

A.A.  
No. 795

L<sup>d</sup> Castlereagh  
3<sup>d</sup> March 1820

Dispatch from Prince  
Metternich relative to  
the Queen.

22427-8

Private

North Croft Farm

3 March at night  
1820

Dear Sir

I have perused with great attention the enclosed  
Dispatch, dated the 14<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>r</sup> from Count Brunster, & that  
your Majesty has been graciously pleased to send me, & I have  
in obedience to your Majesty's commands transmitted the same  
under a secret cover to Baron Best.

If I did not know the entire confidence, with which  
Prince Metternich is so fully disposed at all times, to  
treat Count Brunster, should partake the full extent of  
your Majesty's Charms, at this seeming disclosure of a fact,  
so pregnant with danger to the King's Safety, as well as  
interests. but I still nourish the hope, that the Communication  
has not extended beyond the sphere of your Majesty's

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Inedible Servants at Vienna, and whatever may be  
 the hazard, which this most violent Inquisition (to describe  
 it in the mildest Terms,) may involve, I still feel persuaded  
 that your Majesty has applied to the only salutary Consequence  
 of such the Case admitted, and as your Majesty's Sentiments  
 will inevitably reach Court Ministers, as the Natural Consequence  
 of the Confidence to which he has already been admitted, it  
 does not occur to me, that any further Step can be taken by  
 your Majesty to avert the evil Consequences, that may flow  
 from the false Hope already made.

It is impossible not strongly to participate in  
 the force of the Remarks, which your Majesty has made, that  
 Court Ministers treat of this Matter, as of any ordinary  
 Diplomatick Business. I. Inthornick seems also insensible  
 to the peculiar Character of danger that belongs to this. (Perkett's  
 touches the Point, but all contented, as a matter almost of  
 Course, the Intension of this overture to the almost absence of the  
 Alliance. It is also curious to Permark, that whilst Prince

the throne  
 fitly  
 not to be  
 fully  
 I should  
 the Justice  
 "de cette  
 "better  
 "de se  
 "que son  
 "France  
 Princes  
 of all the  
 Servant  
 much  
 of France  
 which  
 To present  
 of  
 danger  
 at the  
 fourteen

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L<sup>d</sup> Castlereagh  
3<sup>d</sup> March 1820

Dispatch from Prince  
Metternich relative to  
the Queen.

Certain Persons com-  
mitted for High Treason

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Metternich is desirous of your Majesty's Servants the  
 fitness of an instruction to the aforesaid Ministers at Paris,  
 not to recognize without reference to their Courts as bankers  
 Italy, to appear beyond all doubt. That he had himself drafted a  
 identical <sup>without writing for the Chamber of my Council</sup>  
 the instruction to Baron Bunsen, (but hundred suppression is "L'Objet  
 "de cette demande est atteinte par l'Instruction que le Prince  
 "Metternich venoit de donner la veille au Baron de Bunsen,  
 "de ne pas se presenter a la Cour dans le cas suppose, a fin  
 "que son Gouvernement ne soit compromise d'aucune  
 "maniere, avant que d'avoir pu se prononcer" When your  
 Majesty reflects how very little the aforesaid Minister at Paris,  
 of all men, was likely to fall into a error, which as I told you  
 would have done, or could forget, you will perceive that either  
 much severity of conduct, or intrigue in the internal politics  
 of France, must be mixed up in this whole transaction,  
 which renders it the more incumbent on your Majesty,  
 to preserve the guarded position, which you have taken  
 up, and which can have but a very small  
 dangerous with a clear & intelligible case.

I came here today to a late dinner after the despatch  
 at the Council office were closed - We have committed finally  
 fourteen of the prisoners for High Treason, & three are

remanded for further Examination. Against nine of those  
of those committed for the Treason, there are also Warrants  
of detention for Wilful Murder, and some are charged  
in addition under Lord Ellesboroughs Act, with maliciously  
shooting. It is intended to submit to your Majesty the  
proceedings of trying the whole before a Special Commission  
with the least practicable delay - as the Treason will be  
the Cause first to be gone into, being in every view the most  
momentous, this concerned, that with the utmost Expedition  
the same cannot be gone through, so as to admit of the  
Trials being brought on in less than a month or five  
Weeks - This Interval will I trust enable me, with your  
Majesty's permission, to pay my duty to my Constituents,  
and to fulfil the Trust my Father had joined on me of the Society  
of Parliament, if my being permitted to pay them a short visit  
I submit this Plan for your Majesty's gracious Consideration  
with the least Hesitation, as that for the next 3 or 4  
Weeks neither the State of Things at Paris, nor the Question of  
the Princeps can be ripe for any further deliberation -  
The important Question of the Civil List will also admit

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without inconvenience of this interval, as the details  
 are under preparation, upon which the arrangements will be  
 to be framed - My purpose would then be fixed to set out  
 and return as soon as possible, and with this view, it is my  
 intention, if you please, with permission, to set off for  
 Ireland on Monday morning, and to return by the  
 9<sup>th</sup> of April after my journey would necessarily be a joyful  
 thank, Lady C. (who interests herself to offer her  
 dutiful respects to your Majesty) will remain in charge  
 of the Family Affairs till my return.

The severity of the few last days has been  
 such, as to make Lady C. and myself deeply anxious  
 for your Majesty's health, and to wish we could  
 induce you to see to learn before I take my departure  
 that your Majesty's Recovery has received no check  
 from these most piercing attacks -

I remain Sir

with the utmost deference and attachment  
 your Majesty's  
 most humble

The French Mail was  
 yesterday is not yet  
 arrived

and faithful  
 Subject and Servant  
 C. Ker

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly a letter or document.]*