

Lord Hill to H.M.

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Lord Hill presents his humble
Duty to your Majesty and hopes your
Majesty will permit him in the first
Place to offer to your Majesty his
most grateful acknowledgements,
for the Terms in which your Majesty
has been pleased to speak of his
Services in Command of the Army,
and to assure your Majesty that
he entertains the deepest sense of
the gracious Kindness which he has
upon all occasions received from
Yours

Your Majesty as well as of the
readiness Your Majesty has invariably
manifested to give them Your
support and confidence.

Sir Herbert Taylor's and Lord Grey's
letters may have made an erroneous
impression upon Lord Hill's mind
but he thinks Your Majesty will
do him the justice to believe that
he did not intentionally misinterpret
the meaning of those communications.

In the letter which Lord Grey
addressed to Sir Herbert Taylor
His

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His Lordship says "it is absolutely
"necessary that the Government should not
"be excluded from an influence
"without which its strength would be
"impaired" and further after touching
upon the question of conferring Governments
upon General Officers who have no other
provision he adds "all I have to desire
"in that case will be that the two
"Governments (Sandhurst and Staff College
"College) which will then be vacant may
"not be disposed of without my being
"consulted"

Upon Lord Grey's letter Sir

Herbert

Herbert Taylor remarks that "His
" Majesty is bound to admit the reasons
" and justice of much which is repre-
" sented in Lord Grey's letter "

From all this Lord Hill was led
to infer that it was in contemplation
to alter the principle upon which the
Command of the Army had for many
years been conducted, as collected from
the Records of the Office and as stated
to Lord Hill by the Duke of Wellington
when his Grace was removed from
the Office of Com^{dr} in Chief to that
of Prime Minister; and he adopted
this

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this conclusion the more readily when
 he considered that it was in conse-
 -quence of a request from Lord Grey
 to your Majesty previously to the
 death of the Officer who before held
 the appointment that it was intended
 to confer the Government of London
 upon Sir John Byng notwithstanding
 the objections submitted to your Majesty
 by the General Com^d in Chief. Objections
 which Lord Hill continued to offer
 in the belief that your Majesty
 concurred in their validity and
 which

which were founded not alone
upon the nature of the Services of
the Lieut. General, who however un-
doubtedly deserves Your Majesty's
favour, but likewise upon the fact
which was known to the Army and
to the Country, that Sir John Byng's
anxiety to obtain the Situation pro-
ceeded from his being politically
connected with the County of Derby
Your Majesty having however in
the letter which Lord Hill received
from Your Majesty this morning
been graciously pleased to explain
your

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Your intention that the duties of the
 Command of the Army are to be exercised
 according to the principles upon which
 they have hitherto been carried on,
 Lord Hill submits himself to Your
 Majesty's pleasure and can with confi-
 -dence assure Your Majesty that you
 will always find him anxious to
 administer the Command in the manner
 which may appear to him best calculated
 to uphold and promote the honour
 of Your Majesty's Service, and to
 contribute to the ease of Your
 Majesty's

1803
Your Majesty's Government.

Lord Hall would further take
the liberty of assuring Your Majesty
that he is far from being desirous
that any business which may be tran-
sacted by him whether relating to
patronage or any other matter should
be free either from check or controul.
He is aware that his acts are liable
to be examined and sifted by Your
Majesty's Ministers, and he is likewise
desirous to the propriety of accommodating
Your Majesty's confidential Servants
as far as he may be able consistently
with

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with the attention which may be due to the services of Officers, and with what may be necessary to convince the publick that the patronage of the Army is not made subservient to political objects.

Lord Pitt has frequently when arrangements have been under discussion heard from Lord Fitz Roy Somerset the particulars of the appointment of Sir John Pensonby to the 2^d Government of Malta upon the death of the Marquis of Hastings; but he ventures to submit to your Majesty that he believes it

it will be found that with the
surrender of Gibraltar the General
Com. in Chief does not take your
Majesty's pleasure upon the appoint-
ment to any responsible Government
abroad, although it is customary
for the Secty of State to communicate
with him on the subject, in order to
ascertain if the Officer whose name
he may propose to lay before your
Majesty, be fit to take charge of the
Troops which may be stationed in the
Garrison. Lord Hill in conclusion
begs

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begs leave to reiterate the expression
of his humble duty to your Majesty,
and to apologise for having occupied
so much of your Majesty's valuable
time

George Gordon
July 20. 1732.

Dear Sir to the King

July 20. 1692

William Ashurst Esq

Receiver of the King's

of the duty relation to

the Secretary of the Treasury

of London

and

Buttrick