

Col. Torrens  
Sept. 23. 1810.

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Private

Albany  
Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>

My Dear Mr. Mahon.

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I have been some  
days in possession of your letter of  
the 17<sup>th</sup> instant with thanks -  
And I assure you fully  
appreciate the confidence you  
have reposed in me by favouring  
me with the perusal of your  
brother's letter: It would be  
unwarranted not to confess that  
his case is hard; But I should  
Col. Mahon



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to be an ill return for the  
Confidence which marks your  
Communication - if I did not  
state with equal Candour that  
in my opinion a junior Offr.  
has sought to complain of  
Superiority in the course of the  
Service - It is what we are all  
liable to - And I have often  
experienced the mortification of  
giving up a flattering Command  
to a Senior Offr - And of  
relinquishing to him the credit  
which I had had the ambition

to look to as the reward of  
much labour & exertion -  
However I may have felt upon  
such occasions - I considered it  
my duty to submit with a good  
Grace - And I am confident  
that when the irritation arising  
from the disappointment of an  
honorable ambition, shall have  
subsided in the mind of your  
Brother, he will likewise see  
the necessity of yielding to the  
unavoidable circumstances  
of the case respecting which he



Complains: It is quite im-  
-possible that any discredit  
should attach to an Offr who  
is superseded by the arrival of  
a Senior: Every person must  
look upon it as the common  
course of the Service - particularly  
as Col. Smy is a full Colonel  
in <sup>our</sup> the Service - and I am  
confident you will agree with  
me in thinking that a young  
Majr - whose legitimate station  
is the command of a Regt. has  
no right to complain because



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he is not continued to act as  
a General. — Besides it appears  
by Lt. D'Urban's letter that Col  
McMahon was led to expect  
this supersession. While I argue  
in this way I must repeat that  
I thank your Brothers and very  
kind — But I am equally of  
opinion that he should submit  
to it. I shall conclude with  
the expression of a hope that you  
will do me the justice to review  
in good part the paragraphs  
with which I have commenced



My sentiments upon this subject  
Return the letter and demand  
My Duty - Y<sup>r</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> Sincerely  
A. H. H.

P.S. I know not what to say  
respecting y<sup>r</sup> Brother's removal  
from Portugal - But if any plan  
should occur by which it might  
be effected I shall be very happy to  
consult with you - I think however  
you should persuade him to  
remain where he is for the present  
at least  
A. H. H.