

must be a total one, and the Court has taken care that it should not be easy to fill up their places, though the whole Opposition should be taken in. In truth, my good Lord, I lament that the nation has so little choice—but should we be where we are, if the choice was not so limited? The most that can be said for most of the Opposition, is, that they are dear to the Americans, who will not trust us, unless they see all their friends in power. This is so very cogent an argument, that no means should be left untried of cementing the Opposition together as much as possible. Should a man of the *Cabal* remain, America will never believe us in earnest.

In fact, my Lord, I am convinced, that *being sent for*, is itself a delusion. To send for others, is, but saying, those I have dismissed were incapable; I will try if others cannot execute my measures more ably. I would say, if I could dictate, none must go for being sent for. They must not go till they are called for, called for by the nation, or they can do no good. The nation has been so intoxicated, so artfully imposed upon, that it must be roused by its own distress. Then it will swallow the remedy. When a regular physician advises sending for Dr James,¹⁴ I know that patient is given over—and I know too, that Dr James is often turned off, if his medicines begin to take place.

Pray forgive me, my Lord, for troubling you so long, and I fear impertinently, but are not these times that agitate one's thoughts, and force one to communicate them? Cæsar certainly was plagued with many that he thought impertinent letters, but Brutus who received much fewer, I dare say held no honest Roman troublesome, even if the poor man was silly enough to tell him how he might redeem Rome. I have the honour to be, my Lord, with the greatest esteem

Your Lordship's most faithful humble servant

HOR. WALPOLE

PS. This letter, as your Lordship will see, was written some days ago, but I had no opportunity of conveying it; and I must beg no answer by the post.¹⁵

14. Dr Robert James (1705–76), whose powders ('James's Powders') were HW's favourite nostrum. Although he was created M.D. at Cambridge in 1728 by royal

mandate and was later admitted a licentiate of the College of Physicians, Dr James was generally regarded as a quack.

15. 'I had written a strong letter in the