1798

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Autograph letter of King George III to Mr Livingston; dated 1798.

(From Royal Library, 1888)

George III
King of England

b. 1738
d. 1820

[Letter to Mr. Livingstone concerning the plans and financial arrangements of His Majesty's Son Augustus (Duke of Sussex) with whom Mr. Livingstone was then travelling ---- Dated Windsor July 24th 1798]

Windsor July 24th 1798.

Mr Livingston's letter of the 1st of May states the very commendable conduct of Sir William Hamilton on the dilemma concerning the Debts of my Son Augustus. Mr Pitt has my directions to have that matter arranged, though they certainly greatly exceed my expectation, and are an additional justification of Count Munster's conduct.

I do not enter farther on the subject of money as I think it better that article should remain in the hands of Lord Grenville, Mr Pitt, and Mr Dundas; who have my fullest instructions on that head, and will write to You on that subject.

I shall certainly strongly though affectionately point out to Augustus the necessity of his keeping within such Allowance as shall be made for him; and You shall by the Ministers be enjoined to keep within the sum they shall state to You.

It may not be improper to add here that I so fully feel the necessity of Mr Livingston having a Gentleman to assist him in the Accompanying my Son, that I had suggested it to the Lord Chancellor prior to Mr Livingston's departure from hence; but I understood that upon the whole Mr Livingston thought it better deferred, till he should have by his own observation felt the propriety of such an appointment; I am very happy that by the means of Mr Dundas I have got Mr Arbuthnot

whom

whom I understand is the person most wished for by Mr. Livingston;

That persons on this side of the Water have tried to place Mr. Livingston in an unfavourable light in the Eyes of my Son because she had too much honour to be their instrument is not impossible; but I trust on further Acquaintance Augustus must see with more just Eyes.

Mr. Livingston's letter of the 7th of June on the safe arrival at Vienna gave the heartfelt satisfaction and enables me so early after placing Him with My Son cordially to thank Him for having so successfully brought Him from Naples; the conduct of both King and Queen of Naples deserve my warmest thanks.

In the letter of the 20th of June mention is made that the health of my Son and his conduct at Vienna are as could be wished; I by no means can agree to his coming to England Mr. Livingston's own good Sense must point out various reasons; I therefore trust that he will find out some proper Climate for the Winter I should not object to Gibraltar if I saw a safe mode of arriving there, might not the southern Dominions of Russia be suitable and curious objects for a traveller; a journey to Wurtemberg seems to lye quite out

out any tour at present, being too near the Enemy to be visited without some degree of hazard.

Mr. Pitt has certainly sent a credit to Vienna which Mr. Livingston must have received before this time; as Dr. Domeyer is proposed to stay his pay must be out of the Allowance that will be made from hence for August too and whilst the journey continues may have such addition to what he before received as Mr. Livingston may think right.

Since writing so far I have received Mr. Livingston's letter of the 30th of June by which I see the credit is arrived the subsequent directions will now soon follow; but I cannot help just writing that the moment Military Rank is expected if Gibraltar is fixed on for the Winter residence I must entirely forgo that plan and desire that some Moderate Climate as Astracan or such other Russian Province as may be thought better may be ~~thought of~~ fixed on.

George R.