

Duke of Northumberland to Col
Heathon.

A. A. No. 214

20362-3

Private Albrecht Cestke 8th Jan^{ry} 1879.

My dear Colonel

I must trouble you to deliver
the accompanying letter to H. R. H.
I confess it is a bitter pill to be made
to swallow, after 53 years services; but
after finding every attempt to recover that
pension, for the Regt, long distinguished for
its prowess & excellent discipline, which it
cannot be denied it has enjoyed for 40 years,
wholly ineffectual, and that the past services
of an old general, now fourth on the list,
entitle him to no weight in military affairs,
when compared to the future expected
services of a half pay Captain of 40
years, it is high time for those, who out
blush his sons & heroes, to retire, before
they are quite flung up into the garnet as
Colonel MacMahon.

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Heathorn.

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as useful lumber.

You are a nephew, by dear Colonel,
of the zeal, and devotion with which
I have on all occasions exerted myself for
H: R: H:, as well as of the steady and
irrevocable attachment I showed towards
H: R: H: when many of those to whom
he had been most kind and attentive, (and
ever had heine himself) carelessly
abandoned him. In so doing I was not
actuated by any interested motives, whether
it was a most sincere affection, if I may
be allowed to use the word familiar,
a term that writes as to His Interests.
That same attachment will still continue
on my part, let H: R: H: decide in this
Business as he may think proper. I cannot
help labour thinking that some disappointments

has taken place on this Subject and be
all true, by dear Colonel, his representations
can do a great deal of mischief. Nay,
even H: R: H: himself has formerly felt the
truth of this remark. Otherwise I cannot bring
myself to think, that for the sake of putting
an officer into the Blues, H: R: H: would have
deviated from what has been usual for the
last 40 years, & have stopped the promotion
of the officers, in a Reg: Coy distinguished for
its Bravery, & good Discipline, just at the
moment a considerable party was ordered, upon
foreign Service. Nay, I have been every
to think, that if our Visitation would otherwise
have possibly had some weight with H: R: H:.
But as I before said, let H: R: H: decide either
ever way he may, in this business, my attach-
-ment to him will remain unchangeable,
whether Captain Harvey, or the Reg: ment and
myself as their present Colonel, may carry the
day. I say in the first case, feel some & heart
and with ease from the Service, but I will

still, as an Independent, tho' private,
Individual, use of an Influence,
and Property, to render H: R: H: every
Service in my Power, towards the Support
of His Government. May the Almighty God
ever shower down Blessings on his Head, &
may his Government of the Country be ever
blessed with Glory, and Happiness.

Adieu my dear Colonel. We all unite
in the offer of our Regards to you, and H:
I am sure. Clouds will sometimes pass be-
-fore us & the Sun, but I hope some future
Breeze will soon disperse them.

I cannot conclude without repeat-
ing to you, that I am most thoroughly convinced
that you have done every thing that the
most sincere friendship could dictate, to
correct this unpleasant ~~document~~

Ever most faithfully yours
Northumberland