

To His Royal Highness George Prince
of Wales, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Ireland. / *Yea Yea Yea*

The humble Petition of His Majestys
Wounded Soldiers, who are Pensioners of the Royal
Hospital of Chelsea. /

Sheweth,

That your Petitioners do with
the utmost humility, and heartfelt Gratitude, acknowledge your
Royal Highness's gracious condescension in noticing their Distressed
situation and extending His Majestys Warrant of the 25th of
October 1806, to all our Pensioners of Chelsea College, as by
Lord Palmerstons circular Letter of June 1812, will appear

Petitioners did most anxiously expect
that this augmentation would be issued, but to their astonishment
the Order has been no further noticed than by being read at the
Head of every Regiment, and circulated in the public News for
several Weeks, which has materially injured us, as many
Noble Lords and Gentlemen used to assist us once a year
but when this Letter was published, they discontinued their
Benefactions, and declared we were sufficiently provided for
by Government.

We are happy to find that some Pensioners
are well provided for, on account of their long servitude but it
is most certain that the Distribution of Pensions is not regulated
with Justice, as many Men who have received no Wounds, and
of course are perfect in their Limbs and can earn a Living exclusive
of their Pensions enjoy from 2^d to 3^d per Day: Whereas the
Soldiers who have been employed in the Peninsula are mostly
young Men who have recently volunteered their Services from the
Militia, and have suffered extremely in Marching, Wounds,
and painful Amputations; but who are remunerated with only
9 per Diem, (out of which poundage is regularly deducted at each
Payment,) merely on account of their Youth and short servitude;
altho' it is certain that if our Legs and Arms were not shot off
we would still remain in the Army under the Command of

of Lord Wellington.

Petitioners most humbly lament that they are obliged to apply to your Royal Highness on this occasion, but not being able to get any satisfactory Answer, at Chelsea, altho' repeated applications have been made to the Chief Governor who has not thought proper to notice them, so that we have no alternative but to appeal to your Royal Clemency, hoping that you illustrious Prince, will take notice of the imbecility and inattention of the Commander of Chelsea Hospital, who should have given us the necessary information.

We further humbly state that our Distress is such that we are reduced to Beggary, as the small allowance of 9 pence Day is not adequate to maintain us, and the Vagrant Act is very often put in force against us to the extreme degradation of the Kings Service, - we humbly beg your Royal Highness will pardon any irregularity of Language or bad Diction which may appear in this Petition, as we know little of this great World but what pertains to Arms.

May it therefore please your Royal Highness to order the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital to take our Distress into consideration, and to augment the Pensions of those Wounded Soldiers who have lost their Limbs in His Majesty's Service, (and who from not having served above ten Years, are allowed only 9 pence Day) agreeable to Lord Palmerston's Circular Letter of June 1812 - a Copy of which is enclosed with this Petition, We humbly beg Your Royal Highness

See 21171

Highness to observe that we
 would be satisfied with a smaller
 allowance than what is specified in
 the noble Secretary's Letter, but we
 most humbly implore your Royal
 Highness to order us something
 more than what we receive, and as the
 Half yearly payment will commence
 immediately after Christmas, we humbly
 pray that the augmentation may
 commence at the same time.

And may the Omnipotent bless
 you Royal Prince, and grant
 you Honor Wisdom and happy
 Days to enjoy the Kingdoms
 of your Potent and Illustrious
 Ancestors is the Heartfelt prayer
 of His Majesty's loyal Wounded
 Soldiers.

The Out Pensioners of
 Chelsea Hospital at
 9 per Day.

N.B. Our Names are too numerous
 for insertion.

22nd November 1813

04170

42 NOV 18 1953