

Dined at home, after which I went to my nephew's, who had gone to Hampstead and to Mr. Coore's who was not in his lodging.

28. *Saturday.* I took General Robertson to see Joseph's portrait, which he liked; from there we went to General Gage's, who seems to get leaner every day. The business of Sheriff and his accounts came up and he appeared uneasy. Robertson told me in going out that Sir Guy Carleton and Watson had positive information of several malversations committed in America by the heads of the different departments, of which the Commissioners of Accounts had been informed. He mentioned to me a Mr _____ of Long Island, to whom Ch. (Sheriff?) had made a present of some pieces of silver ware, among them being a silver bowl, in which he made punch to entertain those who came to see him, upon some persons praising Sh. (Sheriff's) present, he said he might have made one of much greater value, since for £2,000 of money he had sent him, he had procured certificates, as good as could possibly be got, by which he had £5,000 profit. In the evening went to the play with Robertson, returning home after 11 o'clock.

29. *Sunday.* The weather looking rainy, I spent the greater part of the morning at home.

Sir George Pocock came to pay me a visit, and said that Sir Guy Carleton told him that his commission as Governor General was not signed.

Met General Tryon on the promenade. Returned home, where Major Scott and Captain Collin [Cullen?] came to see me. The latter said that he had learned the evening before that the Prussian envoy had presented a memorandum to the Ministry from his master, by which they were informed that His Prussian Majesty having resolved to re-establish the Prince of Orange into all his rights in Holland, desired to know what part the King and the Nation would take in this regard. The news appears to me unfounded.

Went at 8 o'clock in the evening to Sir [Joseph] Yorke, whom I found in his lodging, but my Lady was not visible. I remained more than an hour. He knew nothing of the memorandum which the Prussian Minister was to have presented (which persuades me that the news is false). The conversation turned upon the affairs of Holland and he appears to attribute all the difficulties the Prince of Orange has experienced to his own weakness. He has suffered indignities which have dishonoured him and he will relieve himself with difficulty.

He spoke to me a good deal about the trouble he had met with on account of his regiment of Dragoons; he had spoken about them to the King who appeared to understand the thing. However, the Ministry, or the Viceroy, did all he wanted.

We fell at last on the subject of my affairs, and he told me I should be perfectly satisfied; that having obtained the ribbon, so essential a mark of the King's satisfaction and the pay of Lieutenant-General, I would be happier than if I had continued in the Government; that as a foreigner, and therefore without support in England, I would always be exposed to cabals, &c.

He blamed greatly the enormous expenses incurred by the nation in every war, which prevented pushing it when the greatest advantages offered. He hopes that the examination of the accounts will occasion some satisfactory regulations on this subject, and he believes, as I do, that although we are not in a position to make war, yet we may be forced into it by the eagerness of our merchants and sailors.

Called on Mrs. Robertson, who was not at home. Returned home at half past ten.

The elder branch of the house of Orange has furnished the greatest princes there have been in Europe, but that of Friesland appears to have degenerated.

30. *Monday.* Was at Budé's who was not well. I believe the unexpected arrival of Prince William has disturbed him. I found him with General Grenville, and was surprised when I entered at what he said to Tuckfield, to warn him that some one wished to come in. He seemed to me to be in bad humour. We went together to look at some horses, which did not please him.