

CHARLES, 6th duke, K.G., commonly called *The Proud Duke of Somerset*. His grace *m.* 1st, Lady Elizabeth Percy, only dau. of Jocelyn, Earl of Northumberland, and sole heiress of the Percys (her ladyship had been *m.* twice previously; 1st, to Lord Ogle; and 2ndly, to Thomas Thynne, Esq., but had no issue), by whom he had,

I ALGERNON, his successor.

His grace *d.* in 1748, at the advanced age of 87, having filled high offices in the courts of CHARLES II, WILLIAM III, and Queen ANNE, and was *s.* by his only surviving son,

SOMERSET (Charles, sixth Duke of) Three A. L. s. 5 pp. 4to,  
*Pettworth, Jan.-March, 17 $\frac{1}{3}$* , to a lady, speaking of his  
dismissal from Court (3)

Tuesday ~~none~~

Madame

I doe this moment receive the  
Honour of your Lady's commands  
Relating to open the Seales of the  
severall Boxes & bundles wherein  
some of the writings relating to the  
late Lord Allington & <sup>to</sup> deliver such  
writings as your counsell shall  
think to be of service to you &  
to Mr. Nath. Napier; ~~and~~ if I did  
I doe promise that as soon as  
the cause between Mr. John Jacob  
& my selfe is over at D. commons  
the very next day after that  
Determination, I shall obey  
your commands, being with  
with great Respect, your  
Lady's most obedient humble servant  
Somerset

Pettworth Jan: the 20<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>12</sup>/<sub>13</sub>

madame

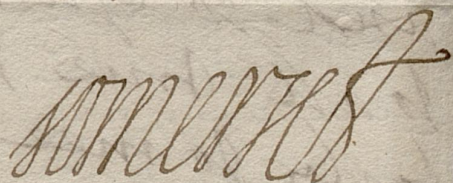
I am truly sensible of the just cause  
of affliction your Lady<sup>sh</sup> doth lie  
under by the losse of your Lord,  
that I must not presume to say more  
on the very melancholy a subject  
then as the losse is great to your Lady  
and to your children; be it is allowe  
to all true hearted Englishmen & particu-  
larly to mee whoe <sup>ever</sup> had the greatest  
respect & value for him of any body  
that I owe to his memory & to  
your Lady<sup>sh</sup> all the price that I  
can be any way usefull to you  
& to yours, which I shall be glade  
to give the prooffes off when I receive  
your commands; in the mean time  
I must recommend a submission to  
God Almighty's will under whose

protection I doe hope your Lady<sup>sh</sup>  
will most entirely depend on and  
never fail to have. I am with  
the greatest respect

madame

your Lady<sup>sh</sup>

most obedient humble  
servant

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'M. W. J.', written in dark ink.

Duke off Sommerfett

2.26

March the 18<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>12</sup>/<sub>13</sub>.

madame

I had not been thus long acknowled-  
ging the honour of your Lady's  
letters, but, to take time, to recollect  
to speak with those who were most  
acquainted with such a request as  
your Lady is pleased to desire  
my thoughts upon. I doe not find  
many instances of the like granted  
but what hath been done by the  
particular interest of a very great  
& top favourite, as was the case, you  
mention of Mrs How. but not one, to  
any person of a contrary party to the  
present reigning ministry. if there  
was noe other reason then that, I fear,  
Lord Treasurer will not suffer the Queen  
to grant any thing to a Whig or to your  
Lady. yet I shall be very glade to

find my selfe mistaken. Whenever  
your Lady<sup>s</sup> doe think proper  
to laye your melancholy circumstances  
before the Queen. I should hope  
shee would bee moved by goodnesse,  
compassion & a particular consideration  
for you to grant your request.  
I have noe interest, and have not  
been at Court since I was dismissed  
from thence. Therefore it would bee  
ridiculous for mee to make your  
Lady<sup>s</sup> any offer of service there.  
but your Lady<sup>s</sup> may depend where  
I can bee of service you shall always  
find mee to bee with much truth  
your Lady<sup>s</sup> most  
my wife begs  
you to accept obedient & most humble  
of her humble servant  
service.

WMS