

Lord Moira

July 10. 1816

A.A. No. 654

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Calcutta, July 10th
1816

Sir

Tho' there is not any
recent occurrence of note worthy to
be submitted to your Royal Highness,
I dare to hope it will not be construed
intrusion if I present myself with
the humble expression of my unceasing

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devotion. It will not I know be indiffer-
-ent to your Royal Highness to learn that
all here is prosperous. You desired, by the
-report to the Directors that they would find
the benefit of their appointing me to this
-post: but it is the pride of my Heart that
the flattering confidence your Royal High-
-ness reposed in me, when you had decided
to give that assurance, has not been discre-
-dited thro' any want of exertion on my
part. I venture to say that the general
spirit here has been much improved of late.

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The statement is not to be restricted to Euro-
peans; for, rapid change is taking place
in the habits of the natives in Calcutta,
which will necessarily spread itself. Two
years ago, some of them of good class would
have stepped into an English carriage on
any account. At present, many of the
richer individuals drive about in the most
elegant coaches & Charriots that can be
seen. In other respects, too, they seem to be
falling fast into our fashions & luxuries.
A friendly communication with

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the Chinese Civil & Military Rulers at Lassa
has been interchanged. It is probable it may
lead to considerable Trade. At all events,
the Supercargoes thought it would be very ad-
-vantageous if we could establish a correspon-
-dence in that direction, as the readiness of
conveying representations to Peking would con-
-tract all the corrupt managements of
the Viceroy of Canton. We have luckily opened
this Channel.

Our Resident at Cathay is
is going on very well with that strange
government. A nation so brutal & so ancient

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ized in some respects, & at the same time
so advanced in many points of science as
well as in acute policy, is perhaps no where
else to be found. It may possibly be inter-
esting to your Royal Highness to know
that there are Mountains in the Snowy
Range, which have lately been measured
by our Surveyors, between four & five thou-
sand feet higher than Chimborazo the
most elevated of the Andes.

With the truest at-

- Attachment of a grateful Heart, I remain

Sir

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

Prince

The Prince Regent.