

My Lord

I find I was mistaken about the lat. of Shiraz &c. which I said had some provision of the kind you wanted; for it only relates to the king's forts, garrisons &c. so that it is, as you imagined, that there is no law on the subject of corresponding with foreign powers, when they are not the king's enemies, by being at war with us.

I have not yet been able to collect any thing on the great point, ~~on~~ which I had the honor of conversing with your lordship, tho' I shall see Sr. Sampson to-morrow, on whom I have my great reliance; those who know nothing of the execution of the criminal law but what they see in Courts of Justice are not so likely to furnish hints upon the subject in hands, as those who, like Sr. Sampson, see what passes behind the curtain; before a Justice of the peace, much comes out, that does

14 Oct. 1704

John Ashmole Esq.

not appear in Court.

Your Lordship will pardon the trouble I give you
in the paper; I now take the liberty of sending — It is a thought
which arose out of the subject, or at least part of the subject we
conversed upon — Let me beg of you to read it at your leisure.

I am, my Lord,
with great thanks
Your Lordship's most obedient

Humble servant
John Keeble

Traroch Place.
14 Oct. 84.

REEVES (JOHN)

AUTOGRAPH LETTER TO
LORD SYDNEY.

1½ pp. 4to.

My Lord,

I find I was mistaken about the state of Elizabeth which I said had some provision of the kind you wanted; for it only relates to the King's forts garrisons, &c. So that it is, as you imagined, that there is no law on the subject of corresponding with foreign powers, when they are not the King's enemies, by being at war with us.

I have not yet been able to collect anything on the great point, which I had the honor of conversing with your Lordship, tho' I shall see Sr. Sampson Wright tomorrow, on whom I have my great reliance; Those who know nothing of the execution of the criminal law but what they see in the Courts of Justice are not so likely to furnish hints upon the subject in hands, as I hope, who like Sir Sampson, see what passes behind the curtain; before a Justice of the peace, much comes out, that does not appear in court.

Your Lordship will pardon the trouble I give you in the papers, I now take the liberty of sending. It is a thought which arose out of the subject, or at least part of the subject we conversed upon. Let me beg of you to read it at your leisure.

I am, my Lord,
With great thanks
Your Lordship's most obedient
Humble Servant
JOHN REEVES.

Thanet Place.
14 Octr. 84.