

Lt. Col. Chas. Palmer to H. R. H.

20612-3

Albany 12<sup>th</sup> May 1813

Sir

It is with the utmost reluctance that I presume to trouble your Royal Highness with the copy of a letter to the Duke of York upon the subject of my return from Portugal, and I most earnestly <sup>hope</sup> it may be so far satisfactory to your Royal Highness, as to render unnecessary the further observations which my anxiety and the peculiar embarrassments of my situation urge me to offer - Indeed Sir, I consider myself most unfortunate in having arrived here, but being on the spot, I fear that my immediate return, without undertaking the object for which I came, might be more injurious to my Character, than my continuance for the very short time that may be necessary, and under the circumstances which my letter to his Royal Highness explains. at the same time Sir, having always made my duty to your Royal Highness and obedience to your wishes the first object of my life, neither this consideration, nor any



Lt. Col. Chas. S.

other as far as relates only to myself, should induce me to remain here a moment, did not the same feelings which actuate me with respect to your Royal Highness, operate in the present case still more powerfully for my Father — I find him in a state of health that makes me dread the consequence of any further disappointment — to his hopes and in the sincere conviction that his existence will depend on your Royal Highness's determination with respect to myself, every other consideration vanishes, and I do not hesitate in making that appeal to your Royal Highness which I trust to the gracious condescension and kindness which I have seen and experienced in so many instances to pardon — Forgive me Sir, in telling you that my Father is almost broken hearted, and I firmly believe that it rests with your Royal Highness alone, to save him — Oppressed and persecuted as he has been for the last twenty years, your Royal Highness's friendship was always his best hope and

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Mr. Col. Chas. Palmer to H. R. H.

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consolation, at the same time I am sure he ever  
valued your Royal Highnesses good opinion and conviction  
of the justice of his Cause, more ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> the honor it  
conferred, than any other advantage he might have  
anticipated from your support — That your Royal  
Highness is still his friend I cannot but flatter  
myself, and it is the firm persuasion of it that  
encourages me to explain his situation — Allow me  
to submit to your Royal Highness, that at his advanced  
period of life, having upon so many occasions  
carried his Claims in the House of Commons,  
where alone ~~was~~ promised by Mr Percival they  
ought to have been disputed; & having been honoured  
by your Royal Highnesses support thro your  
personal servants in the House of Commons; it  
must have been a most severe mortification, to  
have been defeated in the House of Lords, in the  
very last stage of his Bill, & with an actual  
and considerable majority in his favor, but for those  
dishonourable and unconstitutional means which I  
solemnly declare that nothing but notions of duty and



the most fervent attachment to your Royal Highness should  
have prevented me from exposing — However Sir,  
I cannot forbear mentioning our circumstances, which  
beyond every other aggravated my Father's sufferings,  
and which considering the Public interest his Cause  
has excited, and the gracious support which your  
Royal Highness is so well known to have afforded it  
I feel to be my duty to disclose — Without adverting  
to the conduct of others, our failure in the last  
Session was to be imputed to that of the Duke  
of Cumberland alone — I am convinced your Royal  
Highness is the very last Person in the World  
to have countenanced it, and that you are not  
acquainted with the particulars to which I ~~allude~~  
allude, but I have too much reason to know  
that the activity and exertions of his Royal Highness  
throughout to defeat my Father's claims are believed  
by many to have received your sanction — Indeed  
Sir I do not state this in resentment to the  
Duke who I am sure must be sensible from  
circumstances which have since occurred, that from  
my heart and soul I forgive the severe injuries he



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has inflicted upon me, however anxious I may be  
to remove your that impression of your Royal  
Highness conduct towards my Father which from  
our consciousness of having never in the slightest  
degree merited I was am convinced has not been  
intended by your Royal Highness — Lastly Sir,  
should I not have decided myself in the opinion  
and good wishes which I flatter myself your  
Royal Highness still entertains with respect  
to my Father, I would humbly suggest a mode  
by which I am sure he would be reconciled  
to my earnest wishes to return instantly to Portugal  
and leave his Cause to be conducted in the  
manner I had previously arranged — In  
once more bringing it forward, without presuming  
to solicit your Royal Highness's support, I would  
only ask that protection which I conceive my  
Father as a subject to be entitled to — Truly  
Sir your Ministers, however they may gratify themselves



be justified on the score of consistency in the  
continuance of their hostility, ought not to identify  
your Royal Highness with themselves in opposition  
to a Claim, so fully & frequently acknowledged by  
the House of Commons, and the Public - ~~and~~ after  
the denie which has been pursued with respect  
to the Catholic question, I cannot think it unrea-  
sonable to hope that the Claim also of a private  
Individual, who has no other means of obtaining  
Justice, should be left to the unbiassed decision  
of Parliament - & with such an assurance, I have  
no doubt I could reconcile my Father to my  
immediate return to the Regiment, where I can  
best prove my Duty & attachment to your Royal  
Highness and my Country - I have written this  
letter Sir, under feelings of the most extreme  
agitation which I am persuaded, in the personal  
your Royal Highness will have the goodness to  
allow for - I implore your Royal Highness

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to consider, that I have now had the honor of  
serving under your immediate Patronage and observation  
for seventeen years — I can, I am most  
proud to say, lay my hand on my heart, and  
declare, that I have served your Royal Majesty  
as far as my humble means allowed, zealously  
and faithfully — and if, during the whole course  
of that time I can be reproached with having  
either in thought, word, or deed, dishonoured the  
notice which you have been so graciously pleased  
to confer on me, I am content that your  
Royal Majesty should withdraw from me the  
continuance of that favor and protection which  
it has ever been the proudest circumstance of  
my life to have enjoyed.

Inman your Royal Majesty,  
most dutiful & grateful servant  
Charles Palmer

Wm. Palmer  
Wm. Palmer



31308  
Col. Palmer  
12<sup>th</sup> May 1813.