

TH/1/1/29 21 Bd 1703

Chateau de Serrant
Département de maine & loire

Hon^r Sir

It is now about 3 weeks since I have been returned to Serrant. I told you in my last - the trouble I had in obtaining permission; after that I had still further vexations, but they are all now happily ended. I shall stay here ~~all~~ as long as the family remains in the country, which will probably be yet some weeks. When I left Paris, the English had hopes that something was going to be done for them. It was imagined that we should be permitted to go any where except into England, or even there upon parole, but at present I hear nothing of it. I received a letter from Paris yesterday which informs me that one English family has obtained leave to go into Germany for 6 months; & that Mr Robson (the proating member of parliament) has got a similar furlough, & is embarked for England via Rotterdam.

The English Clergymen in France have been shewing cause why they should be excepted from the measure of Detention, but they have been unsuccessful - it seems the Government does not think fit to make that distinction. it may ^{perhaps} give as a reason that the Clergy in England offer to enlist as soldiers, & that therefore they are to be considered as much military as we others, who are not actually in the service, or perhaps *stat pro ratione voluntas*.

I have not a clear idea at present of where I shall be next year. I shall see how things turn out in the course of a month or two & take my measures accordingly. but at any rate I shall endeavour to obtain leave to quit France. So long as I shall stay in France I have here an Asylum in this hospitable Chateau but other objects forcibly call me, & I am too old to dally with my time. Not

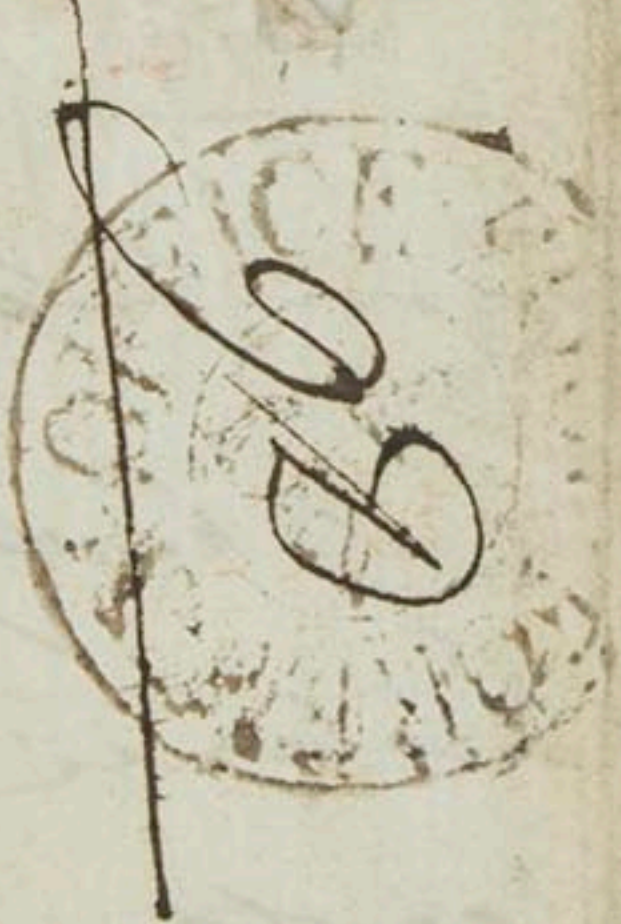
that I yet feel any of the Effects of the
old Gentleman that carries the Sickle &
hourglass - quite the contrary; I never was
stronger & better in my life. The only
difference I find is that I am not so fond
of pears & grapes as I was. I was yesterday
at a vintage on one of Mr de Serrant's
estates, a most beautiful hill on the banks
of the Loire, & I don't think I devoured more
than 3 pounds, which you know is nothing
when you are in the vineyards.

I received a letter from William before
I left Paris, which I am not sure of having
acknowledged. He relates me an instance
of the extreme munificence of a certain
friend of mine, an exceedingly honest man, but
whose greatest fault is that he overvalues
the services you render him - Learning is
most excellent, but should not be bought
too dear.

Friday. ²¹ ~~on the~~ ~~about~~ of October.



other



P. 47

ST. GEORGE

The Rev: Mr Manning
Diss
Norfolk.

En Angleterre.

