

- of Bessborough (London: John Murray, 1955), p. 290. Robinson seems to be hinting a blood relationship on p. 116, ll. 10–13, below, but there is no compelling evidence.
- p. 38, ll. 4–8: *the Indians rose ... merciless ocean*: A petition to the King for compensation of £4,677 3s. 6d. reports that the Inuit 'most barbarously and treacherously ... killed three of [Darby's] men and drove the rest to the Mountains burnt and destroy'd his Boats Stages and Dwellings and wasted his salt' (quoted in Davenport, *The Prince's Mistress*, p. 10).
- p. 39, ll. 9–17: *expensive style ... my father's heart*: According to contemporary accounts cited by Davenport (*The Prince's Mistress*, pp. 10–11), the family property was auctioned off over a period of five days, beginning on 7 March 1768. Among the many 'elegant' items listed for sale was 'a very fine-toned' Kirkman harpsichord, almost certainly the same one that Robinson mentions on p. 26.
- p. 39, ll. 18–19: *my brother William died*: According to parish records cited by Davenport (*The Prince's Mistress*, p. 10), William was buried on 17 October 1766, approximately eighteen months before the family property was put up for sale.
- p. 47, l. 12: *a small volume: Poems by Mrs. Robinson* was published in 1775 (London: C. Parker). Robinson refers to the volume again on p. 171 below.
- p. 57, ll. 12–13: *Earl of Northington*: Robert Henley, second Earl of Northington (1747–86), was the son of Robinson's godfather, the first Earl of Northington. See note to p. 32, ll. 8–9, above.
- p. 60, l. 16: *Mr. Hull*: Thomas Hull (1728–1808), an actor and playwright, was acting manager at Covent Garden from 1775 to 1781.
- p. 61, l. 1: *Mr. Murphy*: Robinson is referring to Arthur Murphy (1727–1805). Although he wrote more than twenty plays, including *The Grecian Daughter* (1772), Murphy is best known today for his *Life of David Garrick* (London: J. Wright, 1801).
- p. 67, l. 10: *his favourite Cibber*: Susannah Maria Arne Cibber (1714–66) was the sister of the famous composer Thomas Arne and the wife of Theophilus Cibber (son of the playwright Colley Cibber). Several years after a scandalous liaison with another man, Mrs Cibber won great acclaim as a tragic actress at Drury Lane and finally received the unusual honour, for an actress, of being buried in Westminster Abbey.
- p. 71, ll. 14–15: *Hervey's Meditations*: James Hervey (1714–58), a parish priest, is best known for his *Meditations among the Tombs* (London: J. and J. Rivington and J. Leake, 1746), a work that is generally associated with the rise of the 'Graveyard School' of poets.
- p. 76, l. 1: twelfth of April: Robinson was married on 12 April 1773.
- p. 85, l. 21: *opera of the Padlock: The Padlock* (1768) was a popular comic afterpiece written by Isaac Bickerstaff (c. 1735–c. 1812).
- p. 88, ll. 8–9: *Lord Clive*: Major-General Robert Clive, first Baron Clive of Plassey (1725–74), amassed an enormous fortune while he was British administrator of Bengal.
- p. 97, l. 3: *Mr. John King*: John King, sometimes called 'Jew' King, has been identified as the author of the anonymously published *Letters from Perdita to a Certain Israelite, and His Answers to Them* (London: J. Fielding, 1781). The pamphlet, which apparently included some genuine letters from Robinson as well as some highly compromising invented ones, represented Robinson and her husband as conniving swindlers.
- p. 109, l. 2: *Lady Almeria Carpenter*: Lady Almeria Carpenter (1752–1809) was a noted beauty of the day. She had an illegitimate daughter by George III's brother, the Duke of Gloucester.
- p. 109, l. 4: *Mrs. Baddeley*: Sophia Baddeley (1745–86) was a popular actress at Drury Lane who came to exemplify the wretched fate of women in the profession. According to James Boaden, she 'had at one time her carriage, and every voluptuous accompaniment that a