

Outside the Box

Transcript

Document title:	Letter	CR number (if known):	CR341/219
Document description:	From Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire to Jonathan Wathen Phipps, later Sir JW Waller	Date (if known):	1798
		Page number (if known):	

My dear Phipps

A thousand thanks for your very kind letter and for your goodness about [? G West] but alas I think there is a strain of coldness in your letter which I feel I deserve.

Of all the dreadful anxiety of a situation that has been [?cruelly] painful the [?worst] has been my neglect towards you. As with you I need have no reserve. I will tell you that all the money I have had or could raise has been employd to enable my poor sisters family to wait for the arrangements which are to take place
- I had resolv'd in the country not to see you or write to you till I could do you justice. But this I cannot bear, & still less can I talk to you on money matters, so superior are you to the subject

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Besides the original 400£ I owe you a years interest at least, and 100 at least more for the attendance of last year. I shall I hope be able this very next week to pay you 120 - & I then propose

paying you 50 monthly till the whole is paid – but till I have begun I would not have you say any think [sic] to Mr Wathen [?lest] he should doubt me.

Believe me I know I have aquired [sic] in you a true friend, & also a person to whom I have given a very large portion of friendship & regard – I cannot bear being [?urgent] to you, - & I cannot speak to you on the subject – I shall be in town Wed^y & try to see you. God bless you.

GD

I know you will
not mention what I have said

[page 3 – the address in the centre at right angles]

W. Phipps Esq^r

[on the left in another hand] ~~No 5~~

[on the right in same hand] ~~No 7~~

No 6

1798