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Anvendt udgave: Luxdorps samling af trykkefrihedens skrifter 1770-1773: Kwartbindet

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From the LONDON CHRONICLE, for  
February 4, 1772, No. 2363.  
To the P R I N T E R,  
S I R,

THE concern and vexation, which appeared  
in every countenance at the report which  
seems to have gained full credit respecting the Com-  
fort of a Northern Poemise, are very great;  
but as there is reason to believe the said report is  
a wicked and gross falsehood and imposition on the  
English nation, should we not suspend our judg-  
ment? We seem to have judged *de parte*; and  
have, in this case, gone even beyond credulity,  
let us have a little patience. Recollect the manner  
in which the Lady was educated, and that, when  
delivered into the hands of her husband, she was  
in full possession of every virtue. All the graces  
were in her; she nothing knew but what was  
good. Can it then, with any degree of reason,  
be concluded, that in so short a time the Lady  
can forget every virtuous precept, and abandon  
herself to infamy? My dear Countrymen, it  
cannot be; and need we have a certainty of guilt,  
believe it not, though an angel from Copernicus  
should affirm it. It was but the other day we were  
made happy in being told of certain regulations  
which had taken place, and are for the advan-  
tage of the people of that Kingdom, and which  
were wholly attributed to the counsel of that Lady.  
Alas! there is too much reason to fear the evil  
characters, justly acquired with the populace,  
had produced in that of rank, civi, hatred,  
confusion, and ruin.

The intrigues and disputes in that Court have  
long smothered, and the exceeding wickedness of it  
is universally known. The Minister who has the  
greatest sway there, is well known in Germany  
to be a bad man; confusion is his forte; and I  
make no doubt it will at length appear, that the  
young and amiable pat owes their present misery  
to the diabolical intrigues of him and his affi-  
ciates. Peace and quietness would have ruined  
him long ago.

Hence the source of all their troubles; and the  
cause of this Minister's intrigues is, that, in the  
midst of confusion, he may revel in security on  
the spoils of others. Accept from me then, by  
way of voucher, the outlines of the life of this  
man, and amongst an hundred actions, each of  
which deserved a halter, but which I have forgot,  
permit me to present you with a few of equal  
merit which I do remember. This extraordinary  
person is now a Baron, and was Treasurer to that  
amiable Monarch on his tour. A few years before  
the invasion of Saxony by the King of Prussia,  
this man was a Merchant's Clerk in Hamburg,  
and being discharged for some offence, became  
very poor; but gaining the assistance of a person  
on whom he was as — and whom he suffi-  
ciently despised for his kindness, he became a petty  
Merchant in Hamburg, but shortly decamped *à  
la fourdine*. After some time, he appeared as  
an inferior Clerk either in the Court of the late  
Electress of Saxony, or in one of the Offices be-  
longing to the China Manufactory, and was in a  
place that gave him the knowledge of the most  
secret repository of the most valuable effects be-  
longing to the Court; but no sooner was Dres-

den, &c. in possession of the King of Prussia's treasury  
but away flies this faithful servant, and, for  
reward of promise and favour, makes a full dis-  
covery of the said repositories, to the extreme  
vexation of his royal and unhappy Master.

The invaluable sets of china found therein, the  
King of Prussia ordered to be sold; but this useful  
goods privately conveyed out of every six one  
piece, so that the Merchants finding them incom-  
plete, and thinking on that account to have them  
very low, refused at that time to purchase, being  
privately advised by him so to do. He immedi-  
ately informs the King that the Merchants would  
not buy, but said he would undertake to fill them;  
having by his address gained the King, he was  
permitted, and caused many waggons to be load-  
ed and sent away to Hamburg, &c. at the ex-  
pense of the King and the poor solitary people.

The Nobility, Clergy, and commoners, all  
flocked to the sales; and the stolen pieces being  
restored to the respective sets, an immense sum  
was raised. However, it afterwards appeared,  
that the allowance he thought proper to make to  
his Royal Employer was at the rate of 10. 9. 4. per  
pound sterling, but had the King, being duped  
by his address and seeming sincerity, the least sus-  
picion of being cheated, until our hero's next  
exploit, respecting the contract for coining of a  
large quantity of silver, fully opened the King's  
eyes; but it was then too late; he had decamped,  
and flown to the court of Denmark; where,  
taking the advantage of the King's want of  
money, he advanced it, and got himself ap-  
pointed Danish Resident at Hamburg, with the  
title of Baron; consequently he became protected  
by the Senate of Hamburg as well as by the King  
of Denmark. His hatred to the English is ren-  
dered, and publicly spoken of, and the disgrace  
lately suffered by a young and noble Count is at-  
tributed to the advice of our Baron, as the Count  
loved the English, and his King and Queen.  
Thus, my countrymen, I have endeavoured to  
show, that it is more than probable that our ami-  
able and Royal country woman, as well as the  
King her husband, have fallen by the wicked art  
and cunning of this monster. I should also have  
observed, that he is most assiduous in his court  
to one of the Dowager Queens, whose hatred  
to the reigning Queen is enormous.

It is wickedly asserted, that the Monarch's ill-  
ness is attributed to some medicine given him by  
his Physician, &c. "Hear this, O Heaven, and  
be astonished, O Earth!" The truth is, that  
you ought rather to wonder that his Majesty is  
now alive, than that he is afflicted with nervous  
or paralytic distempers. My eyes were witness to  
the manner and state of his living when he was  
at Altona. I could say a great deal, but it does not  
become me. I shall only say this one thing, which  
is an indisputable truth: That many who then  
saw his Majesty concluded, from his delicate con-  
stitution, it could not hold long, and expected  
our Baron for his introducing him to, and encour-  
aging him in, the most destructive vices. There-  
fore, if any disorder affects the head of his Ma-  
jesty, may it not be more justly attributed, either  
to such excess, or to the diabolical art of the  
Baron, than to the Queen, who was seduced  
in the fear of God?

C. P.

