

Private

Windsor Castle April 6. 1833

My dear Lord St. Ro^y,

I enclose for your kind add
With information a letter which I received
on Wednesday from the Duke of Wellington
and which by the King's Order I communicated
on the following day with his Grace's ~

Memorandum of 4th March 1832 to Lord
Grey - He replied to the Duke of Wellington
and sent him copies of my recent correspondence
with the Duke of Richmond, the substance
of Lord Grey's communications and the copy
of a very strong letter, which His Majesty
wrote on the 1st instant also to Lord Grey -

The King has since seen Lord Brougham,
and I have conversed at length with his
Lordship and with Mr. Milner on the
subject, there has also been some further

h. Grattan
and Sir J. Grey Somerset K.C.B.

correspondence

correspondence with Lord Grey and Lord
Wharton -

The result is a positive conviction of the
importance which Lord Grey and His Colleagues
attach to the retention of Capital Punishment
in the Army and of the Power of Regimental
Courts Martial to award it, and of their
extreme anxiety to obviate the risk of its
being abolished, or rendered absolutely
inefficient towards the due maintenance
of discipline in our Army, by a Vote of the
House of Commons -

They therefore urge the necessity of
taking advantage of the State in which
the question was left by Mr. Francis
Burdett's amendment to James' Motion
and of the interval before Parliament
re-assembles to obtain the consideration
and opinion of the Military authorities
with

with respect to the framing of some Article
of War or Instruction which may regulate
the Power of Courts Martial, so as to avoid the
threatened danger -

His Majesty concludes that Lord Grey has
communicated with Lord Hill on this
suggestion which appears to him reasonable
and, under all circumstances, the most
advisable that could be offered, and His
Majesty considers that the subject might
be brought under the consideration of the
Board which is now sitting for the revision
of the Field Movements and Exercise with
directions to consult with the Duke of
Wellington, the Secretary at War and the
Judge Advocate General - The advantage
of this proceeding would be that the
Advocates for the abolition of the Punishment
could not accuse you of having packed a
Board for this purpose, there happening
at

at this period to be one assembled for
another important object, and therefore,
from character and experience, deserving of
confidence. - You would also avoid delay
which is a material point as you have
only the ensuing week to determine
upon what shall meet the evil.

It has occurred to me that it might
be desirable to add Hardinge and Sir
Sarper Niels to the Board and to strike
off the Members who are below the
Bank of Mr. General - I recollect right
Sir George Murray the President -
But of course there are all points to be
determined at the Horse Guards and
you must forgive me for freely offering
suggestions upon a subject on which I
take no interest - an Interest -

Ever Your affec^{ly}

(Signed) W Taylor p.s.

P.S. April 7.

I have received this morning a letter from the Duke of Wellington in which he notices the communication from Lord Vill of the proposal made by Lord Grey. His Majesty will be anxious to learn what steps Lord Vill has taken and his view of this important question —

John. S. Thomas

Phil. b. No. 33

In Several Considerments

in the Army in

communicating the late

Washington's death

to the General

Intelligence of recent

Communications with the

Government or the

Capt. A.