

28 Oct. 1811

Sir F. Burdett

Enclosure.

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Wimbledon Oct<sup>r</sup> 28 1811

Sir

With every sentiment of respect and humility I beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with this intrusion, believing that I shall thereby merit your approbation not your displeasure.

Nathan Wilson a private in your Royal Highness's own Regiment the Tenth Light Dragoons, a private but a decent man and creditably allied and at this time only twenty three years of age having been nearly six years in the Regiment and never committed not even the slightest offence against military discipline so as to receive even the smallest rebuke, till the twelfth his Colonel's birth day when he was not in Barracks at nine o'clock for which he was tried by a Court Martial the following day and sentenced to receive two hundred

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lashes; which sentence was carried into execution the next day.

It is important that your Royal Highness should know this, and that the Court Martial consisted of Captain De Gramont President twenty three years of age. Smith twenty one years of age. Cotton twenty years of age. Hill twenty one years of age. Fitzgerald seventeen years of age.

This sentence was confirmed by Lieutenant Colonel George Quintin and given by him to Lieutenant Charles Palmer to be carried into execution - The following persons inflicted

- |                  |               |            |               |
|------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| George Ellis     | Twenty lashes | John Adams | Twenty lashes |
| John Adams       | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| James King       | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| James Thinner    | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| John Hoole       | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| Christopher Pole | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| Benjamin Nott    | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| William Afflick  | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| Thomas Whipples  | Twenty lashes |            |               |
| George Ellis     | Twenty lashes |            |               |

18785<sup>10</sup> that it appears Wilson received twenty lashes more than his sentence although he twice during the punishment begged for forgiveness of Lieutenant Colonel Palmer on the score of character and it was the duty of adjutant Bromley to have scored punctually the lashes which were given, and yet this man had served in Sir John Moore's Army, and had had his horse shot under him at Benevento at the taking of General Lefevre; suffered great privations and hardships in that retreat; and during near six years service was never in the Guard House nor as a prisoner in any sense of the word. his crime, his only crime, was being absent at nine o'clock on his Colonel's birth day.

This Nathan Wilson is a man of twenty three years of age of exemplary good conduct and behaviour and seems rather to deserve remuneration for services, than redress for such sufferings in consequence of so slight an offence.

On Monday the twenty third, Colonel Palmer called him from the ranks and wished Nathan Wilson to tell him whether he wanted his discharge or money: to which

For

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Nathan Wilson replied [and I repeat his christian name because your Royal Highness may find hereafter that his christian name is of great consequence] he could not answer. and on Friday Morning Colonel Palmer threatened to bring Nathan Wilson to a general Court Martial for refusing to answer some question in his parlour.

Your Royal Highness's own benevolent heart will best judge what is fit to be done on this occasion

Your Royal Highness's  
most Devoted  
and Dutiful Servant

Francis Burdett