

Windsor Castle April 4. 1833

Private

My dear Lord Duke,

I was honored yesterday afternoon with your Grace's very important Letter on the Subject of the alteration in the Mutiny Act which there appeared reason to apprehend and I am certain that I need not assure you that I took the earliest opportunity of submitting it to the King with the Memorandum of the 4th March 1832, for which I had, in the mean time, sent to Lord Fitzroy Somerset.

That I have at all times felt most sensibly the value and the importance of your Grace's opinions on all Questions connected with Military Regulation and Discipline, and been ready to subscribe to them, would be merely acknowledging that difference which is due from every Man who feels
for

for the character and credit of the Military
Profession and which is more desired
than I am to pay to the Individual who
has been the distinguished instrument
of raising both in this Country to their
unparalleled height. But I am happy to
be able to shew also by Documents which I
have the honor to enclose, that I have
not been, in the Situation which I now
hold, an indifferent or idle observer of
the attempts made to destroy the beautiful
Fabric, for the perpetuation of which the
Country is indebted chiefly to the
unwearied and able exertions of the late
Duke of York and of Your Grace. These
Documents, which the King has ordered me
to communicate to you, with His assurance
of Mr. Charles's for the warm and zealous
interest which you continue to take in
the credit and the welfare of the Army
and

and in its Influence on the Security and Prosperity of the State, will prove also how anxiously His Majesty enters into the Subject and how decidedly He concurs in your view of it, and in your opinions on the Questions more immediately under discussion -

It is impossible indeed not to be forcibly struck with the weight and the justice of every remark which your Letter and your Memorandum contain, and it is lamentable to think that there should be found any Military Men, especially of experience in the Field and in the Command of Regiments, who are so misled by prejudice, or influenced by Popular Clamour, as to overlook or to treat lightly the considerations which you urge.

Your Grace will observe in my Letter to the Duke of Richmond that even Sir Henry Hardinge was inclined to curtail the Power of the Commanding Officers of Regiments,

and

and to assure you that I had considerable
difficulty in preventing ~~in preventing~~ the
introduction of Provisions to that effect in
his new Version of the Trucking Act -

His Majesty requests your Grace will
consider the communication of His own
Letters to His Ministers to be made to you
confidentially and for yourself only - It may
be satisfactory to you that I should add
that Lord Grey appears quite disposed to
enter into our view of the Question - In a
Letter to me of the 20th March he says that he
wishes to avoid, if possible, the agitation of
the Question of limiting the power of
inflicting Corporal Punishment which, if
any thing is proposed upon it, requires the
greatest caution, and that he has no
hesitation in adding that the Change
which has been suggested is one to which,
as at present advised, he sees very strong
objection. In a Letter of the 29th he says
that

That, after writing the above, he had read
my letter to the Duke of Wellington, that it had
confirmed his opinion of the inadmissibility
of the proposed alterations in the Trusting
Bill and that he had settled with Lord
Althorp that they should not be proposed.
That the objection on account of the difference
made between Foreign and Home Service,
if there were no other, would of itself be quite
decisive -

Must therefore that the communications
made this day to Lord Grey and Lord Althorp
will have the desired effect -

I have the honor

to be

(Signed) H. Taylor

His Grace

The Duke of Wellington K.G.

to be

to be

Copy

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To the Duke of Wellington

Paris 4 1803

In Reply to the General's

Letter of 3^d instant

The Appendix to the

in the History of