

Landesbibliothek Oldenburg

Digitalisierung von Drucken

The Works Of Mr. George Lillo; With Some Account Of His Life

Containing, The Fatal Curiosity. A Tragedy. Marina. A Tragedy. Elmerick.
A Tragedy. Britannia And Batavia. A Masque. And Arden Of Feversham. A
Tragedy

Lillo, George

London, 1775

To His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales.

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-2387

TO HIS

ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

S I R,

THE author of these scenes always proposed to do himself the honour of addressing them to the Prince of Wales: and when he perceived himself just quitting the stage of this life, and retiring beyond the reach of the smiles or frowns of princes; his veneration even then of your Royal Highness's exalted and most amiable qualities was so intense and strong, that he solemnly enjoined me to perform this duty for him. For as he was always remarkably de-

K 2

voted



DEDICATION.

voted to the cause of liberty and justice, (for the advancement of which the following piece was written) he thought it would be a kind of injury, not to consecrate it to the most illustrious patron of justice, heroick virtue, and the rights of mankind. Your Royal Highness's great condescension in permitting me to execute the will of my departed friend, and in patronizing his orphan play, is a circumstance that is very glorious to him, and gives a sanction to his fame.

All true Englishmen in general, as well as the friends of Mr. Lillo in particular, have great reason to congratulate one another on the protection which your Royal Highness was graciously pleased to afford this piece during the performance of it: for to see the heir apparent of these kingdoms so generously countenancing a tragedy, in which the character of a righteous king, who founds all his glory on the liberty and happiness of his subjects, is drawn in such strong and lively colours, must



DEDICATION.

must give a very sensible pleasure to the whole nation; it serves to keep alive the hopes which the publick has long since conceived, and is an undoubted pledge of many future blessings from your auspicious influence.

Your elegancy of taste, and illustrious virtues render you the most generous protector and the noblest theme of all who cultivate the politer arts; as the continual overflowings of your bounty towards all objects of distress daily endear you to every heart that has any feelings of humanity: this your princely heavenly disposition is universally felt and acknowledged, and considered with all its circumstances without a parallel.

That your Royal Highness may long continue the munificent encourager of arts and letters, an example to princes of public spiritedness, humanity, and condescension, is the ardent wish of every honest Briton: for notwithstanding all



DEDICATION.

our divisions, the voice of the whole nation is unanimous in praying for your life, honour, and prosperity: and this we should do from motives of interest and self-love, were we not impelled to it by gratitude and duty. I am,

S I R,

Your Royal Highness's

Most devoted

Humble servant,

JOHN GRAY.

