

H. Gen
Ewen
Baillie
H. R. A.
Feb. 19
1811

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Sir.

Although, in my private Situation, I have been precluded from subscribing, to any public address, lately offer'd to your Royal Highness; yet there is no individual in the Kingdom, who feels more warmly gratify'd, than myself, on the present occasion, which has given the Government of our Country, to a Regent, so admirably calculated to inspire National confidence and individual Exertion, in the Executive Departments, Both at Home and Abroad. And it is most pleasing to remark, as a happy Omen, that Heaven has given immediate Lustre to the Success of your Arms, by advices just Arrived, announcing the important Acquisition of the Isle of France or, Maurusius, which marks our good Fortune in the earliest Hour of the present Regency.

Adverting to this pleasing Event, after a life of Activity, such as mine, employ'd in distinguish'd Situations of Military Command, and honor'd, as I have long been, with the patronage of your Royal Highness - I cannot but feel a reluctance in retiring from Public Duty, while opportunity offer, where I could act with pleasure to myself and Justice to the public Service. And, the recent Conquest of the Maurusius, being now consider'd a British

Establishment, and a Military Situation of Primary Importance, which will claim, the Abilities of a Military Man as Governor of that Colony. I hope I may be allow'd (while aspiring to that Situation) to state, as the Grounds of professional claim or Pretensions:

"That my early Education was commenced in his Majesty's 67th Regiment, and that I still continue on the Half-pay List of the British Army. —

"That by long and distinguished Service in India I progressively attained, the Highest Rank, and while holding his Majesty's Commission as Major General, I filled the Appointment as provisional Commander in Chief of the whole Bengal Army with every public mark of approbation, that might be Gratifying before my return to Europe. —

I should therefore hope, if the wishes of your Royal Highness be not otherwise Engaged: That I may be consider'd, not unfit for that Government. —

The more particularly, as I possess a competent knowledge of the French Language, as well as their constitutional principles, acquired, by a Residence of several years on the Continent. —

But, failing of that object; and, ambitious as I am, of holding some distinguish'd Post of respectability, under the Gift of your Royal Highness. and where I might contend for Public Credit. — I now understand, that the present Ambassador Mr. Adair, arrived from Constantinople, does not incline to return, in which case, I would humbly submit, my wishes to your Royal Consideration, and would most gladly undertake that duty, in Character of Ambassador with the peculiar advantages, of perfectly understand-

ing the Oriental Languages, with a knowledge of Eastern Politics, in the relative Channels of Communication, and the means of watching over any eventual Military Measures, that may be in the contemplation of our Enemies. — And as the Duty of Ambassador at Constantinople, is blended with the political state of Asia, requiring a Correspondence, with the Court of Directors, and constant Communication with their Governments in India. I may on that ground, be consider'd more familiar, with that line of business, than any stranger; and perhaps better Qualified for the Functions of such an Appointment. — But, in One or Either of those Situations. I most humbly make offer of my services to your Royal Highness, wishing to terminate a long Military Career. — Whether, as Governor of the Mauritius, or Ambassador to Constantinople. — leaving it to your Royal pleasure how to dispose of my Services, which I now offer in the Warmth of my Attachment for your Royal Person, and my Ambition to hold a Public Station under your Royal Patronage and the more flattering if bestow'd at so early a Period in the present Regency.

I have the Honor to be

Sir

19th February
1761

With profound Respect,
And the Most fervent Attachment
That Man and Subject can bear,
Your Royal Highness's ever Dutiful and Devoted
Servant *Wm. Mordaunt*
Major General.

Sir Ewan Phillips
19 July 1911