

Colonel Murray's  
Papers

Duke of York & H.R.H.

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Foreguard

9<sup>th</sup> October 1717

Sir,

In Obedience to Your Royal Highness's  
Commands to me, through Sir Benjamin Bloodfield,  
to consider and to report to Your Royal Highness, my  
Opinion upon the Memorial of The Honourable  
Colonel Murray, Supernumerary Lieutenant Colonel  
of the 2<sup>d</sup> Regiment of Life Guards, I have the Honour to  
acquaint Your Royal Highness, that I lost no time  
in communicating with The Earl of Harrington,  
as likewise in applying to the War Office, as well as  
to the Orderly Books of both Regiments of Life Guards,  
The Prince Regent

For

From

The Commr. in Chief

9<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1717

Relative to Colonel  
Murray

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for such information as they could furnish upon  
the subject - from which it appears that in the  
Year 1700, upon the Reduction of the Troops of Horse  
and Grenadier Guards, His Majesty was pleased to  
transfer the Officers of the former to the two Regiments  
of Life Guards, fixing the Establishment of each  
Regiment at one Colonel, one Lieut: Colonel, one  
Major, four Captains &c. - with a declaration, at  
the same time, that the Second Lieut: Colonels and  
Second Majors of the Old Horse Guards should be  
superannuated in the New Corps, but should do  
no Duty, except that of Court Attendance, and should  
not have any Claim to promotion in their Corps,  
except in case of Vacancies by Death - which was  
confirmed

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confirmed by an Order issued by His Majesty's Com-  
mand, and entered in the Orderly Books of the First  
Regiment of Life Guards in the Year 1793, in conse-  
quence of Supplementary Lieut: Colonel Read pur-  
chasing the Lieut: Colonelcy of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Life  
Guards of Colonel Draddy - in which His Majesty  
is pleased expressly to signify, that though in that one  
instance He had allowed the Supplementary Lieut:  
Colonel to succeed, it was not to form any  
precedent..

In the Year 1799, when the Two  
Regiments of Life Guards were placed, in point of  
Numbers and Establishment of Officers, upon the  
same footing as the rest of the Regiments of Cavalry,

the

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the supernumerary Majors were made effective in  
their respective Corps; but the supernumerary  
Lieut: Colonels remained upon their original  
 footing - nor has any alteration been made  
since that time. - This Regulation appears to  
be perfectly well known to every Officer in the  
Life Guards, and by a Report dated 2<sup>d</sup> March  
1816 from Lieut: General Barton to The Earl of  
Harrington, upon a former application of Lieut:  
Colonel Murray, the General particularly men-  
-tions, that he had stated to the Lieut: Colonel  
previously to the purchase being concluded, the  
necessity of his giving up the Command of the

Detachment

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Detachment of the two Regiments of Life Guards  
then ordered upon service, in case he purchased  
the supernumerary Lieut: Colonelcy of the 2<sup>d</sup>  
Regiment of Life Guards of General Arabin. -

From the above statement, it appears to me  
that Lieut: Colonel Murray has not made  
out any grounds of just complaint, and I  
therefore cannot recommend to your Royal  
Highness to grant the prayer of his Memorial. -

I remain, Sir, Your Royal Highness's  
Most affectionate Brother,

Frederick  
Commander in Chief

