

Enclosure.

Windsor March 5th 1812

My Dear Brother

Your invariable kindness to me from my earliest infancy and the affectionate interest with which you have ever attended to my concerns, when I have had an opportunity of conversing confidentially with you, calls upon me more particularly to address you now, on the subject which dwells so much upon my mind and from which you alone can relieve me.

You will recollect that on the Kings birthday 1808 we had an hour of very serious conversation after dinner, in which I took an opportunity of disclosing to you the Secret of my Heart. You kindly said that you had often remarked a gloom on my countenance, which you were certain proceeded from some secret cause of anxiety, and therefore had thought it more delicate not to notice it to me. Most kind and most delicate indeed was your conduct, and the impression it made upon my mind will ever be indelible. Until that day I felt I could not speak to you about it. Had not the object of my affections been then abroad, and that my anxiety for his safety and welfare was fixed to the trial for a second time (with a greater likelihood of his duty retaining him in a foreign country) I do not think I should have spoken upon the subject, but my heart was full of care, I knew you would feel for me, and that idea cheered me!

I also mentioned his noble conduct, in having offered for my sake to give up

His Situation about the King; or at least to prevent His being on the Staff, that He
 might not come too often when we could meet, a circumstance He was aware would be painful
 to us both. But I instructed Him to remember that it was to His Private Worth as well
 as to His Public Services that He owed the being appointed by me to the King; and that it
 was my Duty to exert every Effort not to expose my feelings both for His sake and my own.
 I therefore begged that He would take His regular Annual waiting, and come as seldom as
 He could do at other times consistent with that gratitude, which He must feel for the King's
 marked favour towards Him, and which it was His Duty to testify. To this plan He agreed
 fully, and He has never deviated from this line of conduct. — A third time He was ordered abroad,
 and painful as the thoughts were of our being separated again, it was a mutual consolation
 to us both that you and dear Frederick (to whom I had mentioned it in 1885) were apprized
 of our Attachment for had He fallen, He knew you would have felt for me, and have affection-
 ately soothed my wounded Heart, and I was certain certain that both my kind Brothers
 would have respected and esteemed the Character which had acted in so honorable a manner
 towards your Sister, as He always has done, and have shared His sorrow, and extended
 your friendship to Him, had any thing happened to me whilst He was abroad. —

I now beseech you my Dear Sir to consider our Situation; if it is in your power to make
 us happy I know you will. I am sensible that should you agree to our Union, it can

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only proceed from your affection for me, and your desire of promoting my happiness, and that
of a worthy Man. It is not a fancy taken up suddenly, our acquaintance having existed for
twelve years, and our attachment been mutually acknowledged nine years ago. To you
we look up for our future comfort and peace of mind. Your sanction is what we aspire to!
And as of course it will be necessary to keep it a Secret and that it must be quite a Private
Marriage if you think it more proper in your Situation not to be present at it (which I
need not assure you would be a sad disappointment to us both) I then intrust your per-
mission that Dear David may attend for you. The World if it ever hears of this circumstance
may be astonished, but it cannot blame our conduct, especially when it knows we are sup-
ported and countenanced by my Brothers; nor can it allege any deceit to our behaviour. Our Sen-
timents were of too delicate a Nature for us to make them known, unless at a moment when
we might hope to have our sufferings relieved. Nothing is more repugnant to my Principles
or more contrary to my feelings at all times, than the not acting with Candour to every indi-
vidual, and more particularly as towards my own family, but this was my own secret, and in
no particular can I be my self with having deceived them on this occasion for there is no
duplicity in Secrecy. — Should your answer be favorable to my Heart's Desire and
my nearest wish, then I shall beg of you to have the goodness to name it to the Queen. No con-
sideration in the World (even esteem of all that is Great Your Permission) shall make me

take such a step unknown to Her. Leave it to Her as my Mother, though I am too honest to affect asking for Her consent as it is not necessary. Nor shall the most anxious wish of my Heart ever make me unjust or unreasonable. I am certain the Queen cannot approve, if she merely thinks of my birth and Station, but that is the only reason she can object to it, and I shall never blame Her for it. But when she considers the Character of the Man, the faithfulness and length of our attachment, and the struggles that I have been compelled to make, never retracting from any of my Duties, though suffering Martyrdom from anxiety of Mind, and deprivation of happiness; I am sure she will say long and great has been my trial and exert has been my conduct. — I am certain of the Affection of all my Brothers and Sisters and I love them too much to think that they will oppose my wishes, though they may and with reason too have been better pleased had the Rank of the Person I love and wish to be united to been equal to my own. I shall not speak to them on the Subject as it will be time enough to do so if the Event turns out happily for us. — I give you my honor that no one person knows of my writing this letter, not even them whose face, and whose hopes I please with my own, for I should not wish to cause them one instant of additional anxiety — knowing how many years he has suffered on my account.

These my beloved Brothers are the genuine Sentiments of my Heart. I have nothing to disguise upon the Subject having once named it to you, but I will confess that I am

I am proud of possessing the Affection and good Opinion of an honest Man and of a highly Distinguished Character, and I am sure that what You can do to make us happy You will not leave undone, and I feel confident in making this Request -

Believe me ever my Dearest Brother

Your most truly Affectionate and Gratefull

Augusta

Mr R. G. The
Prince of Wales
London 10/12.