

10 June 1811

printing his letter

Mr West

Newman Street June 10th 1812 18124

Sir

In the month of Aug^r last I had the honour to present to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, a letter written by myself on the progress of the Fine Arts, and the illustrious Patronage given them from the earliest period to our own time: and when His Royal Highness honoured the arts with His Presence at the Royal Academy in April last - He was graciously pleased to signify to me His permission ^{for me} to have a few copies of that letter printed.

As that letter was written for the purpose of handing down with honour those of High Distinction who have Patronised the Fine Arts - I wish to avail myself in the printing of that letter, to register the honour which the arts received in this country by that eloquent address made by the Prince Regent in the Royal Academy, when His Royal Highness last honoured that Body with His Presence. If the Prince Regent should not disapprove of my wish, and would honour me by looking at the inclosed paper to see whether I have caught the Heads, and meaning of His words - I shall feel a pride in adding them to the glowing honours which the arts have received in their progress through the world.

I have the honour to be with great respect

Sir Your most obedient serv^tBenjⁿ WestCol^l Mc Mahon }

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]