

John MacPherson

5 April 1811

Private & Confidential 17879 - 80 Brompton - grove 5 of April 1811.

Dear Colonel MacMahon. I can not express to you the Satisfaction, with which I read your Letter of Yesterday. The Permanency of the Pragal union, on which not only the Prosperity of this Country but the Happiness of Nations so much depends is now certain. The Documents, which I will in due Time lay before you, & which throw the strongest lights upon this subject are most important and authentic. The Progress of years tends only to add force to their Political Truths.

It is a Fact little known - That it was the Impression made on the mind of the late Emperor Leopold of Austria - relative to the superior Knowledge and noble political Ideas of our Prince Regent in 1791, that encouraged him to counteract the views of Prussia, and prevented a war between this Country & the northern Powers. Hence the Success of Mr. Faulstich's mission to Petersburg in that year. on the 19 of June 1791 I was authorised by the Emperor Leopold, then at Milan

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to write to our Heir-apparent on that
subject, as well as upon the arrangement then
formed for the Peace of Sebastia, and the meeting
which afterwards took place at ^{about} Pelmita on the
ensuing August. - my words, were "The Emperor
"had yesterday a letter from the Empress of Russia
"he sees from its contents & infers from his own
"Influence that she will not be impeachable to
"Mr. Faulkner's Coarctation."

It is well known to certain Statesmen,
tho' not generally understood, that the Heir-apparent
approved confidentially of the signing of the Preliminaries
of the Peace of October 1801 - and was the grand
mover of its ratification at Amiens. The
original Letters that passed upon this subject between
the Prince, Mr. Otto & Mr. Addington are in
my Possession. But His Royal Highness, with
a Delicacy highly respectful to the Sovereign &
his interests, never took to himself any

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separate merit upon this most important Subject.
The real Basis of that Peace, will necessarily be
that of the next Pacification; and England and
Europe will, I have the least Reasons to believe, owe
it to our Prince: He has peculiar Rights and
advantages to forward that grand-work, when it
can take Effect with perfect Security and glory to
this Country. His Power to accomplish the Pia
Desideranda of that Subject will remain efficient even
were Health to enable the Present Sovereign
before long to exercise the Duties of the Sceptre.

In the Confidence & Secrecy of the royal
union the Heir-apparent will continue to possess
that inestimable, ^{Power-yes!} were he to cease to be
Present. The irresistible Pressure of affairs from
abroad, & at home will, with the superior
Information gained by the Heir-apparent and
the Confidence, which will ^{went to &} be reposed in him

by foreign Princes from every quarter - confirm
him in that necessary Power.

I will make these Ideas better understood
by a communication to you of certain - Papers -
In regard to Sicily a Point upon which a
Letter from our present to Ferdinand the 4th
will do infinite good. I will address you a
confidential note upon this subject tomorrow.
Letters from the Prince - present to the Royal
Princes of Indica will consolidate the British
Power in that quarter. at Vienna. Berlin
& Petersburg corresponding Letters will have
the best Effects in favour of this Country.
Such those Letters, to produce the best Results should
be confidential, must not pass in the common Tracts
of office, which the Enemy has often access to.

To show you, my dear Colonel, that the Ideas
now opened to you in this ^{Letter}, are not those of
the moment - Please to read & keep the enclosed Extract
of a Letter to the True - Prince written nearly twenty years
ago - much obliged & most humble Servant.
John Manners Esq