

[9. end of 1812]

45007 - 8

Dusky House.
Sunday
Afternoon.

Dear Mother,

Kindly Friend

It's not quite well yet able to return tomorrow to
Sandhurst and considering poor fellow he has been in
a scrape. I think it better he should proceed to the
College: but after the kind manner in which you y-
esterday expressed yourself towards him, I advised
him to write you a letter which I enclose. I know
enclose:

I cannot help again repeating the absurd policy

of the French Generals leaving on rather running away
from their men: it not only has a bad effect in the pre-
-sent moment to irritate the minds and relations
of those they have thus shamefully abandoned, but
I may ask with what confidence in future can these
Generals expect others to fight under them and who
will under similar circumstances be left to fight
for themselves: in my opinion had Bonaparte any
intention of offering terms of peace he would have
done so on his immediate return to Paris: for his
Might acknowledged the fact of his army being dis-
-troyed and now only the consequences of his mis-

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Fortunes are opening: with so perfect a knowledge
of the state of those countries which are bounded by
the Baltic and the North Sea neither you nor the Com-
mune Alexander will be taken by surprise and in
the mean time the eyes of all Europe are opened:
Bonaparte I think therefore has lost his oppor-
tunity: but ever since he entered Spain and still
more so since his attack on Russia are Nations
he has been conceived in my mind: I repeat believe
Bonaparte's fall is certain and I shall conclude
by assuring you I am ever ready publicly or pri-
vately to prove myself
Your most affectionate Brother
Edmund Burke

42608

M. P. N. M. Duke
of Banice