

Col. Gordon to Col. McKeown

A.A. No. 242

20443-4 H. G. G.

Feb. 25. 1813.

My dear friend, I am very sensible
of your kindness in mentioning to me
the Prince's observation upon the sub-
-ject of the Newspaper, and I have no
difficulty whatever in explaining fully
to you everything I know relative
to it. - When the Duke of York was so
abominably abused in 1809 by all
the Old Papers without exception, &
particularly by those in the interest
of Government, I endeavoured but without
success to stop the abuse, and I
remonstrated with the Government who
I thought rather winked at it than
otherwise: - in this difficulty I took

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up a very obscure paper called the Pilot, which at that time was hardly known, and what with my assistance & that of my friends, we soon brought it into notice, and it became a very powerful advocate & support of the Duke in his greatest extremity.

When the Duke's business was over, the Paper became established, & I dropped all assistance or acquaintance with it, and since that period I have had no more to say to the Pilot than to Mr. Lobbitz, or any other Writer: - except that I have endeavored more than once to stop the current of abuse which I saw levelled against

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Carlton House: - I however soon found, to my surprise, that the Paper was quite above any control of mine, and was witter to sell, & not to mistake: - The Editor expresses himself grateful to me, but that gratitude does not extend beyond a personal feeling, and I doubt much whether I could induce him to alter one sentence of writing.

In short I am well convinced that the life we have to do with thron the latter. -

As to the description upon the Pamphlet, perhaps you will recollect that I have for some years prohibited Mr. G. from

visiting in that Quarter, & if all men
I should not be suspected of being
an advocate there. -

I wish you would have
the goodness to do me justice with
M. R. H. who certainly should never
feel one painful moment, if
it was in my power to prevent it.

Dear yours, affec.

W. B. D.