

W. Col. Chas Palmer b.H.P.H.

20453 - 4

Wales, 1<sup>st</sup> March 1813

Sir

I was in Wales ere this to have received a letter from  
England & to have learnt from Col Bloomfield how  
far I should be right in addressing myself personally  
to your Royal Highness on all occasions relative  
to the Regiment, wherein it might be necessary for me  
to make any communications; I should therefore in the  
mean time have enclosed my Present, as I did  
my last regimental return to him, but from my anxiety  
to mention a subject to you the H<sup>ch</sup> which I trust my  
duties & attachments to every Branch of your Family  
will warrant -

It relates to Mr Fitzclarence  
whom I first heard of from your Royal Highness before  
I left London & coming out with us to join the  
15<sup>th</sup> - Since our landing, I have had no opportunity  
of seeing him till within the last 3 days, but I  
had heard so much, that I was induced not to delay  
in it, & your Royal Highness may suppose I have taken pains

in the business, & venture the opinion I beg leave to  
 give of him. Your Royal Highness may rely upon  
 that for his years, he possesses an uncommon understand-  
 ing, great firmness of mind, joined to a goodness  
 of heart, that I am sure with proper treatment  
 will greatly distinguish him in life; but indeed  
 I think him in danger where he is, & that his  
 good qualities themselves from being misunderstood  
 & counteracted may ruin him - Your Royal Highness  
 may imagine that from his situation, his character  
 has been much misrepresented since he came, and  
 it is the injustice I do not mean intentionally  
 that has been done him in that respect that induces  
 me to interfere in his behalf - Those of his own  
 age who are much with him, think him overbearing  
 and obstinate, others more experienced, but who have  
 had less opportunity of judging, do not know what  
 to make of him, but all think, that like his brother,  
 he requires to be checked and kept under, they  
 admit, but every thing will depend on the way in which  
 it is done - what I would humbly request of your Royal  
 Highness, would be, to place him with us. Detached as

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Mr. Col. Chas Palmer, b.A.P.A.

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Col Grant is from his own Regiment, he cannot attend to him, and I am not sufficiently acquainted with the rest in command, or any of the Officers to know how far they might be inclined to trouble themselves about him - but I can answer for my own case of him, if with us, and altho it might have been more prudent in me to have delayed the opinion I have ventured to submit to your Royal Highness, yet as no time is to be lost, I do not hesitate to state it, & trust I shall never have reason to repent the charge I have undertaken should your Royal Highness think fit to entrust me with it.

I ask my mention one instance out of many which have been repeated to me to show the necessity of his being attended to - I was told that in a party of your Officers, an argument arose as to the comparative merits between the German troops and our own, in which the young Gentleman was extremely violent & gave great offence by his abuse of the English &c - I was determined to hear the story from himself, & have formed my opinion from the conversation I had with him on that occasion - I have stated to your Highness the real ground for my anxiety

wishing his removal into the 18<sup>th</sup>, but if that were necessarily  
to be the ostensible one, (in the event of your M. Ws. concurrence  
in the measure,) I would abandon the object rather than  
run the risk of its being construed into the slightest disrespect  
to the Duke of Cumberland or his Regt, but the ~~only~~ best & only reason that need be given, is the young  
Thorn's interests, for he stands at present the youngest  
& 17<sup>th</sup> lieut in the 15<sup>th</sup>, & with no he would have  
others under him, unless your M. Ws. should have ~~promoted~~  
up the vacancies since we left England, and even  
then, looking to the average promotion in each  
he would get a troop nearly as soon again  
ours as the 15<sup>th</sup> - after having committed myself so  
strongly respecting him, I must act more cautiously as  
to my own officers, and altho I think I might safely  
state that of some of them which I am sure would be  
gratifying to your Royal Highness, I will postpone it for the  
present, & only say that the Regt is going on altogether as well  
as I could wish - I conclude that Col Bloomfield has  
mentioned to your Royal Highness my having recommended  
Duperion to the 18<sup>th</sup> as acting Adjutant, & have only to  
repeat my conviction that it will be much to the advantage  
of that Regiment if he is sent out to them & that both  
Col Murray & the rest in command are very anxious about  
it - I leave the honor to be given your Royal Highness  
Wm. A. Murray - M. Ws. Murray most dutifully & affectionately  
Charles almost &c