wonder much more at Mr Conway's not talking of this! It gossips about the living as familiarly as a modern newspaper. I long to hear what Princess A[melia] says about it. I wish the newspapers were as accurate! They have been circumstantial about Lady Walsingham's⁸ Birthday clothes,⁹ which to be sure one is glad to know, only unluckily there is no such person:¹⁰ however, I

to assure you Lady Ailesbury is perfectly well and Sir William Fordyce does not think there is any danger of a return.'

3. Caroline Campbell (*ante* 5 Oct. 1777, n. 2), dau. of Lord William Campbell, Lady Ailesbury's brother, after her father's death in 1778 lived with Lady Ailesbury (OSSORY ii. 50, 580, iii. 34; MANN ix. 613). See Appendix 17.

4. *Mémoires de M. de Voltaire, écrits par lui-même*, Geneva, 1784; HW's copy, London, 1784, is Hazen, *Cat. of HW's Lib.*, No. 3990. Although Voltaire burned his original manuscript, there were two copies made by his secretary, Wagnière. One of these was stolen in 1768 by La Harpe, who made a copy before returning the Wagnière transcript through Madame Denis. One of Wagnière's copies was sent to the Empress Catherine of Russia; the other was delivered to Beaumarchais before 1783 for the Kehl edition of Voltaire's works. The editors at first intended to include only excerpts from the *Mémoires*, but in 1784 several separate editions of the *Mémoires* appeared, determining the editors of the Kehl edition to include the *Mémoires* in their entirety in their last volume (Voltaire, *Œuvres complètes*, ed. Moland, 1877-85, i. 5-6, 70).

5. Sir Charles Bingham (1735-99), 7th Bt; cr. (1776) Bn and (1795) E. of Lucan; m. (1760) Margaret Smith (d. 1814), who was a favourite at the French Court because of her miniatures (OSSORY i. 298, 312).

6. The London edition 1784, ends with an entry dated '1^{er} janvier, 1760' about the King of Prussia. The Geneva edition, 1784, after this entry prints the 'Épître au Maréchal Keith. Sur les vaines terreurs de la mort et les frayeurs d'une autre vie' (pp. 157-74), by the King of Prussia. The *Mémoires* in the *Œuvres complètes*, ed. Moland, end with the same entry dated '12 fevrier 1760' without the 'Épître' (i. 64-5). See also MORE 215.

7. See *ante* 21 May 1784.

8. Augusta Georgina Elizabeth Irby (1747-1818), m. (1772) Thomas de Grey (1748-1818), 2d Bn Walsingham, 1781.

9. The *London Chronicle* 3-5 June, lv. 544, in a detailed description of the costumes at the Birthday drawing-room, reported, 'Lady Walsingham in a plain white lustring, trimmed in an elegant simplicity of style, with balloon *frivolity* and crape, which had an effect infinitely excelling the glare of colour.'

10. HW apparently forgot that the ti-