

Extract of a Letter from a General<sup>(4)</sup>  
Officer Com<sup>d</sup> on a Foreign Station, to  
M<sup>rs</sup> John Macdonald - dated

3<sup>d</sup> December 1830

35992-3

"I agree most decidedly  
with You, on the subject of  
Corporal Punishment: It  
is strange to me that People  
talk so much of the disgrace  
of the Punishment, and  
never advert to the disgrace  
of the Crime. I have had,  
during the last Six Years,  
Two Regiments under my  
Command, where Corporal  
Punishment was not  
practised; - they were not  
trust worthy out of the  
Barrack Yard: More Crimes  
were committed than in  
other Corps; and when I  
found that the plan had  
completely failed, the  
old System was adopted,  
and they are now in as  
good



good a state of Discipline  
as any Battalion. I hate  
the Punishment as much  
as any Man, but without  
it the Discipline of the Army  
cannot be maintained.  
I speak from Experience  
and Conviction; by it the  
Punishment of Death may  
be avoided; without it you  
must have recourse to Death  
to support the Discipline of  
your Army."

There is no humbug in this  
Garrison: it is indeed excellent.  
The Men are happy and  
contented, and so they  
will remain till innovation  
makes them otherwise. -  
I have good Commanding  
Officers, and this is the great  
secret for preserving the  
efficiency of the Army. -







35993

*Joseph Humm*

*Richard*