

Mr. Pigott to Cape Breton
8th Oct. 1789.

Letter from
Pigot Sol. Gen.

38508

East. Bourse Thursday 8
Oct. 1789.

Dear Sir,

Your obliging letter conveying to me his Royal Highness's permission to gratify my curiosity by looking at the National Assembly having this day come to hand, I mean in the afternoon to proceed from hence in my way to Dover.

I have always doubted the legality of Lord Elliot's appointment; but to form any opinion on which any reliance could be placed it will be necessary to look at the acts of Parliament enabling the Crown to administer the affairs of the Duchy of Cornwall, as well as to examine the extent of its powers ^{over the Duchy} when there is no Duke of Cornwall; and to inspect the grant to Lord Elliot, and to know whether it was made after the birth and during the minority of his Royal Highness, or before his Royal Highness was born. I shall be in London at the latest in three weeks from this day, when it will be easy to collect this information & to communicate more at large with you upon the subject.

With respect to the other question, though I doubt whether his Royal Highness can grant an office ^{to go} to bind his successor, I think there can be no doubt that his Royal Highness may grant an office of which one is in possession from the time it lawfully becomes vacant, and that such a grant will have effect, provided the vacancy happens during the life of his Royal Highness, and will then last de jure during his life, and perhaps de facto after it; as his successor might be as little

from to question the act of his Royal Highness as he has been
to question that of his Royal Father with respect to the grant to do
Elliot.

I am, Dear Sir, with great respect,
Yours most faithfully
A. Piggott.