

To the Madam; *Popie*. Haghe this 29. Decemb. 1668 25^b

I have been tossed up and down in so many Voyages for the service
of my Master all this year, that in good faith I was not able
to perform so much as in Letters the duties I owed to the best of my
Friends. y. Lad. I hope, will not only suffer to be called of that
number, but also to be accounted amongst those of whose goodness
and discretion I do hold my self most sure. Upon this ground, —
Madam, I venture to give y. thanks so many months after,
for the most civill Letter y. were pleas'd to send me in June past;
The bearer was a yong man y. Lad. did recommend me for a rare —
master upon the Viol. He will bear me witness that at the
same instant he saw me, I stood bootid for a journey. w. —
was to last longer than he seem'd willing to stay at the Haghe,
so I did advise him to a friend of mine, who kept a weekly
Colledge of viol. musick at his house. At my return this
Friend indeed made me a report of the yong mans excellent hand
and skill, but that in the scarcitie of such like we live in,
he was not able to procure him a reasonable number of scollars
by w. he might be able to subsist in this place. so that being
forc'd to seek elsewhere a better opportunity, he was gone for
Amsterdam, where we hear he & friends will, leaving me some
hope to hear him; w. I doe hartily wish for; making no question
but what y. Lad. hath approv'd must be no indifferent thing.
I hope, madam, that having so much care of us, y. doe not
neglect y. owne self, but that living there in a place where
Musick, and specially that of the Virginals, hath our flourish'd
in a high degree. y. Lad. doth endeavour to hear and to doe things
beyond what we hear of his most masterly hands.
For my part, though age doe not lessen my wonted love and inclination
to Harmony, since I am deprived of my best auditor, w. was my
second son (whom the King of France kept from me by an
honorable pension of 6000. g. a y. and I doe find my self so
alone for musical communications, and in this Towne so many
Monsters (w. are Asses without eares) that I think it scarce
worth my pains to produce any thing new. Lastly I fill upon
good Prodiges compositions, of w. he sent me a good dial
since last year, coming downe the R. River. I met him at the

To the Lady
Margaret of
Newcastle.

Course of the Fleet of Mentz, where I received a great
deal of honour and civilities, as also from two other of these
Fleets upon the same coast; but nothing pleased me so
much, as to hear that excellent Frobergher his rare impro-
vements, and to see him take the pain to hear me wth
some indifferent satisfaction. As for his lessons, I have
found a way to transport them upon the Lute, in such
manner that Joff. Casembrol hath the goodness to consider
them, w^{ch} is all I can say for my greatest advantage; till
may be so happy as to make y^r Lad^{sh} an ear witness of my
wonder. God knoweth when, and if ever this shall be
for ever in writing this, madam, I forgot I have all the
while been entertaining my public enemies. Is not this
a miserable distraction, by w^{ch} we are bound to look
upon one an other quite otherwise, then we have done
all our life time? For the publick indeed it is so; but in
private, Madam, I am to y^r what I ~~have~~ have ever
been, and make no question but y^r will say so much from
y^r side. and so I ~~do~~ ^{do} conclude, there is no disorder of
States and Princes able to disturb the old innocent Earms
of our Soules. I hope y^r Lad^{sh} will doe me the favour
to let me Eare from her when it may be without his
incommodity, for indeed and in all ~~the~~ sinceritie I am
and shall be as long as I Live.

Madam.

J. Lad^{sh}
most humble servant

my
cousin

I make bold
to say and
to my great
Ere for suff
from a man