Benjamin Beresford an August Wilhelm von Schlegel
Berlin, 29.04.1800

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[1] Berlin 29 April 1800.

Sir

Your obliging letter of Oct: last gave me no small pleasure, for I could not but be highly flattered and gratified at your kind wish, however unavailing your attempt has been, to draw me nearer to you. –

As to the emolument, of my present situation, a man would be apt to think me unreasonable for intending to leave Berlin at all; for, as I think I have already told you, I get money enough here; and if there be any honour in teaching royal personages, I have enough of that too. – But royalty is not very generous here, and altho' Berlin abounds in enlightened people, among the middle [2] rank, yet it is a wretched residence (on account of its environs) for a lorn of nature; and, besides, every thing here gives way to the noble art of destroying the human race, for learning is nothing and the army every thing.

The Queen seems unwilling I should leave her, yet if her majesty cannot prevail on the King to give me some permanent establishment, I shall remove to Hamburg very soon, where I have, as I have already informed you, very flattering invitations.

I have lately published a fourth collection of Songs, a copy of which I have the honour of sending you with this. The editions announced at the end of the book are [3] now in the press. They will contain some new pieces – I shall send you copies when they come out, and shall then request you'll take an early opportunity of reviewing the whole together in the Jena journal.

An engagement I am now entering into with Mr Kotzebue and the managers of the London Theatre , to translate his future plays, makes me less solicitous about royal patronage; but more of this in my next. I now look forward, at all events, to that leisure I have so long wished for, to cultivate German literature in general; – a prospect I can assure you, which affords me a very high degree of pleasure.

I should be glad to know whether [4] you make any excursion this summer, that I may order my annual one so as to be in your part of the world when you are there too or else to cross you in our routes. I remain with great esteem,

Sir,

Your obliged and obedient

humble servant

B Beresford

P. S.

A Line directed to me at Berlin, no 42 Unter den Linden, will find me here till the end of May. – and afterwards, no 18. Kreien Kamp Hamburg, will be my most eligible address.

Namen

Friedrich Wilhelm III., Preußen, König

Kotzebue, August von

Luise, Preußen, Königin

Körperschaften

London Theatre

Orte

Berlin

Hamburg

Jena

London

Werke

Beresford, Benjamin: A Collection of German Ballads and Songs with their original Music, done into English by the Translator of the German Erato

Kotzebue, August von: Werke

Periodika

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