

John Joseph Dillon to H.R.H.

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Brighton. St. Stephens. 3 Aug. 1808.

Sir

Conceiving it possible that your Royal Highness may be desirous of ascertaining the progress made in prosecuting the claims of His Highness the Duke of Sussex, on His Majesty's Government I have thought it my duty to submit to you a report upon that subject.

The letter which your Royal Highness had the kindness to write to His Highness the Duke of Cumberland has of course produced a very considerable impression, as far as I can observe, upon Ministers who are the most inflexible, and the principal difficulty is not so much doubt of the engagement made at a former period, (which after the letter of your Royal Highness can no longer be entertained,) but the apprehension of party dissension, and loss of popularity which might arise at this time from a compliance on the part of the present administrators, unless clearly shown to be merely the performance of a previous promise. With this impression I have sought on my side to facilitate the operations of Ministers by an endeavour to fix in every manner the administration of Lord Sidmouth, with the arts



of Lord Boply, and in this view I have made  
an excursion to Tunbridge wells, and had a  
conference with Mr Bawittant. As far as it went  
it was of a most satisfactory nature, and he has  
referred me to Lord Sidmouth and Mr Foley  
Addington. I have also been anxious to fix that  
administration in every possible way, in order to  
prevent any unnecessary mention in the house of  
Commons of Your Royal Highness. Previously however  
to seeing Lord Sidmouth on the business, I have thought  
it my duty to ascertain the pleasure of Your Royal  
Highness whether such a step should be adopted.

There is another matter of great delicacy  
and importance, to which I consider it also my  
duty towards the Royal family, and even towards  
the Duke of Sussex himself, to submit to the conside-  
ration of Your Royal Highness. I think the money



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will be obtained, but every true friend of H. R. H.  
must wish that it should be properly applied - by trustees -  
- and in discharge of debts incurred previously to the  
present year. I have reason to fear that other persons  
about H. R. H.  
have a view to a different application, the consequence  
of which would be that all the kind exertions of Your  
Royal Highness and the Royal family would be frustrated  
and the allowance of the claim would operate  
greater mischiefs than advantages. This is a matter  
of such delicacy that I am confident Your Royal  
Highness will see the importance of it, and also  
the necessity of its appearing that any restraint  
upon the application of this money should not have  
proceeded from myself. The difficulty will be how  
to accomplish this salutary and I fear necessary  
restraint.

With many apologies for this intrusion I  
have the honor to be with profound respect

Sir  
Your Royal Highness's  
most humble &  
devoted servant  
John Joseph Dilloa.



20118

John Jay & Dutton

2<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> 1000.