

Enclosure.

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16th September 1811

Sir

As I am desirous of submitting to the consideration of the Prince Regent the subject of the letter which I now have the honor of writing to you, might I beg that you would avail yourself of a favorable occasion to lay it before His Royal Highness.

A report having got into circulation that on the death of Sir James Craig the 70th Regt. will be given to Lord Seaforth, I am on that account induced humbly to represent / not the claims which could justify pretensions on my part to that Regt. / but only to state the conception I have had with it, and the reasons which make me so ambitious of being still more closely allied to it, at the beginning of last War when this Regt.

Sol. Macdonald

was

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was first raised, I was Major in the 1st and Colonel
in the 2^d Batta. I contributed to the raising and disciplining
of both, and I commanded the 2^d Batta at the taking of the
Cape of good Hope, where I was second in command
to its present Colonel Sir James Craig. As I cannot
allow myself to say anything that could tend to diminish
the pretensions of Lord Seaforth, I shall only observe, that
the 2^d Batta previous to its incorporation with the 1st,
belonged to the late General Mackenzie, and that on
their being so incorporated into one Batta Lord Seaforth
designed it to General Mackenzie. Presuming
therefore that the principal motive for now giving
this Regt a second time to Lord Seaforth, is from the
consideration of his having once ceded it, I do the
more confidently venture to supplicate the Prince
Regent to give me one of the Battas as his
Lordship never was in possession of both.

Should His Royal Highness be pleased to do so, I will
promise from my influence in Keshire, that my Batta
if unconnected with the other, shall, not only be constantly
kept complete, but that I shall raise two additional
companies of Highlanders to it, should it be wished.

My motives for so strongly desiring this
particular Regt will not I am persuaded appear
unreasonable to the Prince Regent. With those I have
already named, may be added, the very large
sum of money I have expended in raising that
Regt. That it is my country Regt. That half the
Men and Officers belonging to it are Mackenzies
and that I am the senior General Officer of that
name and country. I wish I could set forth
more brilliant claims, but my not being enabled
to do so is more my misfortune than my fault.

I have never been for a day on half pay - no Regt
that I have ever belonged to has seen a shot fired
that I have not been present with it - no Expedition
has ever sailed from this country that I have not been
entreated to be employ'd on it, and it is now
twelve years since I was first put on the
Staff as a general officer in the Substitution

I have the honor to be
with great respect

your most Obedt Servt

Amherst
to General

Amherst
17th Nov