Transcription of GEO/ADD/15/8168

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From Princess Elizabeth aged 25 to Lady Charlotte Finch

(Annotation in later hand) K./ <u>Pss. Elizabeth</u> after Rifle Attack on <u>the King</u> which she <u>saw</u> from Windsor. Queen's House

1795 Nov 6th

I never could let the day pass after receiving so kind so affectionate so dear a letter from my ever dear Lady Charlotte without answering it immediately, good God what we have gone through since last Thursday. I was the unhappy & wretched witness to great part of all the horrors of that day.

On the Wednesday evening we were alarmed with news of the bread [[unclear]] to be raised on the Thursday, which was not pleasant, but no thought ever entered our heads, of the horrors of the following day, when the dear King went to the house the noise was so violent that I took it for great aprobation joy which quite delighted me . Alas how soon was my joy turned into mourning for where the Coach turned round the corner of the end of the Mall near this house the hooting, screams, & horrid sayings which reached my ears, being at the open window, it scared me in a manner which no words can express. Mama the moment the K. left her sent for us, She supported herself as she always does, with great fortitude & resignation, the K. coolness & calmness surpassed all power of belief, but what we have gone through with not shewing our feelings to the K. & with the play is easier to be imagined than described – since Saturday we have been quietly at Windsor which was a blessing to day we are returned to Town, & have brought Mary & Sophia with us to be at the Drawing Room -- your goodness & kindness to us, I almost felt myself unworthy of by not having written to you, so long & not having congratulated you on the birth of Your Grandson, which I rejoice at most exceedingly, though last I beg you to believe that I am not the one least attached to You & all that belong to You; - Pray how is Mrs Fieldings leg; I am very happy that my dear Miss Finch was able to be at the Christening & I beg you to tell from that I shall soon trouble with a letter which I ought to have written when I returned from Weymouth but I have been such a Martyr to head aches that I have been quite unable to write or do anything-this last Thursday's business has not made me better, but I hope soon to do every thing as usual.

I hope if I have written nonsense that you will pardon me as I am writing in the room where they are talking playing on the harpsichord singing &c my head is nearly turned my kind love to all your

family & also to dear Mrs [unclear]] pray tell her that I have often talked of her with Ld Rivers.

& now I remain

ever Yr Affte

Fliza

I quite love Mrs Matlock

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From Princess Mary aged 19 to Lady Charlotte Finch.

(Annotation in later hand) K / Ps Mary - after King shot at a Rifle Mob in Park - attacking his Carrige

Lower Lodge Novr 1 1795

Windsor

I would not write to you dearest Lady Cha till I had seen Papa Mama and my Sisters <u>all</u> arrive <u>safe</u> and well at Windsor which they did Last night about 6 o'clock. My Poor head is almost turned with <u>all</u> the shocking events that happened here Thursday as the King was <u>going</u> & <u>coming home</u> from the House How thankful we ought to be to <u>Heaven</u> for <u>Protecting the best of Sovereigns</u>. My dear Lady Cha you would be surprised to see our dear King so well in health and not the least hurried & quite calm. You may suppose we talk of nothing else & both King & Queen likewise <u>can</u> name no other subject; which I am glad of for you know that sometimes they do not like talking of things that affect them much, but Papa gave us the account himself of <u>all</u> that passed without the least hurry, he was much overcome at his first arrival at Windsor as he <u>was very well received by</u> the People & seeing us three made him Cry at first, he soon got over that & I think is in wonderfull spirits upon the whole - As for Poor Mama she does all she can to keep up but she is very low indeed & is <u>shocked to death</u> she <u>saw</u> a <u>great deal</u> from her <u>own Room</u> that passed in the Park as the King returned home so did Elizabeth I give you no account of that as you will have seen it <u>in</u> all the Papers by this time much better told than I can ever write it, however I must tell you some few things the dear King said as he

went to Sleep the Thursday night he told Mama "I lay myself down thank God with a good Conscience better than those who <u>ill-treated</u> me <u>today</u> – As he went into the House the Chancellor asked the King whether it was true he had <u>been shot at by a Gun</u> (The Kings answer was) <u>Man proposes & God disposes</u> The Guards and Life Guards behaved so well that Papa Cries over them as did the 10 my Brothers Regiment I wish the Play had gone off as well as all those that loved the King could have wished, some things happened one would had not, but thank God they came home safe, but what a dreadful situation for Mama & My Sisters to be in indeed they are wonderfully well after all they have gone through so are we all. Sophia had a return of her old complaint the Thursday after it was told her but since that day has been quite calm but very low indeed as we are all as you may suppose My Poor head is quite turned

I thank you for a letter I received this morning, but I can not answer it to day as I can not write upon any other Subject but the dreadful <u>meditated mischeif</u> - God Bless you I beg you will excuse it if my letter is ilegable but I write in the greatest hurry

Yours affte

Mary