

London August 30. 1810.

R. Lorentz

To the Elector of Hesse,

About a fortnight previous, to the 18<sup>th</sup> July, the day I had the honor of receiving your Highness's most gracious letter dated the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, I wrote a note to the Secretary of State Marquis Wellesley requesting an Interview. but received no answer. after the Receipt of your Highness's letter I again applied in writing to that nobleman for a speedy audience but was disappointed ~~once~~ more by remaining without a Reply. Mr. Bulling Smith the under Secretary of State, told me however, that the Marquis had for some <sup>time</sup> past enjoyed but an indifferent state of health - and that, besides, he was then overloaded with official Business - but that His Excellency would appoint a day for an Interview with me as soon as possible. In this state of suspense I remained till about a fortnight ago, when, quite unexpectedly I received an Invitation from the Marquis to dine with him the day before yesterday, or, more correctly speaking, to sup with him for it was near 8 o'clock when we sat down to dine. The whole Corps diplomatique -  
not



not now very numerous, was present. The  
marquis informed me himself that his  
bad state of health had hitherto prevented him  
from conversing with me upon the subjects  
which I had submitted to his Under Secretary  
of State on the 3<sup>d</sup> of May last - That he was  
not yet sufficiently acquainted with the  
nature of them, but that as soon as his  
health was reestablished by a few weeks  
residence in the Country. he would have the  
whole Business explained to him and then  
fix a day for an Interview. I urged the marquis  
as much as circumstances would permit, to  
interest himself in the subject and to come to  
a speedy decision - but I did not think it  
advisable to enter more into detail, being  
anxious to touch upon the other far more  
important point viz His Majesty's Letter  
of the 15.<sup>th</sup> July 1807. the desired Extract from  
which Your Highness was graciously pleased  
to communicate to me in Your Letter of the  
7.<sup>th</sup> June last. Having patiently waited till  
the rest of the Company had retired, I availed  
myself of that opportunity to represent to  
The



the marquis in most vivid Colours the strong  
hope entertained by Your Highness of the Future  
and at the same Time gave him the Extract  
from His Majesty's Letter - His Excellency -  
listned to me very attentively and with great  
good will - he likewise read the Extract with  
that care which its Import merits, but finally  
assured me that he was firmly persuaded -  
the words underlined "Et mon desir constant"  
contained no other than their literal sense;  
that they implied no obligation whatever on  
the part of Great Britain, to conclude no peace  
unless those hopes and Expectations were -  
realised; and that His Britannic Majesty  
himself had it not in his power to contract  
such an obligation without the previous  
express and unanimous consent of the two  
Houses of Parliament. I regret exceedingly  
that the opinion of the marquis Wellesley  
upon this head is not more consolatory, but  
in the present conjuncture I did expect such  
an answer - I trust however that should -  
Circumstances alter a very different answer  
will be returned; but I know from Experience  
that it is not possible here to make them declare  
what



what they intend to do in Future, and I am firmly convinced that it will be most proper not to say any <sup>thing</sup> more upon this subject for the present.

marquis Wellesley, I hear, is going to the Coast to use the sea bath, and that he will be absent two months.

on the 3<sup>d</sup> of may last I presented to the Under Secretary of State a letter for the marquis, a copy of which I have the honor to enclose; It was accompanied by the Items of our pecuniary claims clasped under seven heads, each of which was explained in a long memorial. I did every thing in my power to draw from the old and new Treaties, proof of the equity and Fairness of the claims now brought forward. I have stated the whole case to the marquis in a letter, in which at the same time I painted in strong Colours Your Highnesss peculiar Situation - I also requested his Excellency to Judge of the principles which form the Basis of each head - by the Treaties themselves, and after having formed a conclusion to lay his opinion before the Lords of the Treasury  
but



but hitherto, as I have already had the honor to report to your Highness, I have not learned the result - Want of Room prevents me from stating the heads at large - I shall therefore take the liberty to communicate to your Highness a brief abstract: Under the 1<sup>st</sup> head is comprind the value of the officers Bagage lost, £ 7500.15. an Item which had been struck out of the general account of Extraordinaries; likewise the expence occasion'd by the cure of wounded officers £ 214. 13. Head the second, again - brings forward the claim for meat, hitherto - refused - £ 3. 738. 13. 6. Under the third Head I have urged once more the payment of Bankers Commission £ 991. Head the fourth contains a claim of £ 7428. 2. 8. being the difference between the English pay of the superior officers of the Field Hospital - and the dutch pay as was granted. Under Head V. I claim the sum of £ 2253. 15. being the amount of allowance due for Forage to the Hessian officers that were in the Isle of wight in 1794. Art VI. contains an Estimate of the Interest due conformably to the strict sense of the old Treaties. The subsidies having been paid much later than was expressly stipulated -

The -



the whole sum amounts to £ 84.171. 12. 2.  
The 7<sup>th</sup> and last Head contains a claim for £44835.  
this sum arises from the circumstance that  
the Russian officers in 1793. 4. 5. did not  
obtain from the Kings magazines their allowance  
in kind of Bread and Forage - though it was  
expressly stated in the orders published by the  
Hanoverian government that such allowance  
was due to our officers: The Injustice of this  
refusal is the more apparent as the Hanoverian  
officers did actually receive in 1795, the amount  
of the difference occasioned by the circumstance  
of Bread and Forage not being delivered in kind -  
all these Items united form the sum of  
£ 151.134. 2.

Whether I shall be fortunate enough  
to recover any part of the above sum, and  
when - It is impossible for me to say; for the  
difficulties which attend the liquidation of  
old claims increase daily - and the expenses  
arising from the continuation of the war are  
enormous. I shall however, do all I can to  
bring about a favorable result for Your Highness.  
In this place I humbly beg leave to make  
a



a few observations upon the seventh Head -  
 Should Your Highness be so fortunate as to recover  
 the whole amount of that sum or even but a  
 part of it - it will be owing to me solely, for  
 were it not for me nobody here would ever have  
 discovered that we had a lawful right to that  
 sum - In the year 1795, at a period when  
 I had not the honor of being in Your Highness's  
 service I was closely connected with Brooke  
 Watson and had an opportunity of seeing  
 things behind the curtain and impressing upon  
 my memory amongst many other facts, that  
 upon the said claim is now founded - This  
 knowledge I obtained at Bremen. The Hanoverians  
 at that time made a profound secret of the  
 Circumstance

With respect to His Royal Highness the  
 Prince of Wales my hopes are not increased -  
 nor have I any certainty that your Highness's  
 so considerable and just claim will soon  
 be discharged or at least diminished, I must  
 even confess that I cannot discover much  
 good will in the Prince of Wales - and that  
 his conduct towards Your Highness is such,  
 upon the whole, as justly to excite your  
 indignation - I have consequently sketched  
 a letter



a letter to Mr. Wm Adams, of which I have the honor to enclose a copy - but this letter I shall not deliver unless I have your Highness's order to that effect, though I must observe that nothing here is so much dreaded as the liberty of the press.

after much pressing application His Royal Highness the Duke of York paid me on the 6<sup>th</sup> of last month £729. 3. 4. Thus the 5<sup>th</sup> part of the principal and interest is actually discharged - I still employ the policy to give hopes in that quarter that your Highness may be induced to lend a fresh sum, though I would never advise such a step -

Lorentz -