Letters & Papers from
The Duke of York,
Clarence, Gloucester,
Cumberland, Cambridge,
Lord Sidmouth, &c.
Blomfield, Mr Watson
&c &c relative to the
unfortunate
Melancholy Death of
His Royal Highness The Duke
of Kent —

1819 — 20

Mr Turnbull's Report
on Embalming the
Body of His Royal Highness
The Duke of Kent —

Lt. Col. B. Harvey (Pvt. Secy. to D. of Kent) to Lt. Gen. Frederick Augustus Wetherall (Comptroller to Duke of Kent)

Jan 29/1819

you to the Randolphs, Butlers, Wilson, Madwell & Smith Lake, your friends, in Conformity with your Wishes, I beg leave to subscribe myself with the united Regards & best Wishes of Mrs Harvey, they unite for the health & Welfare of Mrs Wetherall, yourself, & your family. My Dear General!

Yours very faithfully

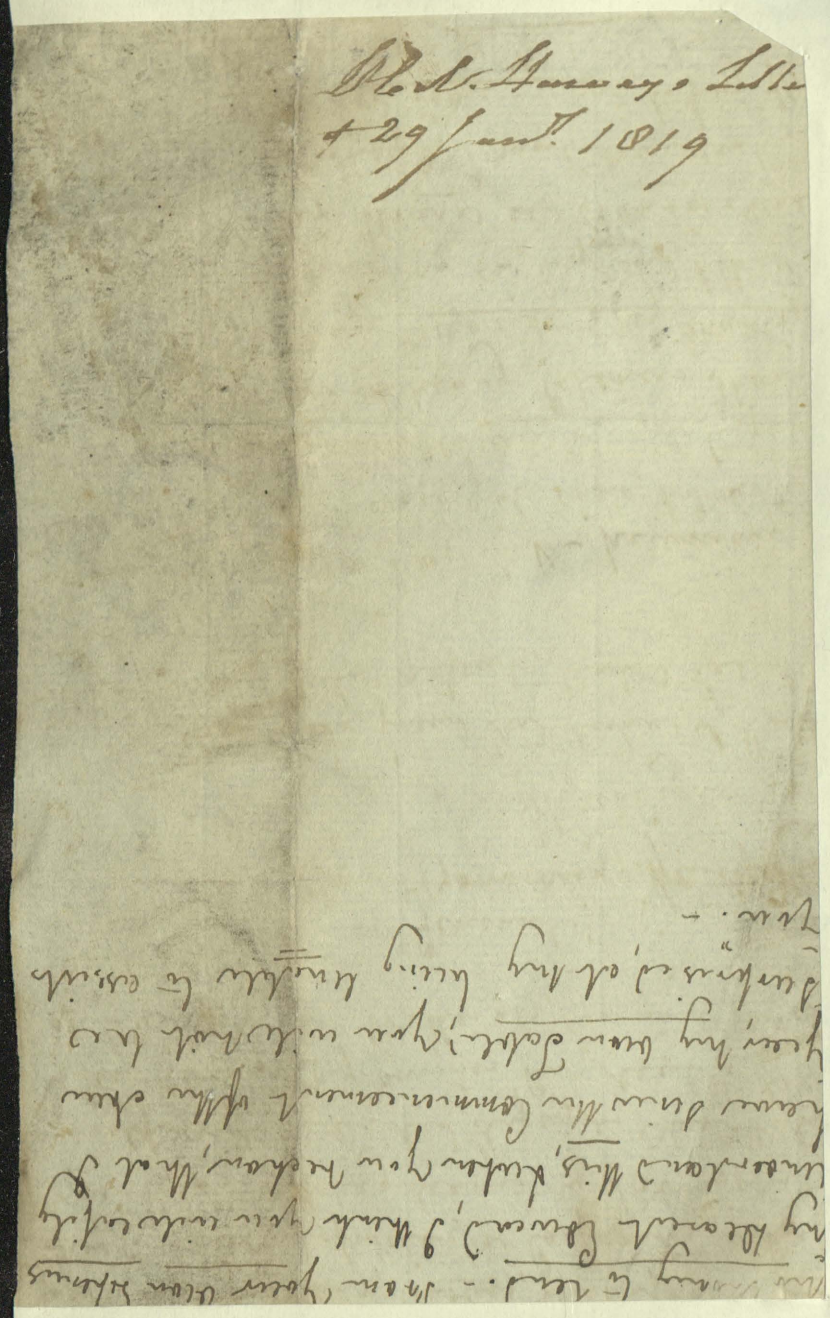
B Harvey.-

Enclosure

Duke of Cambridge to Duke of Kent

Extract of a letter from The Duke of Cambridge, to The Duke of Kent, dated Cassel, 22 Jany 1819.-

"Much Sincerely do I regret the pecuniary "difficulties you have got into, & I wish "it were in my power to be of use to you, "but the Number of heavy Expences I have "had last year on account of my Marriage, "my Journey to, & my Stay in England, & the "additions to my House at Hanover, render "it impossible:- Indeed, I must live with "great Prudence for some years, to pay off "all the Debts I owe, & title that is done, I



Rt. Honble. Lord
Bathurst 29 Jan.y 1819

Duke of Clarence

To Gen. Wetherall

23 Jan. 1820

St. James's.

Sunday Afternoon.

Dear Sir,

You can easily imagine how anxious I must be respecting the anxious state of the Duke of Kent and the Princess. The bulletin of Friday evening at 8 P.M. got I have read with deep concern the letters this day received by the Duke of Portland & Bloomfield from Genoa. I have not yet written because either the Duchess or her Lady have communicated every day with the females at Sidmouth. but my mind is now so seriously interested in the welfare of the Duke I cannot any longer delay writing to you to express my feelings for my love-

-ther and honourably. I wish these events
may have had a salutary wish: I feel I may hope
and trust the poor Duchess of Kent, whose head and heart
have shone on this trying occasion: God grant
she may be rewarded by the recovery of the Duke.
I hope your letter of tomorrow may contain fa-
-vourable news and I remain,

Yours ever affectionately

Adelaide R.

Copy
To Sir Benj. Blomfield
communicating the
Death of H. R. H.
The Duke of Kent

Copy of 46631-2
(but order of
paragraphs altered)

Sidmouth 23rd January 1820

My dear Blomfield

I have now the sad and
melancholy duty of acquainting you, for the
information of His Royal Highness The
Prince Regent, that His Royal Highness
The Duke of Kent breathed his last this
Morning at Four O'Clock after undergoing
a painful struggle during the greater part
of the Night.

I pray you to lay my humble
Duty at the feet of The Prince Regent, & to
say that I await His Royal Highness's Com-
mands for my future guidance upon this
melancholy event. I have however one
request most earnestly to make, which is,
That The Prince will be graciously pleased

to

to present some to continue with the pressure of my Illustrious friend & patron, until the satisfaction as the last duties of friendship & attachment are performed —

The Duchess considering the constant fatigue and anxiety which Her Royal Highness has been subjected to for the last fortnight on the invariable attendance upon the Duke, altho' much exhausted, bears up against the heavy affliction as well as can be expected — The presence of her illustrious Brother the Prince Leopold is a source of much comfort & gratification to Her Royal Highness —

Trusting

Dear Dear Baron Stockmar

Your most obliged

Humble Servant —

F. A. W. Stanhope

Lord Chd

Baron Stockmar

Windsor

F. B. Stockmar Esq

&c &c

Carlton House

Major-General James Moore
(Equerry to Duke of Cent)

No. 8 Berkeley St. 5 o'clock
24 June 20

My Dear Witherall

Half past four o'clock and I have only this instant left the Duke of Lorne – I was at Carlton House this morning at 20 Minutes past 8 was directed to return at half past ten and then waited to see the Regent until a Quarter past twelve with whom I was until half past three o'clock It would be impossible for me

to describe the strong feelings
of affection he shewed, and
the moment I saw the pleasure
of meeting you, I should not
fail to detail the whole
of the conversation, that is of
his conversation, mine as
you may imagine consisted
of only replying - he entered
fully into the whole of the
Duke of Kent's conduct
towards himself, but I
must apprize you with
every feeling of a Brother
he concluded by assuring
me that in every thing you
had acted exactly as you ought
and as he wished, you will
learn all this by his despatch
and every regulation will be
made as you may desire
I impressed upon him the strong
sense of hospitality the poor
late lamented Duke evinced
upon the receipt of Sir H. Bloqt
letter by his command and
told him how sincerely he
commended you to give his
love & kindest regards to H. R. H.
affectionate
and I added remember this all
the Royal Family, as I told the
Duke of Clarence, who shed tears

Genl Moore

and really seemed very much
to feel this. The Regent I
assure you repeatedly burst
into a flood of tears and
I am very greatly mistaken
if he can have a very comfort-
able Night, the choice is
at the Door for Windsor
I shall again write to you
tomorrow — I forgot to tell you
the Prince Regent observed that
he did not think the arrangement
of the Remains of the Princess could
take place before 20 days, but
of this tomorrow — Sir B. Bloomfield
has at that end Money in Lieu Tally
Genl Moore

H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester

Bagshot Park
Jan.y 24th 20

Dear Sir

I seize the earliest opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date which was brought by Mr. General Shaw, and expressing to you the sense the Duchess and myself entertain of your attention to us in immediately notifying to us the truly melancholy event of the death of the Duke of Kent and you will readily imagine how painfully this sad intelligence has affected us. – The Duchess has received this shock as well as I could have expected and I trust I help it with them God that her health should not suffer from her affliction. The Duchess my sister and myself, regard of you to express in the strongest terms to the Duchess of Kent

how warmly and sincerely we felt for her and
we are extremely anxious to hear how she bears this
sad trial — To Prince Leopold We desire Your
best remembrances in the most affectionate
manner; By Tomorrow's Post he should have heard
first as Time is wanting Your letter to Windsor
and having the sad intelligence, it concerning, both
to my sisters.

Believe me
Dear Sir
very sincerely Yours
William Frederick

Thomas 1st Baron

Aske Richmond Yorkshire
24th Jan. 1820

Dear Sir

I have this moment received your Letter, the Contents of which I have so perfectly overcome me that I really do not know what to write in answer, all I can do is to pray to God for a favorable turn in the Duke of Kents illness, I neither can do or say more upon so Melancholy an occasion

Your very faithful
Humble Servant
Dundas

Geo. Wetherall

Lord Dundas

recd 28 Sept. 1820

at Teignmouth

Devonp —

Tuesday 25th Feby. 1820

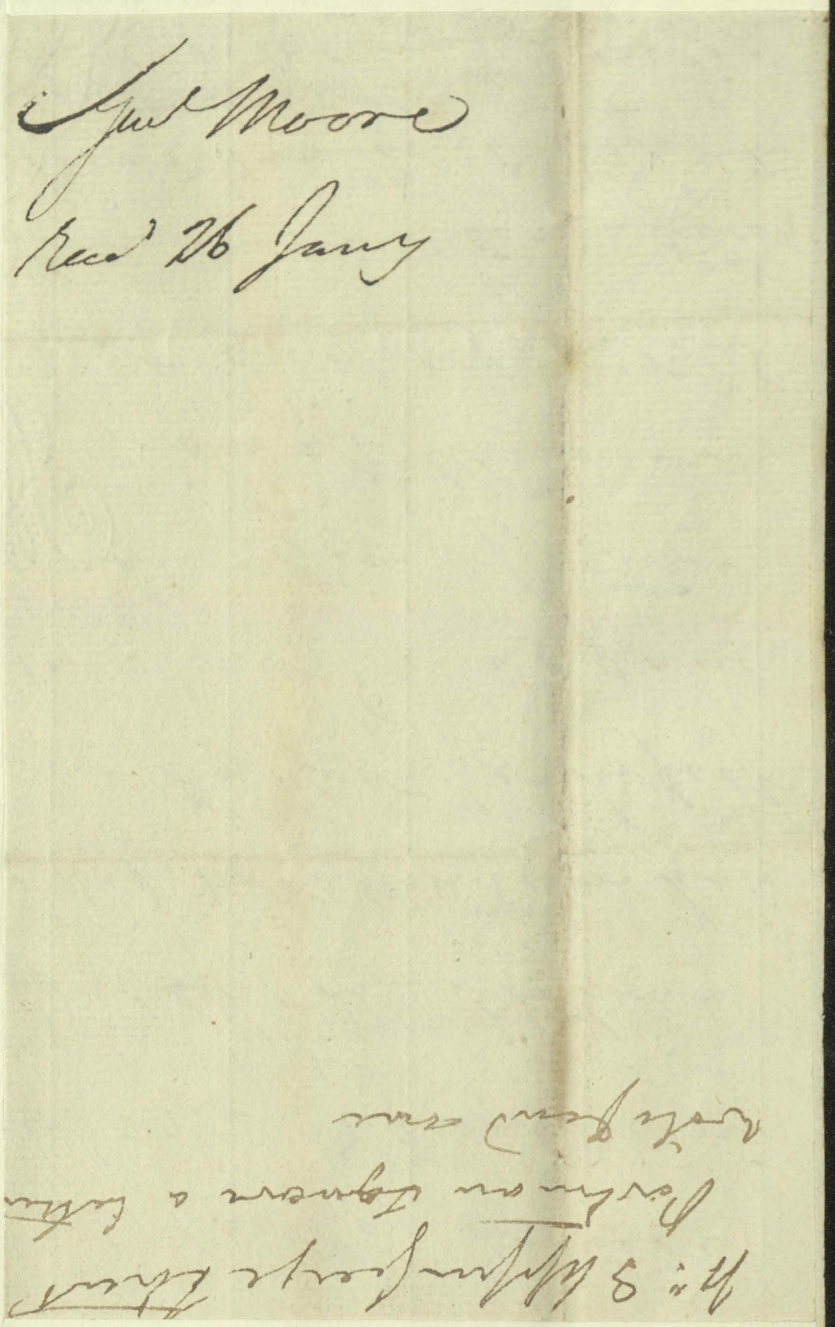
My Dear Witherall

I only returned from Windsor at Two O'clock this morning I left the House of Commons I so were gen I thought the Princesses would never have done with enquiries & every question accompanied with a flood of Tears.

I have something to

both you relative to the
circumstances of Sir
D Dundas, which will
surprise you. but I
am now putting my
foot again into a
chaise for Bagshot
having seen Blomfield
this morning and detained
for the Princes pleasure
until 12 O'clock, but
desired I should call

at Carlton House
on my return from
Bagshot. I believe
I did not mention how
the Duke of York felt
the blow, I never saw
man more affected
he was at Windsor
last night & waited
till nine O'clock
Read Reminiscences to
Adl Fitzroy & Lady F. Thom



Rec'd 26 Jany

Genl Moore

Hr: Gillespie Esqr
Dublin Castle
Mate Genl Ireland

Lord Sidmouth
re: Her Jesty

Whitehall Jany 25: 1820

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of yesterday's date, and to thank you for the Information contained in it.

It is a great consolation under the grief occasioned by the melancholy death of the Duke of Kent to know that Her Royal Highness the Duchess bears up with fortitude against the deep affliction brought on by such trying circum-stances -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
Sidmouth

Lieut Genl Wetherall
&c &c &c
Sidmouth

Colonel Dickinson
of the East Somerset
Yeomanry Cavalry
Rec^d 28 Jany
Ans^d 29 th do

Kensington Sq Somerset
Jany 26th 1820

Sir

Captain Blake who commands the Taunton troop ~~of Yeomanry~~ in the regiment of East Somerset Yeomanry which I have the honor of commanding, has just written to me to offer the services of that troop to escort the remains of his Royal Highness the much lamented Duke of Kent from the borders of Devonshire to Ilminster, I would then order the Ilminster troop, to be relieved by the Yeovil troop to escort the

funeral to Lancaster, & the
Lancaster track should proceed
to the eastern limits of the County.

I shall feel particularly
obliged to you to communicate
this proposal to those whose business
it is to decide on its acceptance
or rejection, & to let me know
the result as soon as you
conveniently can

I have the honor to
be
Sir
Your Most Obed Servt
W Dickinson

Lord Rolle presents his
Compliments to General Wetherall
and was much gratified
by his obliging Note —
Lord Rolle is sensible that
General Wetherall has Time enough
for very much occupied
with the Preparations for the
Funeral —
Lord Rolle must apologise
to the General for intruding
on him with a Request
to know whether there is a
Probability of the Ceremony

Lord Bolton standing the Corps as it will be requisite that Lord Bolton should be before it with as long a furlough as may be convenient in order to assemble the different Corps which are dispersed throughout the District but we from the Information Lord Bolton received the very easiest to pay the last duty and respect to one of the Royal Family

Bilton
27th Jany 1820

Lieut Colonel Bolton who is just appointed to the 12th Regiment of Foot was requested by Major General Moore and Sidmouth to present his best compliments to Sir —

Lord Rolle

Award

Sir Edward Baker

Ranston
Blandford
January 29th 1820

My Dear General

You will readily suppose that I was much distressed upon receiving the melancholy intelligence of the Death of the Duke of Kent and in this feeling Lady Elizabeth Baker participates and the interest of you to offer our Dutiful condolence to Her Royal Highness whenever a suitable opportunity occurs – I, of course, have, as Steward to this County Bale, put off the meeting – many of the Gentlemen in Dorsetshire

Dorset House, Some time since
settled to give a Hunter's Ball at Dorset
but at the same time we anxious to pay
every respect to the Memory of His late Royal
Highness, it is not therefore our intention that
this Assembly should take place
untill after the Funeral, I shall
consequently be exceedingly obliged to you
to let me know as early as possible
on what Day this melancholy ceremony
is to take place

With Lady Elizabeth Baker's best
regards, I remain, Dear General Wetherall
Most Faithfully Yours
E. W. Baker

[Sir]

19 Jan

Major General James Willoughby Gordon

K. G.

Jan: 29. 1820.–

Dear Withorall, I have this day your note of the 27th and sincerely condole with you upon the very sudden and unexpected calamity which has befallen you, in the loss of the Duke of Kent – who to all appearance his constitution and temperance promised a long life –

Some days ago I wrote to the Lord Chamberlain's Office for information as to the period of moving the Body, and by what route, in order that I

Major General James Willoughby Gordon

might lay the necessary Events upon the Road, and I have just sent your note there and repeated the question, as I cannot give any direction but pursuant to the arrangements emanating from the Office —

But to prevent the possible chance of mistake, I will by this post instruct the Officer Comd. at Exeter to put himself in communication with you, and hold in readiness a Captain's Guard of Cavalry to escort the Body to Dorchester, where the detachment will be relieved by a similar Guard of the 16th Lancers, who must proceed with it to Basingstoke, and from thence a Guard of the 12th Lancers will take it to Windsor. —

I will thank you to write to the Officer Commanding at Exeter and Weymouth to this effect, as soon as you shall know when the removal is to take place. —

Believe me always with great regard Dear Witherall

Yours faithfully

W Gordon

Lt. Col. Witherall

W. Gordon
29 Jan.y 1820

I enclose to you, Copies of the Instructions which I have received from Exeter & Warwick

W. Gordon
Recd 30th Jany 1820

To Lt Col. James Charles Halliac

Copy.

Memorandum.

Horse Guards
Jany 29th 1820.

The Officer Commanding the 4th Dragoons will be pleased to hold in readiness, a Guard of Honor, of One Captain, Two Subalterns & 50 Men, as an Escort to the Body of His late Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, and which Guard will proceed with the Body as far as Dorchester, where it will be relieved by a similar Guard of the 16th Lancers. —

The Officer Commanding is requested to put himself in immediate communication with Lieut. General Wetherall at Sidmouth. —

Signed J. W. Gordon
Q. M. G.

The necessary Route is enclosed.

See 2 Feb. Enclosure

Enclosure

? To Sir J. Affleck

Copy/

Memorandum –

Horse Guards,
January 29th 1820

The Off. Commanding the 16th Lancers will be pleased to hold in readiness a Guard of Honor, of one Captain Two Subalterns and 50 men, as an Escort to the Body of His Late Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, which Guard will proceed with the Body from Dorchester to Basingstoke – where it will be relieved by a similar Guard of the 12th Lancers.

Lieut General Wetherall, now at Sidmouth has been requested to put himself in communication with the Off. Commanding at Weymouth, as to the precise Period when these Guards will be wanted.

Signed H. Hardinge
Adjt Genl.

The necessary Route is enclosed.

Richmond Park
January 29th 1820

Sir,

I have been honoured with your Letter of the 27th inst. —

The Testimonies of Respect, and Regret, which Lord Rolle, and Sir John Kennaway, with their several Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry, are desirous of manifesting to the Memory of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Kent are well suited to the mournful occasion, to which it is proposed to apply them: and it appears to me to be only material to

take Care, that they should not disconcert any of the settled Arrangements for the Procession, nor retard it's Progress.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most Obedient

humble Servant,

Sidmouth

Lieut.t Gen.l Wetherall

&c &c &c

Sidmouth

29 Jan.y 1820

F. W. Gordon 13th
not able to accompany
to attend Funeral
of H.R.H. the Duke of Kent

31st Jan.y 1820

Windsor
Jan. 31. 1820.

Dear Witherall,

I was informed at the Chamberlain's Office this morning that nothing had been finally fixed as to the time for removing the Body of H. late R.H. – but that the earliest information should be given to me – I understand that a Escort of One Sqd. and 20 men will be the Guard required – You shall hear

I have
Yours
W Gordon