

May it please your Majesty

I beg Leave humbly to represent to your Majesty, the peculiar Disappointments I have met with in my Applications to obtain Promotion in the Army.

In 1766 I was inform'd by the Secretary at War that your Majesty had been graciously pleas'd to Appoint me a Captain in the 68.<sup>th</sup> Reg.<sup>t</sup> of Foot; but that it was expected that I should exchange with a Captain on half Pay. On my Arrival in Town, I found both the Commissions made out, and that it was too late for me to hope for the Promotion, unannex'd to this humiliating Condition. Though I have since learn'd, that even this was represented to your Majesty, as what I had Desir'd.

Unwilling to importune your Majesty, I went, by your Majesty's Permission, for some Years, into foreign Parts, with a View to improve myself in the Study of my Profession. After my Return in 1771 I humbly requested your Majesty's Leave to exchange with L.<sup>t</sup> Col. Achland, in answer to which I was inform'd by Lord Barrington that your Majesty would not permit Officers to obtain Preferment from the Half Pay. Notwithstanding there were many Precedents for it.

By your Majesty's Approbation, signified by Lord Barrington, I purchased a Company in the 22.<sup>d</sup> Reg.<sup>t</sup> with the Hopes that your Majesty, would then allow me, to carry my former Agreement, with L.<sup>t</sup> Col. Achland into Execution. For this I had no Opportunity of Addressing myself to your Majesty, as the Regiment was order'd for immediate Service, and I set out to join them. I soon after heard, that L.<sup>t</sup> Col. Achland, had been told, that he must sell to Major Caldwell.

Ld.  
Ed.  
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ham

June  
1  
1774



Thus, after twelve Years, I am, in a lucrative  
View, in worse Circumstances, than the first Day I enter'd  
your Majesty's Service, and in Point of Rank, a Captain  
of Foot.

All my Ancestors have been in the Service  
of their Country in a military Capacity, and it is my  
utmost Ambition to follow their Example; for the  
Consideration of all which Circumstances,

That your Majesty may be graciously  
pleas'd to think me worthy of Promotion  
is the humble Request of

Your Majesty's  
most dutifull

Subject & Servant

Esingham

June the 1.<sup>st</sup> 1774.



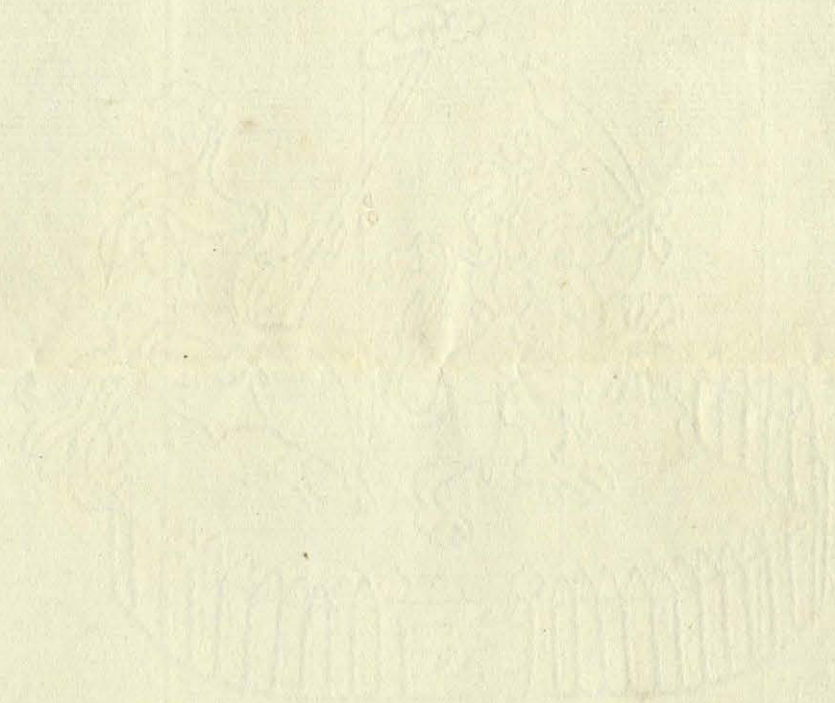
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Lord Spingham