

Mrs.
John
Hayne
to
H.R.H.
Oct. 10
1811

18671-2

Sir

I'm venturing to approach your Royal Highness, with a statement of my situation, I have no other confidence in my hopes of success, than what can be derived from your known character for benevolence and the nature of my misfortunes: the widow of a man, whose eminent services to his king and country rendered him worthy of public notice, I would fain flatter myself, that your Royal Highness will not be deaf, to the recital of my misfortunes

My husband, Cap^t Lieut^t John Hayne, was a Volunteer at the taking of the Havana, where he made and sprung the Mine under the Moira Castle, and he had the honor of Laying the Spanish Colours at his Majesty's feet; he was then made a Lieut^t; soon after a Peace was made and my husband was reduced to his half-pay and permitted to enter in the Portuguese Service where he served eight years when he was called home to join his regiment; the war having been declared with America he was at the Battle of Bunker's hill, and received a slight wound in the Elbow: but it did not prevent his serving during the whole of the war, he was also, at the Battle of Quebec, where the brave Gen^l Wolfe was killed,

a short time after this, my husband was
Sent

Sent to Newfoundland were he particularly distinguished himself by assisting the engineers for the construction of the new garrison; when he returned to England he found that he had lost his Black from having been in foreign service, and which he never recovered; in the year 1780 he was appointed aid camp to Sir William Draper and went to Minorca; at the Siege of Minorca my husband received a shot in the leg when defending the Queen's Redoubt which he commanded and after his return to England he lingered two years and died at Woolwich his long services having been buried in oblivion, he was only a Cap^t Lieut. after fifty two years service; The Havana prize money nor that of the Spanish fleet not having been paid; my husband did not receive his share of either, and I have been deprived of the Pension from the marriage Society, as my Husband neglected paying to the Club a short time before his death;

Soon after my husband's death, I went to France, and resided there during the Revolution and experienced all its calamities; I lost the little property I had gathered by my industry and was reduced to the greatest distress; when Mr. Makenzie was sent to Morlaix, I solicited from the French government the donation of a Passport and through his interest I embarked in the Cartel and came to England! But, alas, my disappointment can not

can not be described; for after my ~~return~~ return in my native country, my prospects of a happier existence could not be realised, as the relations upon whose generosity I relied for assistance in my declining steps, were no more; my hopes were all blighted, and the small pension of forty pounds, that I receive from The Board of ordnance not being sufficient to afford me a decent maintenance I have every reason to suppose myself without the means of existing; unless upheld by some generous hand;

The effect of my lamentable situation, affected my health and I experienced all the horrors of a long and severe illness, I was obliged to part with the greatest number of my effects, which were pledged to procure me the necessaries I required during my illness; I am now indebted for eight months lodging which I have not the means of paying, and being of an elderly age, and no one whom I could consult for advice, or look up to for support, I consider myself as on the verge of ruin, and with my own ruin I know will follow that of an only daughter, who looks to me for support; in the midst of this distress hope whispered consolation to my heart by pronouncing your Royal Highness's name, and it is from the generosity of your Royal bosom, that I am to receive my final sentence

I Trust that your Royal Highness's benevolence will afford me an excuse for my intrusion; and I should

Should I receive your Negative I hope I shall not
incur your displeasure for endeavouring to save myself
and my daughter, from undeserved penury by an appeal
to the good and the affluent.

I have the honor, Sir, of subscribing
Myself, your Royal Highness Most
Obedient and Most Humble Servant

Elizabeth Mayne
Widow of the late Cap^t Lieut.
John Mayne of the Royal
Artillery

50. Prospect-Place
Lambeth-Road

October the 10th 1811

For His Royal Highness
The Prince Regent

with answer from B^o of
ordinance

10 Oct 1811
Mrs Elizabeth Mayne