

my Stafford

11 The Honble
The Countesse of Leinstone
Madame
1639

Copie

both of y^r Lad^{sh} health and bountifull remembrance of y^r friends beyond sea, that I can
 not chuse but acknowledge my self most strictly bound y^e for so great a favour, by these
 lines; Wh^{ch} are to serve withall for the conveyance of some figures cut in brass upon
 the modell of my house, built by me lately at the Hague. It is nothing lesse
 then a Palace; neither is my intention, madame, to shew it y^e for any curious
 worth y^r seeing, whose eyes are so full of better things, then in the narrowest
 streets of London; But the designe I have, is to give y^e an account, as nere
 as I can, of the manner of our dwellings in these poore Countries. so that if
 y^r Lad^{sh} could not resolve till now to see them, for feare of ill favoured
 Lodgings, y^e may in some part be satisfied of that scrupule, and believe,
 that whatsoever y^e will doe so much service to the wortheie queene of Bohemia,
 as to visitt her, some corner will be found where y^e may gett shelter against
 raine and Wind. For w^{ch} use if this my Cabine may ever serve I will think
 the paynes of building it extremely well bestowed. And certainly I dare
 bragge, if the shape of the House doe not please y^e y^e will like the situation,
 and acknowledge, it standeth in as faire and sweete a place, as any could be
 wished. But this was not to be expressed in print. To judge of it, madame,
 y^e must be an eye-witnesse of it, and that is the favour I will begg at y^r
 hands as long as we shall live. For indeed, the passage at sea being so short,
 and for the most part, but one day and at nights journey. I doe not see, how
 Ladies that are so much servants to the queene of Bohemia as I knowe
 y^r Lad^{sh} hath allwayes bene, can excuse the neglecting of so small a voyage
 so many yeares. And so living still in hope to see y^r Lad^{sh} resolved to this
 voyage before I dye, I doe intreate y^e to believe that till I dye, I shall
 be found in all occasions of y^r service.

Madame,

If y^e take the paynes to consider of this little
 building, y^e will find^{it} of an equall proportion of both sides.
 the reason that, that I made it for two parties. the one was my
 neare Bed-fellow, and the other I, so that neither o^r people nor
 companies that should come to visit us, could hinder one another.
 and that for both reasons me of her, the left hand is left for a
 house of mine that governeth my children, and the right hand towards
 the garden serveth my own use. the rest is kept for friends. thus farre I was
 oblig'd to give y^e an account of my doing.