

The Duke Northumberland

24 April 1711

Enclosure.

17954

Sir

I should not presume to trouble Your Royal Highness with a letter, did I not think it my Duty to communicate to you, for your private information, part of a letter I have just received from His Royal Highness, the Prince Regent of Portugal. And I am the more induced to do so, as from former Letters I am convinced His Royal Highness is somewhat hurt, at the Circumstance ~~He~~ mentions in his letter.

Your Royal Highness is too well acquainted with the World, not to know, that Princes of the second Order, are always highly sensible of any thing, which has the appearance of a Slight, from those of a Superior Order to themselves; and the Marquis of Wellesley having been sent to the Spanish Court, invested with the Character of Ambassador, upon the Treaty being concluded with that Country, makes His Royal Highness feel a good deal hurt, that a similar Compliment was not paid to Him, upon a similar Occasion, especially as His Royal Highness has raised his Minister at this Court to the Rank of Ambassador.

and I have reason to believe, assurances were given at the same time,  
thro' Mr. Carrington, then Secretary of State for the Foreign Department  
that the British Envoy at Rio de Janeiro should be invested with  
the same Dignity.

I must trust to your Royal Highness's Goodness to pardon  
the liberty I have taken; which proceeds solely from my anxious  
Desire to furnish your Royal Highness with information, which  
perhaps may not have been communicated to you; and to prevent  
if possible, ever for a moment, the Appearance of any Coolness  
between two Courts, whose Interests are so intimately blended together.  
Particularly, as I am certain of the Prince Regent of Portugal's sincere  
Attachment to this Country, and of His Royal Highness's earnest Wish  
to be guided by the Advice of His Sovereign.

I have the Honour to be, with the most inviolable Attachment

Sir  
your Royal Highness's  
Most Obedient  
and most Devoted Servant  
Northumberland

Albion Castle  
24<sup>th</sup> April 1811.