

Baron Eben to
Sir B. Bloomfield

2^d Nov. 1818

22227-8

Hamburg the 2^d November 1818-

Sir

The many promises and assurances of your Friendship on so many occasions - even so far back as in the year 1803, when our Acquaintance first began and my time and Study devoted to your wishes embolden me now to lay these my Sentiments, along with my Situation, to your perusal in order to recal to your mind past, and reciprocal Friendships -

I have many times in full Confidence address'd you - as you will see by the enclosed - particular at that period of 1816. when I claimed your advice - but was never honored with the return of an answer - or if only some Confidential person - as I propos'd to you, had been order'd, to inform me of your Intention, probably all the misfortunes, that hereafter befel me, might have been prevented, and not falling a Victim of Intrigue, - although I stand now before you as a Innocent, and highly injured man, still I cannot obtain that great and wish'd for advantage as to be try'd by Englishmen - if I had been found guilty by them - and that Stand had signed my Sentence which I so often thankfully have kiss'd - I should then be happy

and know how to end -

Sir Benjamin Bloomfield -
to the Hon.

Picture to yourself Sir the treatment I have indured in the public prints by a Person who dare not even sign his name, and thereby stamps himself a Soul, cowardly Calumniator, at least in my Opinion - to dishonor a man so publicly, is to brandish his very existence, nay even to prevent him, from all honorable employments in his life hereafter - is ten times crueller, as to take my life at ones, and all this without Conviction, to rail against the honor and Character of a Man - and I appeal to you Sir as a former friend and a Man - wether I desired such treatment - but probable I should have been silent, for some time with my Situation, had the anonymous, not given me the Challenge - so as to continue my tale, with that truth, and simplicity as I began; --- it was first against my Sentiments, nay even unliberal to hand in print verbal Conversations, or letters, but under the present Circumstances, I am inforced to those means, not only to myself, but to my Family, Noble since the year 1227. and created Barons in the year 1618. but likewise to my Country --- it will the same time strengthen my Arguments by the Copies I hold of those Documents, belonging to my History and to prevent an Intrusion on the Public, who in some measure becomes

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22228

becomes acquainted, of the different Situations in which I have been placed
and tends rather as a Prologue—

But Sir to make you further acquainted with my Grievances is first
of all the world in general thinks, that I have heaped up great riches
in England, and hardly can suppose that by my Employments I have
wasted my own Fortune of 15,000 Prussian Dollars— In the year
1802. an offer came to me from H. H. H. the Duke of Cumberland, to
serve in his Regiment, I then explained with Frankness my Situation
as the same offer was made to me by H. H. H. the Prince Regent that
my Income would not enable me, to stand the Expences of a British
Cavalry Regiment, when H. H. H. the Prince was most graciously pleased to
promise verbally and in writing Dated Brighton 10th September, 1802—
that I should receive a Salary in addition to my pay, of which
Colonel Siegh. Quentin, General Stompish, M^r Lindemann, all
are acquainted with— I had to wait 10 months in London
on my own Expence before I was gazetted, in the 10th Light
Dragoons, and the last resources from my Native Country were
drained for the use of my new Equipment, true it is

I received from

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110

From H. R. H. the Prince: a Sabertash and Chabraques, which in some measure assisted me. In the year 1803 my name was entered in the list of Equerres for the Stable Department, I received on the Month Septemb: 1805 the promised Salary for the first time.

In the Year 1810 I returned to Portugal, with H. R. H. the Princes leave, and gracious promise, of always receiving my Salary, and which was paid till February 1812, from that period up to the time when I was Dismissed on the 8th Novemb^r 1817. the whole was stopped, the Enquiries I made concerning it brought a Conversation about betwixt you, and a most Illustrious Person, - and no reason was assigned why I should loose a gift which I had reasons to think was permanent. I leave it to your own feelings and Decision whether I am intitled to the fullfilling of a promise from H. R. H. the Prince or not. - - - may I cannot think that the Generous minded Prince when he becomes acquainted with my Situation, will withhold that trifle, which to an unfortunate man is called a great Sum, and who above all has lost his Benevolence through and in Disgrace of a Party, all that is left to me

Satisfactory //

Satisfactory is that I was judged with Impartiality and stand clear of all Imputations, and my Inouciant could prove no facts, and the whole crime rested on presumption. —

On other Circumstances you will give me leave to bring to your mind the time when I was employed in writing different military Instructions for Light Troops — and Improvements on fire Arms — the publishing of it, was prohibited to me, when at the same time other persons derived advantage from it, so that my Remuneration fell to nothing — were the translation was paid out of my own pocket, all I had were presents as a mark of Satisfaction and as flattering and highly esteemed, these presents were, and the grateful remembrance the at all times were to me of the high Donor, still little I did imagine that a time would come to be brought to that Crisis as to part with them for my very Existence, such however was the case Sir, at that juncture of time to support nature, and content myself for the most valued one with a Loan of 32. Dollars or £. 4 — this I remark to you only Sir as a proof of the Fortune I made in England —

to conclude in laying frankly and openly my case before you I now
humbly sollicite your advice, and rests with you Sir wether you will
take my Claims in Consideration, before I take a step to the
Ministers of England, for their Decision, I grand however my
hopes on your proffered Friendships, and call back to my Remembrance
the time with pleasure and Satisfaction, when I became of some
utility to your friend Sir W^m Congreve by your desire particu-
larly after the Bombardment of Copenhagen, and his very flattering
letters are now in my Possession — the same shall come from my
Pen to praise your generous Interference by a high and gracious
Prince, whose past favours will indear him to me the last
moment of my life — — —

Excuse my Intrusion on your patience in perusing this
Letter and believe me to be with Respect.

Sir

Your obedient humble Servant.
Frid^{ch} Baron Eben —
Hopfen Markt. N^o. 68 Hamburg
or under Cover. To J. W. Stäcker Esq^r
Post-Secretair at Hamburg