

Ed. Meira to H. R. H.

A.A. No. 475

21507-8

August 17th 1914.
The General, Royal
Singapore.

Sanctity or Veneration
in other respects with the course of transac-
-tions never could make me a layed Specta-
-tor of any scene in which your Royal
Highness was concerned. I will not pretend
to say that the wonderful occurrences of
which we have recently had information
do not touch any other string within me. A
glowing sense of National Pride has even been

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to me a main impulse: had I to confess that
 I feel in a peculiar degree the comfort of
 being liberated from the consciousness that
 France had outstripped us in the race for
 power & influence which must be the object
 of great nations. The overthrow of Bonaparte
 personally is not an ingredient in that self
 gratulation. He has shown himself so ab-
 -ject in mind that one can only wonder such
 an animal should have held preeminence so
 long. That France has been precluded from that
 insolent boast of Victories which had fair

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Ld. Nova to H. R. H.

A.A. No. 475

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to gall perpetually every British Ear, is no
-the & consoling. We may like France,
as I wish to do, reduced to a modest level.
They as these sensations are, I can most
truly say they were not the most promising
even at the moment when the news reached
me. The share your Royal Highness has had
in those splendid events, & the happiness you
must have reaped from this glorious termina-
-tion of your difficulties, was the first advent-
-ure of my heart & has continued to be
my highest point of rejoicing. Congratulations

from India must be so tardy that the objects to
which they refer must be out of date. Still, I
think, Sir, you will not be indifferent to the
appearance of the exultation which my spirit
felt in your satisfaction & reward; nor will
I believe my knowledge of your Royal Highness
to be so inaccurate as to apprehend you could
 disdain even so distant & so humble a par-
-ticipation in your triumphs as what I offer

after the immense magnitude of such opera-
-tions, this Country can afford no intelligence
interesting for your Royal Highness. Tho' I
have experienced all that was predicted

A.A.

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to me from the tediousness of the Voyage & the heat in the Boats, I would not for any consideration have omitted undertaking this Expedition. I am now convinced that I shall be able to do much for the comfort of the natives at the same time that I materially promote the advantage of the Company. All this, however, will be the result of many little attentions & regulations, so that no credit will follow it; but it will be gratifying to have the internal conviction of not having

discharged our duties dutifully. In talking
of the tranquillity of India we should always
define the term & say that we speak
comparatively. This Government never expects
to be deemed in a state of Peace: For, subjects
of unexpected & unavoidable difference
with the several Native Powers rise in
such quick succession as to baffle all
calculation. We are now forced to under-
take movements against the Nepalese
from our having resisted their encroachment

A.A.

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on our territory, they surprised & murdered
some of our Police Officers & atrociously endeav-
oured to poison the wells of our frontier vil-
lages. As this was done by their regular
troops, & their Government shows no dispo-
sition to atone for the offense, we are
forced to chastise the insult. Were we not
to do so the forbearance would be impud-
ent & inability, and the supposed reputation
of Power which would thence accrue to
Spain would excite all sort of mischief.

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combinations with it against us. On that account
we shall strike at it as soon as the floods of
the rainy season have subsided. The mountainous
frontier of Nepal & its dependencies is an
principal difficulty. There is no road in its
extent. Simple & winding pathways over the
woody heights are the only communications. There-
fore the impossibility of supplying any large
body of men with provisions reduces us to the
necessity of acting in moderate detachments.
The discipline & courage of our troops must
be relied upon for success against the superior

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21511-2

numbers which will be opposed to them; that
the Japanese have copy battalions formed on the
model of ours. The vigilance is requisite at
the same time in another quarter. Seindeah
appears disposed to connect himself with
the Pindaries in a manner that would be
equivalent to a declaration of hostility
against us. Every effort is exerted by us to
dissuade him from a step so very absurd
in respect to his own interests than em-
barassing for us. But these people act from
such short-sighted speculations that the folly

of a measure is no security against their under-
 -taking it. This would be of little consequence
 were it not for the insufficiency of our troops
 in point of number & the great objections
 which exist against incurring the expense
 of collecting an adequate army. What we
 have of native force is in excellent order, &
 they are really fine troops. The Cavalry is im-
 -mensely mounted; for good Horses are not now to
 be procured in India: and we should have
 wished them to have in that respect a supe-

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...nity such as might have counterbalanced
the numbers which the nobles would op-
-pose to us. I should like to state to your
Royal Highness, these matters, so insignificant
in calibre when contrasted with the Politics which
you have been triumphantly guiding, were
it not that I am aware no circumstance
belonging to any part of the Empire which
your rule is too minute for your active
contemplation. With the most ardent

begues for every species of felicity to your
Royal Highness, I remain, Sir,

Your Royal Highness's
Most humble, most
respectful & obliged servant

Moira

The Earl of Moira
Aug. 17. 1794

The Prince Regent.

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