

TM/11/125

H. W. L.

Serrant Friday 22 April

1803

Once more I am with my good friends in the Chateau de Serrant. I arrived here wednesday evenning - this week has passed away cruelly quick it quite frightens me; for tho I have an invitation to stay here till next winter if I please, yet my plan being first not to give myself longer than a month or so, I cannot help anticipating how short that month will appear - we are a family party myself being the only person not related to the rest. I am constituted master in chief for the English language my principal pupils are Madame de S. & her sister Caroline, who tho but 15 & very handsome, is not at all an uninteresting scholar. - but my Mistress, for the french is mad. de S., who is a woman of great taste & of a very cultivated mind - what with these employments & billiards with the brother, Cadevent Couple de Vendreuil, & a little politics after dinner with Mr de S. & playing with the children & sitting round the fire doing nothing & other little employments of the like nature, I find the day a great deal too short, altho the weather has been so miserably bad & chilly & windy, that we have never gone out beyond the Orangerie. To day Mad de S.

is gone to Angers, & I take the opportunity of writing.
I received a letter today from William, by which
I find he expects to see me about the end of May.
He adverts to the possibility of my having a compa-
nion if I chose it, desiring my Asiatic researches.
Upon certain conditions I should like it very much.
I had thought upon the subject a good deal lately
what I should like & what indeed I would engage
for immediately is a pupil to go with me to
Peterburgh either next winter or very early
next spring but the winter is best on every
account & in that case I would go by land
passing thro Paris. I am not without very con-
siderable hopes that I shall be able to bring such
a thing to bear - I mean to express my wishes on
this head to my friends of rank in England if I be
so fortunate as to find them in London when I pass
thro.

My friends here are very anxious for the
continuance of the peace between E. & France
but they have considerable fears I have uniform-
ly prophesied peace, & still continue to do so.
You must excuse the shortness of this letter - I re-
ceived one from you a short time before leaving
Paris - I didn't write to you since - Didn't
I tell you I was to come here with Lady Clave-
ring? while Mr Thomas went to England but that
He changed his ^{mind} plan & deranged the plan here

ladgship had concerted with me - He is a French
woman - but he is an English man & I don't know
whether he relished the idea of my escorting Mad.
so long a journey - after all I came by the Dilig-
ence much cheaper tho certainly less agreeably
as the Ladgship is tres-amable.
Yr Obedt Servt Thomas Allamby

Keep my
reference like
a thing to
this h.

10

P. 47 P. 13
GEORGES

Dear William Manning
Jill Verboek

Angeleno

