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The Prince Regent
(Copy)

Letter to the Earl
Bathurst

7th Dec: 1819

(Extension of the
Order of the Bath)

My dear Lord

When I first
contemplated the present
extension of the Order of
the Bath, my desire
was strictly to avoid all
Political Considerations.

Lord Liverpool happen-
ing to have an Audience
of me, I named my
intention to Him; men-
tioning the Individuals
whose Characters and
Professional Merits
appeared to me to point
them out as proper and
fit persons for this mark

of

of Royal Favor.

After a full consideration of the subject contained in your last Letter, I confess myself quite at a loss how to give the magnitude of importance, which your Lordship is disposed to give, to the Heart-burnings and Disappointments which the measure in question, as you state, cannot fail to create.

On the contrary, I am of opinion that the measure itself is calculated to heal those deep wounds

which

have been inflicted upon
a most deserving and
meritorious Class of Officers,
the Services of whom
have not only been by the
late Regulations neglected
and shut out from this
reward, but I grieve to
add, have almost been
insulted; And it is to this
meritorious Class of Officers that
my honor now stands committed.

With respect to the
modern Rules and
Regulations that I was,
in the hurry of the whole
proceeding, induced to
adopt in the year 1815.
they formed a severity
of

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of Code that did not
leave me the power of
alteration in any of its
principles; yet, I had
scarcely sanctioned those
positive enactments before
I was desired to dispense
with them, in favor of cases
for whose Merits I entertained
an high consideration,
and which dispensation
I most willingly granted.
I cannot however avoid
observing that these
Enactments have since
proved to be both em-
=barrassing and objectionable.

Upon the further names
that have been submitted

To me, I defer making
my decision at present,
feeling strongly that the
intermixture of the
Government in this measure
is an infringement of the
Statutes, and only admissible
with reference to the
portion of Grants Croppes
which have been set
apart for Political Civil
Service.

(Signed)

George P. R.

The Earl Bathurst

