

# LETTER

Charles II (1630–1685), King of England and Scotland (1649–1685)

to George Goring (1585–1663), Earl of Norwich

Paris, 5 October 1652

I have received your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> of the last, and though I will not say you are sullen, I may tell you that you are mis-informed in many particulars, which gives you more trouble than the knowledge of the truth would do. I assure I can never in the least degree suspect your affection to me, of which you have always given so good testimony; and you shall have as little reason ever to doubt my kindness to you. Nor has anything been proposed from you to me which I have not given that answer which I conceived fittest for my affairs.

For the differences between my sister<sup>1</sup> and the Princess Dowager,<sup>2</sup> you know my mind and how much I am troubled for their and my own sake, as having a great share of suffering by it. And I wish with all my heart that you could do good offices between them, and dispose them both to such a union that our common enemies may get no more advantage from those contests. And you may let the Princess Dowager know how exceedingly I desire it, and how much I would take myself beholding to her for any compliance and indulgence on her part; and if you advise me what I may do in order thereunto, will gladly perform it.

I am as willing to be gone from hence as you can be to see me in any such place, and I wish you could name any other place to me where you have reason to believe I shall be welcome and find my means to subsist. I have no mind to be idle and if you can advise me how I may be doing, I shall thank you and follow your counsel and do anything to confirm you that I am your constant affectionate friend.

R. Polwhele, ed. *Traditions and Recollections: Domestic, Clerical, and Literary* (London: John Nichols, 1826), I:23–24.

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<sup>1</sup> Mary (1631–1660), widow of William II (1626–1650), Prince of Orange

<sup>2</sup> Amalia of Solms-Braunfels (1602–1675), widow of Frederick Henry, Prince of Orange, mother of William II, and mother-in-law of Princess Mary. The United Provinces appointed Mary and Amalia co-regents for Mary's young son, William III (1650–1702).