

Duke of Clarence to Samuel Hawker.

Undated

X

Buckingham House.

Thursday
Night

Dear Sir,

I am to acknowledge yours from
Weymouth and rejoice to find the King takes such care
of his subjects. I wish he had better weather for his winter
excursions and our subjects more favourable and more
convenient time for the hay. I have however hitherto
been very much favoured tho' stopped by the rain: no
hay yet has been damaged and I have carried sixty
seven loads.

I suppose till St. Francis Church has done with the
Cott. Bath Field your two troops may remain in this

neighbourhood: I suppose the same reason has induced
 Government to quarter two Troops of the Greys at Kingston
 which were to have gone on the Coast: I think they are the
 only Regiment of heavy horse I have seen for some years
 except the First Life Guard which I suppose: I am
 glad to find the ^{1st} and ^{4th} Dragoon Guards and the ^{1st} Light
 Dragoons go to Ireland and hope Ministers will
 keep constantly changing both heavy and light from
 one Kingdom to the other: 10 th Light Dragoons are gone
 to Brighton: 7th to Norwich and 18th to York: I wish it
 known where ^{the} 15 are ordered:

As for your barracks I can only observe that my know-
 ledge during the American war of Delaware was

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I firmly believe your statement and I can easily conceive that the
 enormous sum of 700,000 in the last year may have
 been improperly expended: what course can be made
 for the Barracks being without an Hospital and
 Riding school when they were rebuilt after having
 been burnt down by the Duke of York: the state of
 the apartments of the Officers is equally scandalous.
 I cannot help lamenting the immense profusion
 in the expenditure of the army and really to see little
 purpose:

Mr. Jordan writes with an increasing concern for
 the children are all

will and desire to be remembered: particularly
Sophia. George to the great joy of his mother comes
home next Wednesday.

Adieu and write occasionally: I perfectly agree
with you that it is a shame that His Majesty should
be left without any good company at Hampton Court:
but we know what sort of an animal a courtier
has been is and ever will be: however, I believe the
virtues and modesty of Sophia is arrived.

I remain,

Your sincere friend

[William]