

hand, but not being able to reach it, I desired Lord Temple's assistance, who with some difficulty took it from the hand of Apollo: a copy of which I enclose in this journal. Mr Walpole is the author. I'm sure you'll think them pretty' (iii. 253-4; see also HW to Montagu 7 July 1770, MONTAGU ii. 313-16).

*HW entertained Lady Mary at SH at the end of July:*

'Sunday 29 [July]. We had two beaux besides Mr Walpole at Strawberry Hill, Lord Bristol and Mr Hervey. Lady Greenwich and Lady Sackville came from Sudbrook, Lady Jane Scott from town, and Lady Browne from Twickenham. 'Twas a terrible hot day. We had a great dinner very ill-dressed, yet Mr Walpole had sent for a cook on purpose, who certainly knew but little of his trade: he himself is, as you know, always agreeable and always makes his house so to his company. All went well till the evening, when Lady Blandford arrived, and very soon after the servants told Mr Walpole the Princess Amelia was coming: this put all in confusion. Lady Blandford desired to be shut up, but none of the company agreeing to be shut up with her, she was obliged to remain in the Gallery. I went down to meet the Princess: Lady Powis and Lady Harriot Varnon were with her. H.R.H. went over all the house: the Gallery last, as she did not care to disturb the company, and therefore did not stop to look at any of the pictures, desiring they would set down and not mind her. Those she passed by she spoke to, which were Lady Charlotte Edwine, Lady Greenwich, and Lord Bristol, but unluckily, not seeing Lady Jane Scott, she was not taken notice of, which displeased her very much, and though the Princess sent a message to her by me when she went away, all did not do: she would be offended. Lady Blandford was out of humour at being deprived of Mr Walpole's company, so the party did not end so well as it promised. Things being in this situation Lady Greenwich called for her chaise, and as I was to lie at Sudbrook I followed her example' (Coke, *Journals* iii. 263-4).

*Lady Mary does not mention HW again until 3 September:*

'Monday. . . . I forgot to mention Mr Walpole having called on me Saturday morning. I showed him some of the letters [of William III] which are still in my possession and which I wrote you word of some time ago; he thinks them very curious: he had a finger covered up and complained of a pain in one of his feet: I'm afraid he is going to have a fit of the gout' (iii. 281).

*Lady Mary's fears were justified.*

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