

Duke of Northumberland to Col. McKeahon,

A. A. No. 128.

19891-2

Private

Alnwick Castle 13th July 1812.

My dear Colonel

I have to thank you for your two letters

of the 1st and 8th.

I was at first much alarmed at the account I read in the Papers of the King's State, as they represented it in such a manner as to induce the Belief that it proceeded from a Paralytic Stroke. Your letter however afterwards satisfied me that it was a violent Paroxysm of his Disorder. A Stroke of the Palsy, in addition to the Palsy with which H. L. is afflicted, would be terrible indeed.

However anxious I should have been in behalf of M^r. Keere, had he conducted himself properly; yet I cannot help thinking, my dear Colonel, that he has deserved the Disappointment he has met with by the very unjustifiable Part he chose to take on S^r. Hilton's India. Should he make any more mistakes of that kind (which however he has assured me shall never happen again) he must take the Children's Hundred; for I am determined His Royal Highness shall be supported by all the Aid I can have the Honour, & Pleasure, of affording Him.

The Right Honourable
Colonel Mac-Mahon —

I have received a letter from Lord Liverpool, on the subject of an application for a stall at Westminster, or Windsor, for Mr. Bethell, filled with those civil expressions, usual with Ministers, but giving me to understand that I must wait for the accomplishment of my wishes, till all other applications he has received for such stalls shall have been complied with. I can only say I am unfortunate! This was not the case lately with the Duke of Rutland, who procured for Dr. Sparks, not a Prebendary, but the Bishoprick of Chester, against much Interest, & a Promise made to another Person, and within a few months afterwards, procured for him immediately a Translation to the Bishoprick of Ely; one of the best Bishopricks in the English Church. His Lordship has however proposed to me a Stall at Canterbury, or Worcester, to which of course I have been compelled to accede; as otherwise Mr. Bethell would probably have very little chance of procuring a Stall, as long as ever he lived. The late Duke of Devonshire's Tutor was made Master of Trinity College and a Bishop, immediately on his Application - The D: of Rutland's Tutor - Bishop of Chester - & the Tutor of one of the younger branches of the Duke of Marlborough's Family, was immediately also upon his great Application, made Bishop of Bayeux - but I can't wait till all other

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Applications are first provided for, before I can procure ever a
shall for the Duke of Devon, & Lord Algernon. If however
the Royal should do me the honour to signify his Pleasure
to Lord Liverpool, I should hope it would have its proper Effect.
I do assure you, my dear Colonel, there is nothing that I dislike
so much as to ask any Favours of Ministers. So much so, that
I do not believe I have ever asked for Favours of those
Ministers ever, who have ^{been} my intimate Friends, or my Relations.
I cannot therefore help thinking it a little hard, considering
my Rank, Property, and Influence, in the Kingdom, that I am
not ever on such occasions to be treated better than any common
Person, who may make a similar Application, and by as many
as Persons of a similar Rank and consequence are treated.
It is for this reason that I have always sought to be permitted
to make my Applications to the Great Brit Head, & to owe
my Obligations to the Sovereign Power, & not to Ministers, who
who often mistake the treatment proper to be given to Persons
of different Ranks, and Weights, in Society.

I find, by a Letter from the Bourbons, that the Prince Royal
of Portugal is very unhappy, as all the younger Branches of his
Family were dangerously ill, when the Packet left Rio de Janeiro.

If our Prince Regent had no objection, & would only write two lines
with his own hand, in a quite Private Letter, to the Prince of Brazil
saying he had heard of their Illness, which he lamented, & hoped they
were quite recovered, I am certain it ^{will} be attended with a most
wonderfull good Effect. They have got an Idea at that Court,
that We treat them pointedly de lauch er bas, which is peculiarly
galling to an inferior independent Sovereignty; because they are
always apt to be suspicious, that every disagreeable Circumstance
done or purpose to mark the Superiority of the greater Court, & they
feel at the same ^{time} that they dare not take the least Notice of it
on account of their own Inferiority, and this additional Circumstance
makes them still more uneasy, & prevents all Explanation.

I suppose every thing which has lately happened in this Country has
so totally engaged H: R: H: 's Mind, that nothing has been decided
with respect to my Friend Lord Shaftesbury. Poor Man; I am convinced more
and more that he has been most grossly misrepresented. His Lordship
I am satisfied has acted as a most zealous Servant; and if there has been
Blame, that Blame does not attach to him. He has the Misfortune to
have Enemies here, who are his Enemies, while he is at a distance, & cannot
therefore defend himself properly. I must beg of you to present my Duty
to H: R: H: - We will have write in Corp^s to you, & h^{is} Grace & Mother.

P. S: I hear the Saddies are all hrown, & ^{Adieu -}
many taken - I trust they will all be executed, & ever most faithfully your's
& publick Declaration made, that Nobody, who creates such ^{Northumberland,}
Disturbances in the Kingdom, shall ever expect Pardon. This is the only way to stop them.