12. Mart. 1657.

37

To the Lady Marchionesse of Newcastle.

Madam;

I had the honour to heare so ~~many~~ good solutions given by Yr. Exc. upon divers questions mooued, in a whole afternoone she was pleased to ~~spend~~ bestowe upon my unworthie conversation, that I am turning to schoole wth. all speed, humbly ~~desiring~~ beseeching Yr. Exc. ~~will~~ may bee so bountifull towa my ignorance, as to instruct me about the natural reason of these wonderfull glasses, which, as I told Yr. Madam, will fly into powder if one breakes but the least top of their tailes: ~~[illegible]~~ where as without that wa they are hardly to be broken by any ~~[illegible]~~ waight or strength. The King of fran is as yet unresolued in the question notwithstanding he hath beene curious to mooue it to an assemblee of the best philosophers of ~~his~~ Paris, ~~[illegible]~~ the microcosme of his kingdome. Yr. E. hath no cause to apprehend the cracking blow of these little innoxious gunnes. If ~~she~~ Yr. did Madam a seruant may hold them close in his fist, and Yr. selfe can break the little end of their taile without the least danger. But, as I was bold to tell Yr. Exc. I should bee loth to ~~know~~ believe any female feare should reigne amongst so much outer-masculine wisdom as we ~~do~~ the world doth admire in her. I pray God to blesse Yr. E. wth. a dayly increase of it, and ~~[illegible]~~ Yr. worthie selfe to graunt that amongst those admirers I may strive to deserue by ~~[illegible]~~ way of my humble seruice the honour to bee accounted Yr.

Yr. Lad. will [illegible] is that of the great age of Yr. worthie mother and another

Leave made to joyne unto these a poore Epigrammes ~~I am bold~~ I did meditate in my journey hither where Yr. Exc. noble Tales were my best entertainment. I hope, Madame, Yr. will perceive the intention of them thorough the mist of a language I do but hardly [illegible]

© Koninklijke Bibliotheek
KA 48, p. 37
http://resources.huygens.knaw.nl/briefwisselingconstantijnhuygens/brief/nr/5534