

H.R.H. to the Queen - Draft.

40069-70

My dear Mother,

The eighteenth of January has not
passed without my endeavouring to express
a lay at your feet, those good wishes which
a truly attached & much devoted Son, must
ever in the most lively sense feel, for a
~~most~~ ^{revere} ~~respected~~, & much beloved Parent.

All your Children who are blessed with
seeing you on that day can not help feeling
the same, but none can with more truth
or fervency wish you to enjoy many happy
returns of that day ^{for} a long series of years
than myself, & who though unfortunately
absent ~~will~~ ^{at least like so} not I believe you will doubt
that Justice, be that one that will feel
the least. And after the ^{expected} all comforts which have

so unjustly & so cruelly

been ~~so~~ ^{so} ~~respectfully~~ made of late, not only to wound
my feelings & honor as a man, but to degrade
& ruin me both as a ^{Prime} ~~Prime~~ ^{Officer} ~~man~~ in the
eyes ~~of~~ ^{of} my own country, ^{as well} ~~and~~ of Europe
at large, by depriving me of my ^{services} & a ^{deserving} ~~deserving~~
military command at this crucial crisis
to our nation, & the removal of my Regiment
at this peculiar juncture from the advanced
Post of the Army; so circumstanced, it is
impossible for me to appear in a place
where my presence can not but be disagreeable
to those, who notwithstanding their conduct to
me, it is still my duty to respect. I cannot
help ^{expressing an ardent wish} ~~to~~ ^{to} you as a Mother, that those with whom
I stand so nearly connected, had treated me
with the same degree of paternal affection
which I will defy even the malice of my

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greatest enemies, not to acknowledge, I have
^{never} ~~been~~ wished to testify to all the younger
branches of my family. I am sorry
to mix any complaints with congratulations
to you, but my heart is so full & so sincere
that neither feeling, nor candour, will permit
me to be entirely silent, on a ^{subject} ~~subject~~, which
has given me more pain, than any other
event which has ~~been~~ ~~afflicted~~ ~~during~~ ~~the~~
~~course~~ of my life. ^{to give an opinion upon a question} ~~to give an opinion upon a question~~
^{to you, so} ~~of this~~ delicate nature ~~will~~ ~~must~~ ~~give~~ ~~you~~
too much pain, therefore I hope you will not
trouble yourself, farther than ^{an} ~~that~~ acknowledgment,
~~that~~ the letter ~~has~~ ~~not~~ ~~been~~ ~~received~~.

40080

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

The Prince of Wales
to
The Queen

January 16th 1802