

H. H. to Lord North

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Windsor Castle Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 1780.

From the moment I received, from Lord North the Accounts as far as they could be ascertained, of the Establishments of my late Father, as well as those when I was placed under the care of Governors, and afterwards the one that took place when I attained the age of eighteen, I have been examining them, and finding the last Establishment not so exact as my remembrance dictated, it might be stated; I ordered M<sup>r</sup>. Matthias to prepare a Copy of that Establishment and an Abstract of the Accounts of my late Treasurer during that period, of which I enclose Copies for L<sup>d</sup>. North; I then considered that in Addition to my Eldest Son's Establishment I must furnish the incidental Expenses to my Second Son's travelling and education, and the taking the three oldest boys now in the Nursery and placing them with Men, this I felt would require much deliberation, the result of which I will now fully state.

My late Father when he came to England was near twenty two consequently of age, yet his number of Attendants was not very numerous, even this cannot be looked upon as an exact rule for me to follow, for my Son is only eighteen, and though by Law he would be of age if it should please the Almighty to put a period to my life before he attains the age of twenty one, that event not happening he can only be in a middle State between Childhood and Manhood

besides

besides it is ever better that Persons should feel that their situations will by degrees improve, and particularly Young persons; it is by launching them all at once in the World and not being properly guided, that the Youth of this Country turn out so little to their own credit, or the advantage of the State.

I have therefore in this view formed an honorable Establishment and given my Son for Robes and Privy Purse the exact Sum I had; His Stables will be more expensive in point of Saddle Horses I keep at that time but four, He will have sixteed; but by appointing a Groom of the Stole instead of a Master of the Horse a set of Horses and two footmen are diminished which alone attend that Officer in the first Establishment of my late Father. As my Son will live in my House He cannot have any Occasion for those Servants necessary only if He kept House; I have also wished to keep his number of Attendants as moderate at first as possible, yet it is similar as much as the different natures will admit of, to the first Establishment of my late Father; the difficulty I find of having persons whose private conduct I think may with safety be placed about a young Person is not surprising as I thank Heaven my Morals and course of life have but little resembled those too prevalent in the present Ages, and certainly of all objects in this life the one I have most at heart, is to form my Children that they may be useful examples and worthy of imitation; I shall therefore <sup>be</sup> scrupulous as to the private lives of those I place about my Son, though in other cases

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H. E. to Ld. North

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I never wish to be informed, unless of those great enormities that must make every man of principles shun the company of such persons; but in the case of my Children my happiness as well as the good of the Public is materially concerned in this investigation.

Lord North seemed to insinuate that if the whole Additional Expence of my Children did not exceed £30,000. He thought the Money could be found; I have tried to keep it to £20,000. because from the very numerous family I have, it is impossible to lodge them, and I must make some Alterations for that purpose in the Wings of the Queen's House. St. James's is so full that I cannot place any more of them there; besides I find the placing them in different habitations a great additional expence, as it ever occasions a great increase of Household Servants. For the present I must from necessity send the three boys I mean to take out of the Nursery to New.

I hope on Wednesday to state to Ld. North the persons I mean to place about my Eldest Son and as a friend not a Minister to hear his opinion before I let any of the parties know my intentions except Ld. Southampton who I intend for Govern of the State, Lieut. Col. Asham as Treasurer, Mr. Lyte as Master of the Robes and Privy Purse, and Lieut. Col. Lakes as first Equerry and Commis'sioner of the Stables.

When the Establishment takes place I shall appoint the D. of Montagu Master of the Horse in the room of the D. of Northumberland his behaviour whilst he has had the care of my Children entitles him to my warmest regard.

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is mostly obscured by water damage and fading.]*

*Mr. [illegible]*

*of [illegible]*

*Edinburgh*