

Elizabeth Archdall to Col. J. McMahon
June 24 1813

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24 June 1813

Sir

I will not attempt to apologise for thus intruding upon you, for I am well aware that your time is much too valuable to be expended in perusing what would be but a faint transcript of feelings, for which I trust you will give me credit - My cause or rather that of an object dearer to me than myself, has been I believe already in some degree submitted to you by Mrs. McMahon, by whose kind encouragement I am induced to venture upon this mode of laying before you the unfortunate situation in which my Brother now stands, and intreating for him your good offices - He is senior Major in the 40th Regiment, with which he has served more than five years in Portugal and Spain - for the last year and half, he has had the command of the Regiment, and during that time has been so happy as more than once to obtain the marked approbation of Lord Wellington, added to that of the superior Officers of the Division in which he served.

his present rank of Lt. Colonel, he obtained by his conduct
on the 18th of last July, and on the 22nd of the same
Month at the Battle of Salamanca - on the subsequent
retreat, the misconduct of some parts of his Regiment was
such as he was most anxious to check, and in his zeal to
effect this, he was hurried by strong provocation and a
naturally warm temper into the irregularity of punishing
Men without the proper forms on such occasions - this
was taken advantage of by a party in the Regiment, and
he was brought to a Court Martial, which adjudged him
the severe penalty of quitting the Army - His Royal
Highness the Commander in Chief has been pleased
to allow him to sell, and I have the mortification to
find that any attempt to avert this, will be futile, but
if it were possible to obtain a hope that at some not
very distant period, he may be re-instated and enabled
again to follow a profession he is attached to, my
present severe distress would be much softened - thro'
your influence Sir, I have been taught to hope
this alleviation may still be granted me - for myself

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Elizabeth Archdall to Col. J. McHarlow
June 24 1813

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I feel that I have no right to intrude your interference
but I think I am not mistaken in the belief, that
if you have the power, you will assist the efforts of an
anxious sister, to save from probable ruin a young
Man, who tho' he has greatly erred, has never forfeited
the character of a gentleman and a gallant Officer.

Should General Bely, who kindly interests himself
in my present anxiety, be so fortunate as to see you
he may perhaps be able to offer much in extenuation
of my Brother's errors, which my feelings would urge
me now to present to your consideration, were I not
withheld by the apprehension of being deemed in-
-pertinently obtrusive — Forgive Sir the presumptuous
effort I make to interest you for my Brother, and
be assured of the unfeigned respect of your

Obliged and obedient servant

Elizath Archdall —

Custom House

June 24th 1813 —

By: Archdale
June 24. 1913.