

Genl. A. Holman

My dear Grenville,

Woodburn, near Beaconsfield, Bucks,
12th Sep^r 1790.

Though I was very much oblig'd to you for your Letter of the 5th Inst^h which I received Yesterday, yet I will own that its contents surpris'd me exceedingly.

After the Pains I took, in two Conversations with James before his Departure for Gibraltar, & in two Letters I wrote him in the strongest Terms since he has been gone, I very little expected he could have so egregiously have mistak'n me, as to have required what is next to an Impossibility at my Hands.

Whether P. Steward's Income is, or is not, adequate to his Expenses, is by no means the Question before us; the point at present we are to think of, is, where the Money is to come from before the next Quarterly Payment, not the single Expence of P. St. being in my Hands, as Mr. James very well knows. I neither P. Steward or the Colonel expect me to do, what the richest Banker in London would laugh at them for asking, namely, that I, a private Person, should, without a shadow of Security, lend P. St. £500? I owe to you very fairly it is neither in my Power nor my Inclination to do so; not only the Domestic Duty I owe my own Family prevents my running any Risques, but the Duty I owe to His D. of York while I am in the Honour of being His Treasurer, forbids my being a Lender of Money to any Creature breathing. If I was so, I might be justly liable to very ill-natur'd Suspensions. I set out with Steadily refusing the being so when I was first made Treasurer to The Prince of Wales, have continu'd

the same Conduct since I was appointed so to The Duke of York, & have of Ant
no reason to repent of my Resolution.

Mr. P. Edward finds £5000 p. Ann. of the Income of a Regiment on the in relat
English Establishment, insufficient for his Expenses at Gibraltar, it hardly th
appears to me, to be a Point to be settled by an Application from A. R. H. them sel
to His Majesty personally. The advising an Increase of Allowance beyond the Finan
what The King has Himself fixed, is, I apprehend, what few of His Subjects some of
would chuse to meddle with; at least I am sure I will not till I have a Temper
much greater Share of Consumption & Impudence than Nature has as Prince
yet bestowed upon me.

When our Friend Symes says, that the Drawing for £4 or £500 on Drummond
"is a Latitude He expects" He does not talk the Language of a Man of Business had rece
what He may do from His Majesty, I know not; but from me, as the ready &
Receiver of the Prince's Money from Treasury, He has no Right to expect proper
any ~~such~~ Latitude at all, beyond the Sum so received. This, so to Him
Justice, He seem'd most thoroughly to comprehend before His Departure; I will
& it appear'd to me, that whatever Difficulties the Colonel thought He not suffi
might eventually have to struggle with, the Disposition & Punctuality a draft
of Payments into His Hands were not of the Number. about it.

The 10th of October is our next Quarter Day; that time will now soon be This ma
here & there there will be due to A. R. H. from Treasury £1250. & I find
The Moment I receive it, I shall pay it into Drummond's Hands as I ever
have done; & this I apprehend, is all which my Duty can possibly warrant. All this
my doing, even if my Means & Ability were greater. never co

I will write to Symes at large upon the Subject in a very few Days; if that He
He has drawn at all, He may have done so some time ago; but I have as
yet heard of no Draft. I shall echo to Him what I wrote in my former A. R. H.
Letters, always explaining to Him the Impossibility there must be the whole

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of Anticipating A. R. H.'s Income by Drafts on Me.
 I own, My Dear Grenville, I think it rather hard that the Labouring Car
 on the relation to refusing P. Oswald Money, is always to come to Gen. Thave;
 that, if hardly the Gentlemen who have the Honour of attending Him should take on
 themselves to explain to A. R. H. that ex Nihilis Nihil fit, should represent
 the Futility, as well as Injustice, of drawing on any Man for Money who has
 none of A. R. H.'s in His Hands, & take Advantage of the little Embarrassment
 a temporary want of Money may occasion, to place before the Eyes of a Young
 Prince the more serious Difficulties into which the want of regard to Economy
 must hereafter plunge Him. — If I can for a Moment suppose myself in
 James's Situation after what has passed, nothing upon earth should convince
 me to sign a Draft on Gotham for a Shilling, till I was certain Gotham
 had received that Shilling from Government, & I would be the more
 steady & firm in my Refusal to do so, because I must know (& it would be
 proper P. Oswald should know) the Difficulties such a Draft would occasion
 Him. — The very reverse seems to be the Conduct pursuing a Liberator.
 I will agree with the Prince that His Income, settled by His Majesty, is
 not sufficient, says James; I will get the Money I want in addition, by
 a Draft on Gotham, & let Him pay it, or not pay it, & fight the Battle
 about it as He may think proper. it is no Business of Mine!
 This may make things easy for James, but very uneasy for Gotham;
 & I doubt, in the long run, what is of much more consequence than
 either, will not tend much to A. R. H.'s Satisfaction or Comfort! —
 All this, My Dear Grenville, vexes me the more, because it was what I
 never expected, having so thoroughly explained to James our Situation,
 that We could not go beyond our Limits, & that nobody could relieve
 A. R. H. from any Difficulties, (if any occurred) but His Majesty; as all I
 undertook was faithfully & punctually to pay into James's Banker's Hands
 the whole of the quarterly Sum I periodically should receive. —

I am much concerned to find by Yours that you have not been well lately, but I hope the Sea Bathing at Weymouth will completely set you up again. — Let me hear from you that you improve in your Health, & that you have laid in a plentiful Stock of it for Winter. — Are you soon in the Winter do you think of fixing in London? before the Christmas, or after? — For my Part, except it is for a few days at a time, I intend remaining here till the first Week in December, so I will beg you, if you have any Commands to direct them to this Place till after the 1st of December; when, (or thereabouts) I shall take up my Winter Quarters in Marshfield Street.

My Wife & Daughters beg to be kindly remembered to you with Assurance who is always,
My dear Grenville

Very truly & faithfully Yours.

Edmund

I will request of you to make my best Respects acceptable to your Brother. — I shall be glad to hear you have received this, & that you do not disapprove either of my Ways of thinking or acting. —
I am more than ever,
Your most Obedient Servant

Edmund Grenville