ALS to Madam [Mrs. Cockerell?]; Bath / 1763 Nov 9

OSB MSS FILE
Folder 17849

Osborn File List
BOWDLER, JANE, 1743-1784

/ ALS TO MADAM [MRS. COCKERELL?]
BATH
9 NOV 1763
Dear Madam,

When I was going to write to you some Time ago, my Brother returned from Glasgow, where he had seen Mr. Cockrell, and I presume acquainted him with all you wished to know relating to your Friends at Ashby, where I judged it would be more pleasing to delay writing for some Weeks in order to make my Intelligence the freest; but since then my Brother informed me you were gone to London for a short Time, wherefore I adjourned my Letter till a second Time, and am now going to pay it on your Supposition you may be returned home. I hope your Journey has been a good one, and that the Success of it has made you amends for the Fatigue, you mention placing two of the young Gentlemen at London the other at Winchester; but if you have another Son between them two pray where is he. As I am not at Home have no Opportunity of asking Thomas whether he answered Master Charles's Letter, so at Pray...
say on the Subject is, that the little Man writes no better than other School Boys of his Age, which you know is not always readable. I asked Mr. Bowdler about Miss Ripper's other Book, but she had not seen it then. I say nothing about my Veees Heals any more than my Brothers, because Mr. Cordenell will we doubt have given you an Account of their several Journeys in Both and the Hatfield. Mr. Chadok whom you saw at Southampten, his Grandmother was my Father's Sister, so he is my Nellie nephew. I never saw the Gentleman, but know he has been very pleased in the Navy, with the Character of agood Officer, for part of a Parliamentary

Indecent as I suppose, for he is of no mean Birth, by his Mother related to two Lords, which are Gentlemen that at present own People. My Sister Paterson is at last returned to her native

County, was in London while you was there without knowing you was so, till Lady Cotton informed her you was in the City before she came away. The General and she are now we come to pass some Time here, which has induced Sister Harriet & I to take a Lodging here for a Month or so, had we stayed at Home we could have seen very little of them, and it being above

doublw Years since we saw last we were willing to have

more of her Company at first setting out. Miss Bowdler is

with us at present, she was here to morrow to make room

for Miss Fanny; when Fanny has been a week here is to

come, and I believe we shall stay long enough for them all

three to spend a Week at Bath. The Worth of Mr. Sheriffs

Entertainment from some People after him at first, amongst

plan some Black Alms hidden upon the whole he claimed

away only two Days here, and one at the Hatfield. which

however afforded him an opportunity of asking his Friends

to subscribe to a Book he is to publish; the Subject is

Education I think. One of the finest Persons at the Bath

Tavern was a Sister of Mr. Walles, which occasioned a

Remark that Mr. Walles himself was here. My Sister

Paterson says there were five English Dutchesses at Paris

to the same time there, the Place is still they were obliged

to stay a Week at Leis till no Apartment was empty. The

Duke of Bedford Three Hundred English at the Dinner he

made to Jefferson of the Peace, the first Consul was served

in China he took over with him, the second in the French

Proclamation the King of France gave the Dutchess; and

the third in Silver; of Five English Dutchesses who were

then at Paris, only one unwidow, namely the Dutchess

of Douglas. When the Coffee was over Word was brought

to the Dutchess of Bedford that the Coach was at the

Door where she left the Company and went out; the same

Company was regularly observed whenever she saw the

Company at Home, all the while she staid at Paris.
Are you acquainted with a Clergyman near Taunton of the Name of Roberts, he has a Daughter married to an Officer in the Queen of Hungary's Service; they passed thro' Nice while Sister Pedenor was there, and it is for Curiosity prompts me to make the Enquiry. Lady Northampsons Corpse is arrived, and sent into Powysshire to be kept till her Lord's is come, when they are to lie in State together and be buried together in the Family Vault in that County. It melancholy sight it must be, especially to those who so sadly saw them a splendid Bride and Bridegroom out shining every other Person at Northampton Rases. I met yesterday to hear the two Parry's perform on the Welsh Harp and was vastly pleased; what a memory the Blind Man must have, to play so many long pieces of Music one after another without Confusion; he got but little yesterday, don't suppose there was above an Hundred People in the Room. If Miss Catherew will cut the plain Piece of Paper into Four Pieces of the same Shape and Size, it will not fatigue her Eyes to so much as seeing by Candle Light. Both my Sisters make the Tender of their best Civilities to you and all your Family, as does

Dear Madam

Your Obliged humble Servant

Jane Bentled

Both 9 Nov. 1763
Dear Madam,

When I was going to write to you some time ago, my Brother returned from Gloster, where he had seen Mr. Cockerell, and I presume acquainted him with all you wished to know relating to your friends at Ashley, wherefore I judged it would be more pleasing to delay writing for some weeks in order to make my Intelligence the fresher; since then my Brother informed me you was gone to London for a short Time; wherefore I adjourned my written visit a second Time, and am now going to pay it on a Supposition you may be returned Home. I hope your Journey has been a good one, and that the success of it has made you amends for the Fatigue. You mention placing two of the young Gentn. one at London the other at Winchester, but if you have another Son between them two pray where is he. As I am not at Home have no Opportunity of asking Thommey whether he answered Master Charles's Letter, so all I can say on the subject is, that the little Man writes no better than other School Boys so at his age, which you know is not always readable. I asked Mrs. Bowdler about Monsr.Rousseau's other Book, but she had not seen it then. I say nothing about my nieces Healths any more than my Brother's, because Mr.Cockerell will no doubt have given you an account of their several Journeys to Bath and the Hotwell Mr. Chadds whom you saw at Southampton, his Grandmother was my Father's Sister, so he is my Welch nephew. I never saw the Gentleman, but know he has been very ill used in the Navy, with the character of a good Officer, for want of a Parliamentary interest as I suppose; for he is of no mean birth, by his Mother related to two Lords, which are Feathers that ornament some People.
My Sister Paterson is at last returned to her native Country, was in London while you
was there without knowing you was so, till Lady Cotton informed her you was, the Day
before she came away; the General and she are come to pass some Time here, which has
induced Sister Hariot and I to take a Lodging here for a Month or so. Had we staied at
home we could have seen very little of them, and it being above twelve years since we saw
her last we were willing to have more of her Company at first setting out. Miss Bowdler
is with us at present, she goes Home tomorrow to make room for Miss Fanney; when Fanney has
been a week Hariot is to come, and I believe we shall stay long enough for them all Three
to spend a Week at Bath. The Novelty of Mr. Sherridan's Entertainment drew some People
after him at first, amongst whom some liked others disliked; upon the whole he shewed
away only two Days here, and one at the Hotwell, which however afforded him an oppor-
tunity of asking his Friends to subscribe to a Book he is to publish, the Subject is
Education I think. One of the finest Persons at the Ball on Tuesday was a Sister of Mr.
Wilkes's, which occasioned a rumour that Mr. Wilkes himself was here. My Sister Paterson
saies there were five English Duchessses at Paris when she came thro' there, the Place
so full they were obliged to stay a week at Sens till an apartment was empty. The Duke
of Bedford Three Hundred English at the Dinner he made on Account of the Peace; the
first Course was served in China he took over with him; the second in the French Porcelain
the King of France gave the Dutchess; and the Third in Silver; of Five English Dutchesses
who were then at Paris, only one uninvited,
namely the Dutchess of Douglass. When the Coffee was over Word was brought to the Dutchess of Bedford that the Coach was at the Door when she left the Company and went out; the same Ceremony was regularly observed whenever she saw Company at Home, all the while she staid at Paris. Are you acquainted with a Clergyman near Taunton of the name of Roberts, he has a daughter married to an Officer in the Queen of Hungary's service; they passed thro' Nice while Sister Paterson was there, and it is her Curiosity prompts me to make the Enquiry. Lady Northampton's corpse is arrived, and sent into Warwickshire to be kept till her Lord's is come, when they are to lie in State together and be buried together in the Family Vault in that County. A melancholy sight it must be, especially to those who so lately saw them a splendid Bride and Bridegroom outshining every other Person at Northampton Races. I went yesterday to hear the two Parrys perform on the Welch Harp and was vastly pleased; what a Memory the Blind Man must have, to play so many long pieces of Music one after another without Confusion; He got but little yesterday, don't suppose there was above an Hundred People in the Room. If Miss Cockerell will cut the plain Piece of Paper into Four Pieces of the same Shape and size, it will not fatigue her Eyes so much as sewing by Candle Light. Both my Sisters make the Tender of their best Civilities to you and all your Family, as does

Dear Madm,
Your obliged humble Servant
JANE BOWDLER

Bath, 9 Novr. 1763.
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