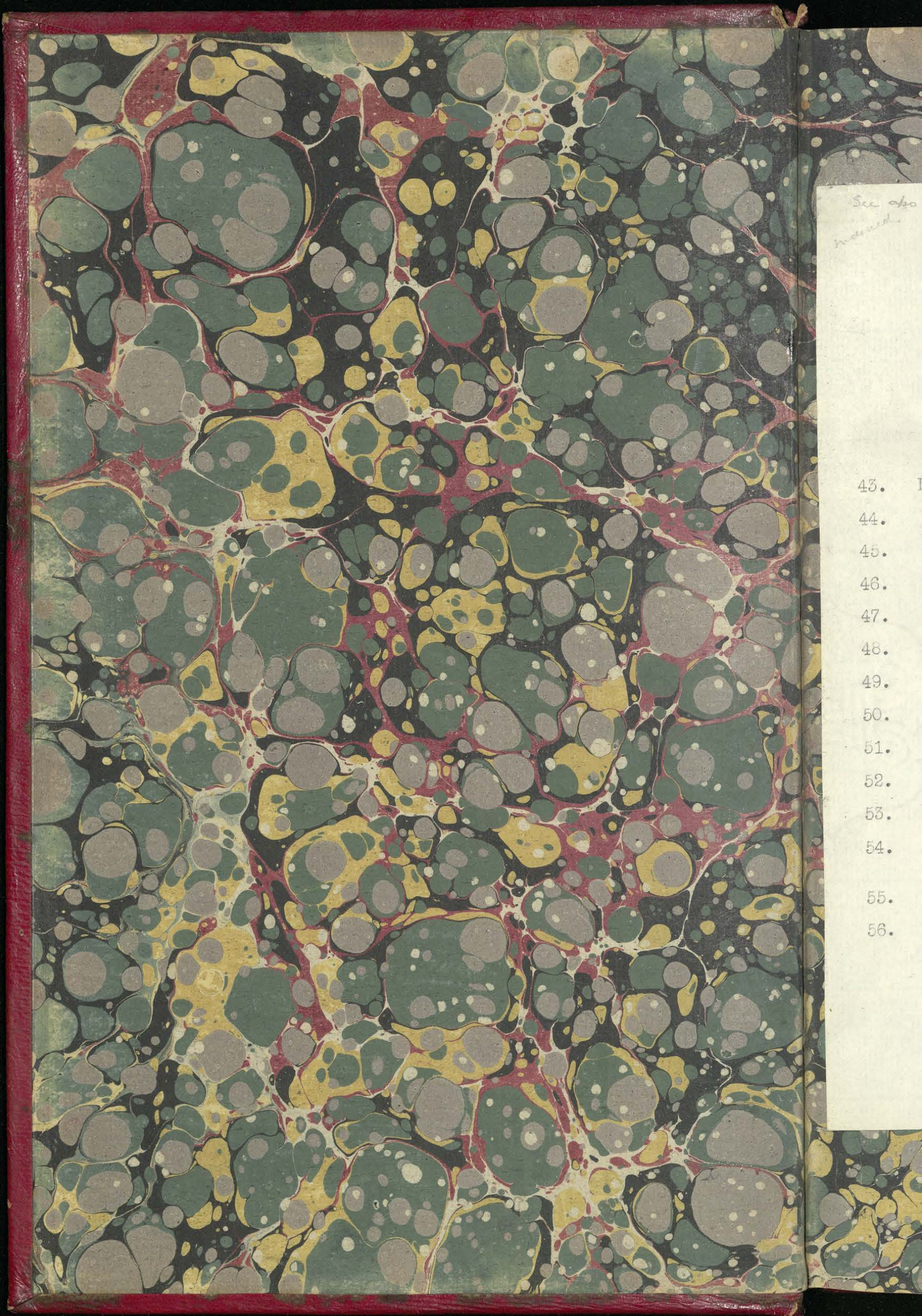


GEORGIAN
ADDL. MSS. 7
Nos. 43-56
Duke of Kent
to Royal Family
sept. 1799



*See also
mss.*

- 43.
- 44.
- 45.
- 46.
- 47.
- 48.
- 49.
- 50.
- 51.
- 52.
- 53.
- 54.
- 55.
- 56.

See also Nos 45563 et seq. from Halifax
inward.

CEO/ADD07/43-56

GEORGIAN ADDL. MSS. 7

Duke of Kent to the Royal Family from Halifax

September 1799

	From	To
43.	Duke of Kent	King George III
44.	" " "	Queen Charlotte
45.	" " "	George, Prince of Wales
46.	" " "	William, Duke of Clarence
47.	" " "	Frederick, Duke of York
48.	" " "	Ernest, Duke of Cumberland
49.	" " "	Augustus, Duke of Sussex
50.	" " "	Adolphus, Duke of Cambridge
51.	" " "	Princess Elizabeth
52.	" " "	Princess Amelia
53.	" " "	Queen Charlotte of Württemberg
54.	" " "	Prince Ernest of Mecklenbourg- Strelitz
55.	" " "	Maria, Duchess of Gloucester
56.	" " "	Princess Mary

Geo 1A0007

~~Leopold~~ Addr. MSS 7

No. 43-56

Copy of
No. 45970-1

— Halifax. —

September 16th 1799.

Sir,

Your Majesty's Frigate,
The *Arctusa*, being under orders to sail
tomorrow on her voyage back to England,
I have thought it my duty to report
my arrival here on the 6th Instant, after
a passage of forty three days. —

— Permit me,
Sir, to embrace this Opportunity of
again expressing my humble acknow-
-ledgements for the distinguished honor
conferred on me, in my present appoint-
-ment, which is the more peculiarly flat-
-tering, as it conveys to the Inhabitants
of this Province, and to the Troops
whom I so lately commanded in this

district, the most unequivocal proof of Your Majesty's approbation of my conduct while I resided amongst them; I trust that my exertions which shall be unremitting during my continuance in N. America, will shew that I am not altogether undeserving of the Confidence, You have been pleased to repose in me. —

— Your Majesty is not unacquainted with the motives that induced me to make the sacrifice of once more absenting myself so far again from Your Person, at a time too, when Your very gracious conduct towards me, had made me particularly happy in the idea of having regained Your good opinion, and rendered those moments when I was permitted to approach You, the

happiest of my life. You will therefore
 easily believe that I felt it severely; but
 as You condescended to approve of the step
 under the peculiar circumstances of my
 position, I left England with cheerfulness,
 considering that in so doing, I
 acted as both my duty to You, and
 those principles of honor, from which, I
 trust I shall never deviate seemed to
 dictate; I flatter myself therefore, it
 will not be thought by You, as indicating
 either Caprice on my part, or a foolish
 wish for change or novelty, if I presume
 now to express the same hope I did,
 when last I had the honor of an audience
 at Windsor, that should an Opportunity
 offer at any time during my absence

of Your
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from home of placing me near Your
 Person, in a situation of equal respecta-
 bility with that I now hold, such as
 The Chief Command of Your Troops in
 Ireland or Scotland, Your Majesty would
 condescend not to forget me. —

I have the
 honor to subscribe myself with the most
 dutiful respect, and faithful attach-
 =ment, —

Your Majesty's

ever most affectionate Son,

and most truly devoted Servant.

signed. — Edwards. —

So
 The King.

Halifax, September 16 99.

Madam,

The Frigate that brought me to this Country being on the eve of her departure homewards, I venture to trespass upon Your Majesty's indulgence with these lines to assure you of my devoted and respectful attachment, and of the regret I feel that imperious circumstances should have compelled me so soon again to leave You, after an absence of so many Years. But I believe You were pleased to think, that situated as I was, it was for the best, and I flatter myself when the happy period of my return arrives, it will prove clearly to have been so. At least, I shall make every effort to effect

Your
 respecta=
 such as
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 justice would
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 ant.

The end for which this absence was in=
tended. —

— My passage from England was unusually long for a single frigate, being a day over six weeks, but the winds were uncommonly hard-hearted, for, except the fresh two days in the Channel, I think we never had in all as much as would have made out 40 hours of fair; this has rendered the track of the ship so very curious, that it appeared to me worth getting a small Chart drawn by Major Gordon, to give Your Majesty an idea of our progress; I shall therefore take the liberty of enclosing it in this, as perhaps it may afford you a subject for a few words conversation with the Captain Woolley, whom

he has the honor of making his bow at
 the drawing room. The conduct of that Officer
 and his attention both to myself, and
 every person that attended me during my
 voyage, merits my utmost acknowledge-
 ments; for his endeavours were unceasing
 to give every satisfaction and afford every
 comfort that can be met with on board
 of a Ship. —

— Your Majesty was good enough
 to promise me, when I took my leave,
 that an half-length Copy of Your pic-
 ture by Beachy, should be done for me,
 and I thought when you condescended
 to put the miniature into my hand,
 you said, I should have another, as
 soon as you could find time to sit for

one; hoping I may not have misappre-
 =hended your gracious intention, and
 fearful lest this might have slipped
 your recollection; may I presume to remind
 you of the circumstance, and to express the
 great satisfaction which such a Gift
 would afford me. I was led also to flatter
 myself that The King would condescend
 to permit a Companion for Yours to be
 taken from that admirable likeness of
 His Majesty in Beauchamp's large Picture.
 I trust, I have not been too sanguine in
 forming this expectation, and that should
 it not have been quite determined upon
 before, Your Majesty will condescend to
 be my advocate with The King in this
 suit. —————

So

The

I shall only take the liberty of adding
 that the Frigate, which probably will
 sail early in April, with the first
 Spring Convoy for this Country, is the
 first Opportunity, that I should think
 safe enough to trust with what I am
 sure I may be allowed to stile so valuable
 a treasure to mef. _____

_____ I will not venture to
 encroach any longer upon Your Majesty's
 patience, and shall therefore ask per-
 mission to conclude by subscribing myself
 with the most respectful, and faithful
 attachment. _____

To
 The Queenf.

Your Majesty's
 ever most affectionate Son,
 and truly devoted servant
 signed, Edwardf. _____

Halifax September 16th 99

My dearest Brother

From the very affectionate interest you have always taken in every thing that concerns me, I am sure you will be glad to learn, that I arrived here in tolerable health on the 6th of this month. Our passage was very long and tedious, for instead of being about thirty days, which is the common run of a single frigate we were out forty three; however, as we experienced but little bad weather, and had a most amiable worthy man for our Captain, the time passed away as well as was possible on such an uncomfortable element as the sea.

My time is totally taken up with making the necessary arrangements to carry on the duties of the commo-

16th 99

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properly, which owing to the removal of
 Head Quarters from Quebec to Halifax,
 will be far more numerous than I had
 foreseen, but I hope with perseverance
 I shall get through all, for I am de-
 termined to allow myself no recreation
 until every thing is settled as it ought
 to be. The contrast between the comforts
 and beauty of England, with the want
 of every resource, and the dearth of
 Nova Scotia, is certainly very glaring,
 but I have always made it a rule
 to content myself wherever it may fall
 to my lot to be, and I trust this maxim
 will not fail me now. In the mean
 while I look forward, not without some
 hope to the possibility of The Union

with Ireland taking place in the
course of the next Session, for I believe
I mentioned to you, that Mr. Pitt,
had promised me in that event, to
suggest to the King the appointing
me Commander in Chief there, on
withdrawing The Lord Lieutenant.

I am sure, I need not urge you
(should it be in your power) to exert
your interest, to forward this favourite
wish of mine, for I have too often
expressed your friendship, not to
be very certain, that whenever you can
serve me, you will be ever ready to
do it unmasked; but I thought it
just right to hint the circumstance,
in order that when you write to

me, which you promised you would do,
 you might think of giving me some idea
 whether my expectations are likely to be
 realised or not.

I hope by this time,
 the picture you were so good as to say,
 Hopner should do of you for me, will
 be completed, and that by the first
 frigate that comes out here, you will
 have given Dabrymple orders to send it.
 I need surely not attempt even to say,
 how much I shall value it, if the
 likeness is a good one; Ernest, you know
 promised me also to send out his picture,
 but sitting is a thing he does not much
 like giving his time to; I must
 therefore beg your interference, if he

has neglected keeping his word, for
I really love him very sincerely, and
shall be much mortified to be deprived
of this mark of his affection, which
I am looking forward to with much
satisfaction.

Major Jones of the 66th Regt
to whom you desired me to show what
attention I could, is not here, being gone
on leave of absence to visit a relation in
The United States. This part of the
world you will easily perceive affords
nothing interesting as a subject to write
about, I shall therefore not tire you
by adding anything more to this Epistle
except my anxious hope that your wish
of yours is by this time accomplished,

So
The Y
of
- Wa

and in this expectation I shall beg to
be remembered particularly in Hanover
Square; concluding with every assurance
my dearest Brother of the most faithful
and devoted attachment, with which
while I exist, it will ever be my utmost
pride to prove myself

So
The Prince
of
Wales.

Your most affectionate Brother,
Zealous and sincere Friend.
signed Edwards.

Halifax, September 15th 99.

My dearest William

I would not
suffer Captain Woolley to sail,
without giving him a few lines to
inform you that after a voyage of
forty-three days I landed here on
the 6th Inst: You see by this, that
I was nearer the mark than yourself
when I told you that I would compromise
for a five and thirty days passage.
Captain Woolley has desired me to
explain to you, that Mr: Lloyd whom
you had desired him to take on
board the *Arctura*, and to rate a
midshipman, or Master's mate, had
conducted himself in a very improper

and cavalier a manner, when at Ports-
 mouth, that he was certain you would
 not have wished him to displace some
 of his own young men, who have uniformly
 behaved themselves well in the Ship, to
 make room for him, who had acted
 in such a manner as rather to merit
 a severe check, than a reward. The
 Captain endeavoured on our arrival here
 to persuade him to accept of a mates
 situation, that was vacant on board of
 The Saint Albans, but he did not
 choose to accept of it, and now returns
 in the Frigate, that is to say, (not rated
 as a petty Officer) as he came out.
 Your old acquaintances, Sir John,
 and Lady Wentworth are both

Jan 15th 99.

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much broken, indeed for so short
a time I hardly thought it possible
there could be so much difference in
any two persons. The business of
the Maroons with whom, I believe, you
warned the Governor to have nothing
to do at the outset, preoccupies much on
his mind. We understand a
Ship is to be sent out this fall to
convey them to Sierra Leone, & I am
sure they will be a good riddance;
but whether this will put an end
to Sir John's troubles respecting them
I do not know, for it seems the assembly
of the Island of Jamaica are disposed
to dispute every shilling he has
spent for the maintenance of these

people, and that in a manner which does
 him great injustice, and themselves no
 credit. —

— I found the reports I had received
 of General Murray's conduct here, by no
 means exaggerated, it has been improper
 in the highest degree, for instead of
 following in the first instance, the same
 system which I had established here,
 and in the second, that which General
 Ogilvie had adopted in Cape Town, both
 of which I believe were founded on the
 good of the King's service, he has sub-
 verted every thing we had began in both
 places, and though he talked very
 loudly of economising for Government, no
 man was plundered more effectually

for himself than he has done in
the short time he was left in
command here; this I mean in the
literal sense of the word, for previous
to his departure hence, he made a
complete sweep of the furniture, and
every thing else he could lay hold on
at Head Quarters, and shipped off
for Cape Breton. I have just sent
him his Orders for recall, which
am confident will be a thunderbolt
to him, for by all accounts he has
begun at Sidney upon the idea, that
it was impossible he could be removed
for some time. —

— Mr. Coffin is not
yet arriv'd, but I expect him out

in the Venus, or August Packet; your
 old friend Vandeput, inquired in the
 most friendly and attentive manner after
 you, he appears much vexed at being left
 so long here, when a year since on his
 first application he had the promise
 of being relieved within the three months.

— I know of nothing more worth
 adding except that I have written to
 Lord Spencer to request if Church is
 in the way, that he may be sent out
 with the specie which has been de-
 -manded in no small hurry for the
 military Chest here; my object in doing
 this, is to make sure of him in the
 Spring, either to take me on my tour
 to Newfoundland, Cape Breton, and

Quebec, or Home, if matters should
 so turn out this Winter, as to bring
 to a conclusion the Union with Ju-
 land, in which case, you know I
 look upon myself as certain of being
 appointed to the Chief Command
 of the Troops there, from the in-
 qualified promise Mr. Pitt gave me
 to that effect. I trust I need hardly
 desire you to let me hear from you
 by the first Opportunity after this
 gets home, and not to forget him
 who will ever remain with the
 truest attachment

To
 The Duke of
 Clarence.

Your most devoted
 and affectionate Brother
 signed Edward

Halifax, Sept: 25th - 99 -

My dearest Brother

Having been dis-
 appointed in receiving at Portsmouth, the
 Letter which I understood you had meant
 to write me on this subject, which I informed
 you Mr. Pitt had given me reason to
 form some expectations, I was desirous for
 the August Packet to arrive, before an
 Opportunity should offer for England;
 as I hoped that mail would bring a
 few lines from you. The Harlequin
 being just come into the harbour from
 New York, and to sail immediately
 for Europe, I feel fearful lest you
 should think it not affectionate in
 me, if I neglect writing by this occasion,
 I therefore take up my pen, simply

to inform you, that I arriv'd here on
the 6th Inst. having been kept at sea
through contrary winds for forty three
days; I had reason during the whole
passage to regret that I had acted so
imprudently in not taking a few days
longer to recruit my strength, before I
embarked, after the severe rheumatick
attack, I had, when last in London;
for though I was sea sick but a
very few hours, I never was in perfect
health all the time I was on board;
I hope, however, I am now getting better,
though so many different matters
have occurred in the way of business
since I got here, that I have not had
win a moments time for common
exercise. —————

Being doubtful whether you recollect my asking you to let me have a half length Copy of your likeness as taken by Treachy in his large picture of the King on horse-back, from which an engraving has been lately published, and fearful lest you should not, I beg leave now to remind you of it, as well as of the great pleasure that present would give me. If The Dutchess would condescend to add hers from the resemblance I saw of her at Treachy's, I should also esteem it a very great favor. All our Sisters & Brothers at home, have engaged to send me out their pictures, and I am not without hopes of receiving The King's, and Queen's also. Yours therefore, and The Dutchess's would be the only ones wanting to

complete the portraits of all the
family now in England. You
will, I trust, not suffer me to un-
dergo this mortification. —

Having nothing more to add, and
not wishing to encroach upon your
time, which I know is valuable, with
me, I shall only assure you
of my truest and warmest attach-
ment, and conclude by subscribing
myself, my dearest Frederic, with
your most affectionate, and devoted
Brother and friend. —

So,
The Duke
of
York. —

signed — Edwards. —

Postscript to the above, dated Sept: 26th 99

The Harlequin not being sailed I have just time to add, that the Jane Packet with the August mail came in a few hours since, but I was disappointed in not receiving the promised letter from you, on those points which you told me it was necessary I should understand before hand in the event of my being appointed to the Command of the Troops in Ireland; but as I understand you were preparing to go to the Continent, about the time the Packet left England, I conclude you will not have been able to spare a moment to attend to a business that must appear so trivial in comparison with the great object before you; however, when you have a leisure moment, I trust you will bear your promise in mind, in the

mean while, let me add, that you will
have my most fervent prayers that every
success may attend you on the expedi-
-tion, and that you may return home
with all the honor and credit you
can possibly hope, or expect. —

— signed. E. —

Halifax, Sept. 25. 99

My dearest Ernest,

Agreeable to the promise
which I desired you to make in my name
to Augustus and Adolphus, I have
written to both of them, and now enclose
these letters to you, to be forwarded by the
first mail; to these I have added one for
Uncle Ernest, which I request you to send
off to Hanover. I have little or nothing
worth saying, except that I got here safe
on the 6th, having been detained a most
unreasonable while at sea, in consequence
of the most obstinate winds man ever
experienced; however the length of the
passage was in great measure made up
by the very friendly attentions of Captain
Woolley, who commanded the ship, and

of whom I request that you will take
every notice in your power, should you
happen to meet him in England; from
his exertions to make every thing as plea-
sant, and our accommodations as com-
fortable as they could be were really be-
yond all praise. The Transport with
my horses is not yet arriv'd, though 10
days are already elapsed since I land'd,
and I own I begin to be a little impa-
tient about them, however, I do not
think there is any cause to be alarm'd,
and flatter myself, I shall very soon
be reliev'd from my uneasiness on that
head. Madame de Saint Laurent
desires to be kindly remembered to you,
she was much concern'd it was out of
her power to receive you the last time

you called at Knightsbridge, and that she
 was forced to set out so early the next morning
 as to put it out of her power to wait for
 the visit with which you promised to favour
 her. As I shall write by the present
 opportunity, to all our Brothers & Sisters,
 to whom I did not send Letters by the
 Antigua, I shall not trouble you with
 Commissions for England, but having a
 great deal to prepare for the mail, and
 little time to do it in, I shall bring my
 Letter to a conclusion here, desiring you
 not to forget the picture you promised
 me, and above all not to neglect to write;
 both these conditions being duly complied
 with on your part, you may rest assured
 of my most sincere, and affectionate
 attachment, & that you will find me,

So, my dearest Ernest, ever your most
 faithful, and devoted Brother and
 Friend.
 The Duke of Cumberland. — signed Edward —
 of Cumberland.

(48)

Postscript to the above, Sept: 26: 99

Amongst the August Letters which
 are this moment given out, the mail
 having arrived two hours since, one from
 Mary informs me that you are named
 to go with the Cavalry to the Continent;
 I rejoice to hear this, as I know it was
 so much the object of your wishes; &
 only hope every thing will turn out equal
 to your most sanguine expectations; as
 it is uncertain, where this Letter will

And you, I shall now inclose those for
our two youngest brothers to Eliza, who,
I am sure will take care that they are
properly forwarded.

Halifax, Sept: 25th 99

My dear Augustus,

I had hoped before
I left England that I should perhaps
have heard again from you, as in your
Letter of May 25th you promised that
when your health was better you would
write me a longer account of yourself;
under these expectations I delayed from
day to day giving you a Line, and at
last my time was so completely occu-
= paid

with the unavoidable preparations for my return to America, that it was out of my power to spare a moment to you. I little thought last April, I should ever have had to date a Letter again from this part of the Globe, particularly after the King had consented to give me my peerage and establishment; but I found it was impossible to do justice to my Creditors, and live as I ought to do, or as is expected from persons in our rank of life at home. I therefore thought it most honourable to volunteer a fresh absence of a few Years from England during which I should be able without any assistance, but my own economy, to clear myself. It certainly has been a very great

sacrifices on my part, but I hope when the time is over, and the object accomplished I shall look back upon what I have given up with inward satisfaction, & pleasure. I at present expect to remain here, between three and four years, for that period will unless I am grievously mistaken, be amply sufficient to bring me before hand again. I trust the war cannot fail of being at an end in the course of this term, and that we shall then have the satisfaction of once more meeting; it will be no small gratification to talk over the scenes we have respectively gone through, and to communicate our ideas to each other, upon what we have seen, and experienced; in the mean while, if you will occasionally

write, it will give me great pleasure; & you may depend upon finding me an exact correspondent; For this dreary Quarter of the world, scarcely any thing war occurs worth mentioning to those who are living in Europe, and every hour of the day is so completely devoted to business, that one grows naturally dull and heavy, therefore you must excuse, if my Letters are not very amusing; from the same reason, I shall now conclude, having really not a single word to add, worth trespassing upon your patience with, let me assure you therefore of my unaltered affection and attachment, and subscribe myself

my dearest Augustus
 To Prince Augustus, your most affectionate brother
 & friend.
 signed Edward

Postscript to the above, same date.

I saw your friend Baron Schank, two or three times before I left England, and had the pleasure of a good deal of conversation with him, but having no satisfaction at all, I was unable to show him that attention, or pay him that complement which from your recommendation I should have much wished to have done.

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Halifax September 25th 99.

My dear Adolphus,

Ernest will I trust
have informed you that your kind
Letter of June 5.th arrived safe, and af-
-forded me the greatest pleasure from
the many affectionate expressions it con-
-tained; but at the moment I received it,
and from that time, till the hour of
embarkation, every hour was so completely
taken up with attending the public offices
to get the necessary business through, pre-
-vious to my departure, when I was not
paying my duty at The Queens House,
New, or Windsor, that it was altogether im-
vain to think of setting down to write to
you, I therefore delayed till I got out
here, and now embrace the very first op-
-portunity that has offered to acquaint

you, that I reached this safe, after having
been forty three days at sea, without any
remarkable occurrence. I commissioned
Ernest to say, that the little Phacton
you offered a wish of having was quite
at your service, and that it would give
me great pleasure if you would accept of
it as a mark of my affectionate remem-
brance; a thousand thanks for your
congratulations upon my creation to the
Peerage, establishment, promotion, and
late appointment, all of which afford
me infinitely more satisfaction in the
testimony they give of The King's ap-
probation of my conduct, than in
the benefits immediately arising to me,
from them. You are very good to say
that you are convinced very well at

home will be sorry to see me go abroad again; I must own on my side that parting from my family was a painful task, particularly so, as I will candidly confess to you, that I made the sacrifice from a principle of Justice I owe to my creditors, and not from any desire to revisit a Country where, altho' I am highly flattered by the good-will all ranks of people manifest towards me I cannot but feel, that there exists no resource, but what the discharge of my duty affords. The flattering account of me which you mention having seen in a German Periodical paper, if so much to my advantage, must have been written by some very partial friend; but I am sure, I ought to be indebted

to him for it, since it has increased the
 desire you had of seeing me; believe me,
 my dear Adolphus, I am very sincere,
 when I say, that the wish of meeting you
 is reciprocal on my part, and whenever
 this happens, I trust we shall soon be
 able to prove to each other the extent of
 that attachment, which now we can only
 profess in writing; I do not think there
 can be much hope of my return taking
 place before the expiration of three years
 at the earliest, which will make it
 fifteen years since our last meeting,
 unless indeed, some circumstances, that
 at present appear not very likely, though
 in the nature of things possible, should
 happen to occasion my removal to a
 Command nearer home; in the mean

-while I most cordially join in the wish
you intimate of keeping up our corre-
-spondence, and notwithstanding the
multiplicity of business daily incident
to my present situation, I shall always
be happy to find time enough to answer
your Letters. I own I envied you a little
your visit to the Prussian Army at
Minden, for nothing would have given
me greater pleasure, or would have been
of more use to me, than to have had
an Opportunity of seeing troops manœuvred
upon a large scale: The manner in
which I have been employed since I
first joined British Troops at Gibraltar,
and the objects to which my attention
has been devoted for these last ten years,
has precluded the possibility of my

was seeing the movement of Armies; even
 the Campaign I served in the W. Indies
 was entirely *La Petite Guerre*, which in
 that Country as well as N. America is
 the only system upon which Troops can
 act; while in Europe this branch of military
 tactics is totally confined to scouting parties
 or flankers, and therefore held very cheap,
 so that I should really at first find myself
 uncommonly awkward, even in understanding
 still more in directing the movement of a
 large body of men, according to those
 principles, by which the great European
 Generals regulate the motions of the Troops
 committed to their charge. But I fear
 you will be apt to think, what I have
 already written sufficient to exhaust
 your patience; I will therefore stop

short at once, by saying that you will
 ever find me ready to profess and to
 prove myself, my dearest Adolphus,
 your most affectionate Brother, and
 Prince Adolphus most devoted friend. —

— signed Edward. —

(51)

Halifax, Sept. 25th 99.

My dearest Elizabeth,

Should the
 Arctusa have got home before this
 Letter reaches England, our dear
 Augusta will have told you, that
 you would certainly get a few lines
 from me by the packet; but as I
 find that Captain Woolley intended

taking a cruise, and not going directly home, I think therefore though he sailed eight days since, there is some chance of the Harlequin by which this goes, arriving at Balmouth, before the Arctusa gets to Portsmouth, and I shall mention for your information, in case this should so happen, that I had a forty-three days passage, and arrived here on the sixth, where I was received in the most flattering manner by the people of the place. I did not fail writing by the Frigate to both Their Majesties, to The Prince, to The Duke of Clarence, Augusta, Mary, and Sophia, reserving you, and Amelia, together with The Duke of York & Ernest for the present

will
to
hus,
and
25th 99.
the
this
ear
that
ling
as I
intended

occasion. I have mentioned this, that I might not be thought deficient, in duty or affection, if this Letter happens to arrive before those, which were written a week ago, and I trust you will not fail to explain, and account for it, should this be the case. —

— I am now in the Country, having moved out four days ago to the little place six miles out of Halifax, which you have heard me mention; and I already feel the benefit of the change, for I am sure at least of the ride, in and out, when I can get no other ^{2.} business, as ^{1.} exercise calls me in every day at a very early hour. The land hereabouts, looks uncommonly dreary, there having been a drought, before

what was ever known before, as there
 has been since June 1st. but six days
 remain. Every one is anxiously looking
 out for the arrival of the August mail,
 hoping by that to receive the confirmation
 of a very brilliant action having taken
 place between the combined fleets, and
 ours, of which I brought out the report,
 having received it, at the moment I embarked
 at Portsmouth, from a vessel just in
 from the Mediterranean, and which had
 gained ground here since, having been
 repaid by the way of Newfoundland.
 But I have a much stronger interest
 in looking out for the mail, than any
 one else, that of hearing from some one
 of you, how every thing goes on in the
 family, for I surely think you will

this,
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 night, before

not altogether neglect writing to me.
 The pleasure of receiving letters from
 home, when one is at so great a dis-
 tance as I am can hardly be expressed,
 nor indeed can it be felt, but by those
 who experience the pain of absence from
 their friends. But in the same
 proportion that the satisfaction is
 great, the disappointment, when one
 eagerly expects, and does not receive letters
 falls heavy. I have said this with
 a view to remind you of the joy afforded
 me by every letter, and in the hope
 that you will not suffer me to ex-
 perience the disappointment, which
 would not fail to follow, were a
 packet to arrive without a line from
 you.

So

The Y

- Elogia

The first note which my dearest Eliza
 favours me with, will give me a fresh
 opportunity of taking up my pen again,
 may it be very soon, in the mean while
 rest assured of my warmest, and most
 tender attachment, and that as long as
 life remains, you will ever find me your
 most affectionate brother, and most devoted
 and faithful friend.

To
 The Princess
 Elizabeth

signed, Edwards.

Halifax, Sept: 25th 99

My sweet Amelia

You see I am
punctual to my word, and that the
Letter I promised you through Mary,
you will not have had long to wait
for; I hope by this your health is
much mended, and your lameness
quite gone, at least my fervent prayers
and anxious wishes, have not been
wanting for your perfect recovery;
by the time this gets home, you
will probably be returned from
Weymouth, where I flatter myself
you will have spent a pleasant
season; I was much longer at sea
than I reckoned for, as you will
recollect I told you, I did not expect

to be out, much more than four weeks,
 however the passage succeeded six, and
 told my patience not a little; I trust
 you will not have failed to write by
 the August mail, and in that con-
 =fidence, I am looking out for your
 Letter every hour, for the packet has
 been due some days. Your dear picture
 has got out without accident, and I
 am in great hopes, that what they
 gave me to expect about the Ivory
 flying will not prove to be the case,
 it has stood so well hitherto; your
 other portrait, if it has not been
 spoiled in the finishing, will if
 possible, be still more like than
 the miniature, for I was very much
 pleased with the sketch after the

two first sittings. I now think it possible a frigate may sail for this, in the course of November, and if Mr. Price will take the trouble of writing to Colonel Dabynple, he will obtain correct information, whether that will be the case or not; If the opportunity should offer, it will be the best of sending anything valuable to me; and I need hardly add I set a value on the pictures far above anything else. Pray do not forget to mention this to the Queen, to whom I said in my letter written ten days ago, that I did not think any man of war would come out before the Spring; but circumstances have since occurred that have made

So
The
Am

me form another opinion; I wish my
 dearest Amelia, I had anything entertain-
 -ing, or interesting to add, but my
 life is a continued routine of business
 from morning to night, and the few
 leisure moments which I might have
 occasionally, the place affords little, or
 no variety, or resource; it would therefore
 be only spinning out the letter with
 tiresome prolixity, if I was to add any-
 -thing more, than the assurance of
 my warmest love, and truest attach-
 -ment for you, and to the last day
 of my existence, you will always find
 me with unaltered affection, my

your dearest Amelia, your most faithful
 and devoted. —

To
 The Princess
 Amelia;

signed Edward. —

Postscript to The Princess Amelia.

— Sept. 26th 1799. —

My dear Amelia will perceive, I have not waited the arrival of her first letter, to write on my part, but as the mail has just brought me one, and I have not sealed up my epistle, I have just time to thank you a thousand times, for your truly kind and affectionate notes. I am much flattered by Lady Louisa's intercession in desiring you to assure me of her good wishes, when you wrote, and I desire you will not fail to tell her so, when you find a proper opportunity; I hope she will not forget her promise about the military music, which will be invaluable to me here, passionately fond, as you know, I am

of it. You know my opinion of her, in
 point of taste, and every thing else, so
 that I need not say anything in addition
 on that subject, to induce you to deliver my
 message, as I would wish it to be conveyed.
 I agree with you perfectly in your ob=
 =servations upon poor Lady Mary Howe,
 she would indeed be cruelly unjust to her=
 =self, were she to take upon her the
 smallest particle of blame, for being
 absent at the moment of her father's death,
 when she was prevented from attending
 him, by another duty that strongly called
 for her presence, where the claim was
 equally strong. Mrs. Howe's conduct
 does her infinite honor, and the strength
 of her mind must have been of singular
 use, in comforting Lady Howe, in the

Amelia.
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 try music,
 me here,
 now, I am

Swift most trying moments. I am
 happy Ernest's wishes are gratified by
 being permitted to serve with this expe-
 =dition; Colonel Witham I am told, is
 an excellent soldier, and as such, I hope,
 will prove very useful to him, in other
 respects, I dare say you must bear in
 mind, what I have often told you I
 thought of him. —

— Prince Sophia I sup-
 =pose was inconsolable at the idea of
 Prince William being named one of the
 Generals for the continent, but if he had
 not gone, her mortification would have been
 at least equal to the grief she will have
 felt at parting with him; though it
 is kept a profound secret what the object
 of the expedition is, I hope it may prove

to be to re-mistake The Stadtholder, tho'
I really believ the old Gentleman will be
miserable at first, when it comes to the
point of leaving England. The P^o of
last month, was I assure you not for-
gotten by our little party at sea, it
would have gratified me much, could
I have been at home on that day, but
as all the family were not collected, &
others like myself deprived of the pleasure
of being there, I have no right to mur-
mur. I conclude my postscript by
desiring to be affectionately remembered to
General Goldworthy, and Mrs. Chewly,
and that you will repeat from me
to Robert Keate, who I hope is well,
how happy I should have esteemed
myself, could I have effected placing

him in that situation about me, which
I had proposed for him, for I really think
him a very clever, and valuable young
man. —

— signed. E. —

Halifax, September 25th 99

My dearest Charlotte, —

Your most
affectionate letter, dated Louisbourg
26th of May, reached me on the 25 of June
when I was in the midst of prepara-
-tions for coming out again to America:
I felt confident you would learn from
our dear sisters, that The King had
appointed me Commander in Chief

in N. America, as well as the causes
which had led to this circumstance.

I therefore thought you would be as well
pleased, if I delayed writing, until I
should be able to acquaint you with my
safe arrival here, as if I had answered
you before I sailed. This I now, have it
in my power to do, as I landed on the
6th of this month, after a long, though
fortunate passage of forty-three days, &
am now as comfortably settled as it is
possible to be, so far from home, and in
a quarter of the world where there is so
little resource as here. At present, I
look forward to remaining here between
three and four years, after which I
trust my seventh trip across the Atlan-
tic will be my last one. If any

fortunate circumstances should occur
to take me home sooner, I shall look upon
it as a great blessing, but if otherwise, I
shall rest perfectly contented, having made
up my mind to my present absence, from
principles, of which I believe The King, &
Queen, as well as, my own family, and my
best friends, have all approved. —

— I have a
thousand thanks to offer you, for the
kind, and affectionate manner, in which
you express your joy, at The King's goodness
to me, in having been pleased to sanction
my creation to The Purage, and my
establishment. Knowing as you did,
that I must look upon my return to
England, and feel the reception that
I met with from my own family, on

my return after fourteen years absence,
 as the greatest happiness in life, you
 must have been much astonished, when
 first you heard of my thinking of leaving
 it again so soon; but I trust by this
 time the mystery has been explained to
 you, and that you will agree, I could
 not do otherwise. —

— The Letter which you
 were so kind as to write me, in answer
 to that which I addressed to you, on
 your marriage, never reached me, owing
 to the mail, in which it was coming
 over from England to America, being
 taken; indeed that I am now an-
 -sworing, is the only one I have received
 from you, since you went to Germany;
 I had the pleasure of seeing General

Melius, once at Kensington, two or
three times at the levee, and once at
Windsor; I have each time conversed
with him in German, and questioned
him pretty closely about you, agreeable
to the leave you gave me; he will
I hope be able to inform you, that
though it is now 12 Years since, I
left Germany, I am still able to
make myself tolerably understood
in the language, but as to writing
it, I am ashamed to say, I never
could do that at all. —

— Believe me,
it afford me the truest pleasure
to find, that you express a wish
of seeing me, some day, or other at
Stuttgart; I trust when the War

is over, and I am once settled at home,
 it will not be a difficult matter to
 obtain The King's permission, to pay
 you this visit, which I hope will not
 be unpleasant to The Duke, to whom
 I beg you will express my acknowl-
 -gments for his very polite attention, in
 desiring to be remembered to me. —

————— You
 mention, that I should find you much
 altered, it is hardly possible you can be
 so much so, as I am. The repeated chan-
 -ges of climate from the extreme of
 heat, to the extreme of cold, which I
 have gone through for these last ten
 years, have changed my appearance
 very much, in which nothing would
 strike you so much, as the almost

total loss of my hair; but notwithstanding
 this I am confident, I shall be able to
 convince you when we meet, that my
 sentiments towards you, are always the
 same, indeed if it were possible to alter
 from absence, I am sure it could only
 be in increasing the warmth of my
 affection towards you; but it is time to
 conclude this long letter, I shall therefore
 only add, that you will make me truly
 happy, if from time to time you will give me
 a few lines: the safest mode of conveying
 your letters to me, will always be to
 put them under cover addressed to our
 dear Augusta; in the mean while
 till you afford me a fresh opportu-
 nity of writing, by acknowledging the
 receipt of this, I shall ever remain
 with unaltered attachment, my dearest

A
 son Altesse Royale
 Le Duc de Wir-
 temberg,
 née, Princesse Royale
 d'Angleterre.

Charlotte, your most affectionate brother
 and most devoted friend.

Edwards.

Prince Ernest
 Mecklenburg-S-

Halifax, ce 25^{me} Septembre 1799.

Prince Ernest of
Mecklenbourg-Strelitz

Mon très cher Oncle —

J'ai vraiment honte

lorsque je regarde la date de votre lettre de trois Avril, de penser que je n'y ai point encore répondu; mais j'étais, dans le moment qu'elle m'est parvenue, entièrement occupé, des préparatifs nécessaires, pour m'établir dans le Comté de Hampshire, ou sa majorité avoit trouvé bon de me donner le commandement en second d'un district. —

— Depuis mon sort s'est changé de nouveau, le Roi, ayant jugé à propos de me mettre à la tête de ses troupes sœurs dans l'Amérique Septentrionale, et, depuis l'instant, que cela a été décidé, jusqu'au moment de mon embarquement, Je n'ai pas eu, un

moment de loisir, tant que je suis resté
en Angleterre. Maintenant je suis établi
de nouveau à mon ancien poste, et je
m'empresse de saisir le premier moment
pour me rappeler à votre souvenir.

Le Chasseur (Glimman) par les man-
duquel j'ai reçu celle de votre Atteu-
sainissime s'est effrayé le moment qu'il
a été question de passer en Amérique,
et en conséquence a refusé tout net de
s'y suivre; j'en ai été d'autant plus
fâché, puisqu'il m'a été recommandé
de votre part, et que j'aurais par con-
=séquent vu ses services avec plus de
plaisir, que ceux d'aucun autre. Je
crois vraiment, que c'est un très bon
sujet, mais sa santé étoit faible,
et il n'auroit pas pu supporter les
fatigues du voyage par mer, sans
risquer de se faire un tort essentiel.

En conséquence, quoique souffrir de m'ac-
 -compagner m'ait frappé, et même beau-
 -coup donné d'humeur dans le principe,
 Je l'ai laissé à la fin suivre ses propres
 idées, et partir. Vous me ferez plaisir
 mon cher Oncle, au cas que par la suite
 il soit en votre pouvoir de le faire bien
 placer, de vouloir bien vous en occuper
 par égard pour moi. —

— Ma v — en

Angleterre, car mon séjour y a été si court,
 que je ne saurois le nommer autrement, a
 été cause de mon entier établissement, des
 conséquences de la chute, qui m'avoit
 tant fait souffrir l'été passé ici, et ac-
 -tuellement aux attaques de rhumatisme
 pris qui sont plus ou moins, pour ainsi
 dire, les compagnons constants de ceux,
 qui, comme moi, ont été souvent, et si
 subitement changés de l'extrême froid à
 une chaleur également violente, et

vice versa; ma santé va, Dieu merci, à
nouvelles; Je pense, que mon frère Ernest,
aura communiqué à Adolphe les cir-
-constances qui ont occasionné mon
retour dans ces pays de feuillants, par
conséquent vous serez au fait, par ce
canal là, de tout ce qui me concerne;
je me bornerai donc à dire la dessus,
que le sacrifice de me séparer, de
nouveau de ma famille m'a été in-
-finiment pénible, et que le moment
qui me ramènera parmi eux sera un
des plus heureux de ma vie. Je me
flotte lorsque ce temps arrivera, que
bientôt après, j'aurai le plaisir de vous
apercevoir de vive voix à Hanovre, de la
continuation de mon estime, et de mon
attachement; en attendant, il m'est
infiniment agréable de vous y savoir
heureux, et sur le meilleur pied possible

avec mon frère Adolphe, dont j'intends
 tout le monde, ainsi que vous dire tout le
 bien possible; quand vous serez à Stru-
 -litz, permettez que je vous charge de
 mille amitiés pour le cher Duc régnant,
 à qui je ne manquerai pas d'écrire aussi
 sous peu; il ne me reste actuellement, qu'à
 vous prier d'être persuadé que tant que
 j'existerai, je ne cesserai jamais d'intentionner
 pour vous les sentiments les plus distingués
 de la plus parfaite estime, de la haute
 considération, et du plus sincère attaché-
 -ment, avec lesquels j'ai une particulière
 satisfaction à me dire mon cher Oncle,
 votre et toute sa famille, etc.

Le très affectueux, dévoué, et fidèle
 serviteur, et neveu. —

— signé Edouard, Duc de Lant. —

merci, à
 Louis Ernest,
 les cin-
 à mon
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 par ce
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 de sous,
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Halifax, September 26th 1799

My dear Dutcheff

I think it is scarcely necessary for me, to say how flattered I am by the affectionate remembrance contained in your letter of August the 5th which I had the happiness of receiving yesterday: if any proof was required to shew how little chance there is of my forgetting the friendship, and attention with which you were so good as to distinguish me, when I was last in England, I am confident you will be satisfied with that I now give, in acknowledging almost instantaneously your late favor: the report of my having fallen from my horse, a few days before I sailed, was so far true, that I fell with him in a quicksand, that had all the appearance of hard gravel, in crossing a small

common near Battersea Bridge; this
 happened the day before I had the
 severe rheumatick attack, that confined
 me to my bed for forty eight hours in
 the greatest torture I ever felt, but the
 illness had no connection with the
 accident, from which I sustained no
 injury whatever; my passage to America
 was a very long one, for I sailed on the
 25th of July, and did not land here, untill
 the 6th of this month, however it was a
 fortunate one, and though I was but
 in indifferent health the whole time,
 having not had time to recover my health
 before I left England, I am now on
 the whole tolerably well; yet I must
 confess I rather look with fear & trembling
 towards the winter setting in, for fear of
 the return of the rheumatism, which is
 a sad companion in any climate, but

in this dreary one, almost intolerable.

Now I was much pleased to hear from you, that Prince William was to go upon the expedition, for though I fully enter into your feelings, as a mother upon parting with him, I am sure it would have mortified you much had he not had that Command, which he certainly had a right to expect, both from his rank in life, and the promise that had been made him, on a prior occasion. I am extremely grateful for Princess Sophia's remembrance, & request that you will answer her in return of my best wishes; the little ponies, after whom you inquire so kindly are not yet arrived, and I apprehend they were not embarked until the beginning of this month, so that I shall not be able to give you any account of them for some time to come.

Your description about the teeth, I shall faithfully attend to, but I can assure you I did not laugh at it, for I consider your condiscussion in mentioning it to me, as a proof of the kind interest you take in whatever concerns me, which cannot fail of being both highly flattering and gratifying to my feelings. I have been torturing my brain to find out, what the joke is about the chimney sweeps, but it is so completely hebeus to me, that I have not been able to find the most distant clue to its meaning, and must look forward to you next for the explanation of it. I most cordially join with you, in lamenting the death of the valuable Lord Howe, and I am greatly concerned to think what must have been poor Lady Mary's sufferings, when she received the account of this dreadful event in Ireland; the report.

Lady Mary Mordaunt had heard of
 my returning in a year had arisen I
 suppose from the hopes I may have
 mentioned as entertaining of being ap-
 pointed Commander in Chief in Scotland
 in the event of an Union taking place, &
 the Lord Lieutenant not being continued.
 I certainly have had very strong reasons
 given me to respect this, a little patience
 will shew whether I am likely to be
 disappointed or not. Having come over
 to this Country only on a principle of
 Justice to my creditors, and made a very
 great sacrifice in so doing, you will
 easily believe, that a removal to a
 situation nearer home, where I should
 be enabled to pursue the same object
 would be far more gratifying to me,
 should this be the case, my dear sister
 I hope you will believe me, when I say
 there is none of my friends at home.

The Duke
 of
 Gloucester

The Dutchess
of
Gloucester.

whom I shall have more pleasure in
seeing again, than yourself, being with
the sincerest attachment, and highest
regard, ever your most affectionate,
(and devoted
signed Edward.

56

Halifax, September 26th 1799.

N. 2.

My ever dearest Mary,

Though I wrote to
you on the 17th Instant by the Arcthusa,
and can have nothing more to add, I
could not suffer the packet that is
returning to England to sail, without
scribbling a few lines, to thank you a
thousand times for your most affectionate
letter of August the 5th, which I got
a few hours ago, and which gave me

more pleasure than it is possible to
express, as it proves to me that I was
still fresh in your recollection; so
your camp broke up as I foretold it
would, without your seeing a single
field day, this must have been to you
no small disappointment, for if my
memory does not fail me, you have a
good deal of Augustus's rage militaire.

The Playes will have afforded you a
little variety in your evening's amusements
before your jaunt to Weymouth; I
remember hearing the King say the
very last evening I supped at the castle
that Elliston was coming for a few nights
and I am glad to find by your ac-
-count, that you have not been dis-
-appointed in the expectations that
were formed of his abilities; you men-
-tion having been once to Swinley,

since last you wrote, but how to account
 for this letter you allude to, not having
 reached me, is quite a mystery, unless
 indeed, it was sent to Captain Fenwick,
 who I learn had not yet sailed in the
 transport with my horses, a month
 after I left Spithead, but to avoid
 the chance of any miscarriage, pray
 number the Irish you write after this
 reaches you, according to what it should
 have been, had you commenced so doing
 from the moment of my leaving you,
 you will perceive I have done so, on my
 part. I was happy to hear that the
 Dutchess of York had been well enough
 to make one of your party, which if
 I recollect right, must have been the
 Irish in which she made her ap-
 -pearance this year; it is really a very
 great pity, that so pleasant, and worthy
 a woman should enjoy so miserable
 a state of health, as she generally

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does. I am quite delighted to hear that Ernest has obtained his wish of being employed on the expedition, it is certainly far better for him, to have something to do, than to lead the idle life he did about London; I was also pleased to hear that Prince William was to go, for I know how much the Duke of Gloucester felt vexed at the idea of his being left out; the fête at Lord Romney's, must have been a glorious sight, for every Englishman, and that it gave satisfaction to the King, and Queen, nothing can more decidedly prove, than the spirit with which they went through so long a day; I hope every thing passed off at Baginbode on the 10th of August, so as to recompense Eliza for her exertions; I suppose in your next I shall have some account of it; as

I write to Amelia by the present opportunity, I shall say nothing to you about the smile she put to your letter, except that the very affectionate manner in which she expresses your sentiments towards me; I can only consider as a fresh proof of my dearest Mary's attachments. — General Bowyer came out in the Packet, that brought the August letters, I had hoped he might have got a glimpse of you at Windsor before you left it, but it was out of his power, & I am disappointed in having any accounts of your looks of a later date, than that of my own departure, but I trust from the spirits in which you write, you cannot be otherwise than in perfect health.

Pray give my most affectionate love to Augusta, to whom I wrote by the Antigua; and my kindest

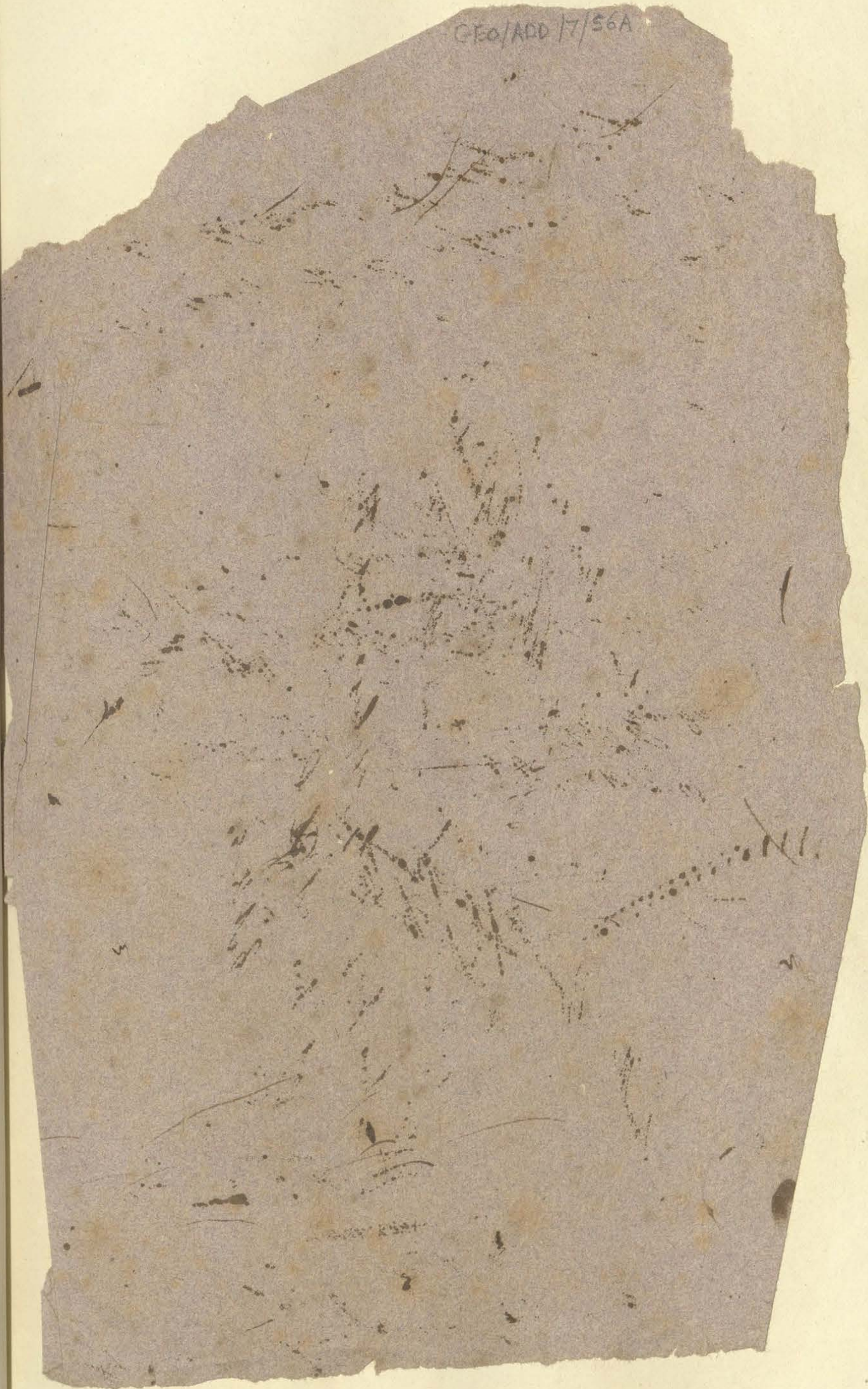
remembrances to Lady Charlotte Finch,
 and Miss Goldsworthy, and as to yourself
 my lovely Mary, I trust you will need
 doubt, but that I shall ever remain
 with the warmest attachments, your most
 affectionate Brother, and faithful
 friend.

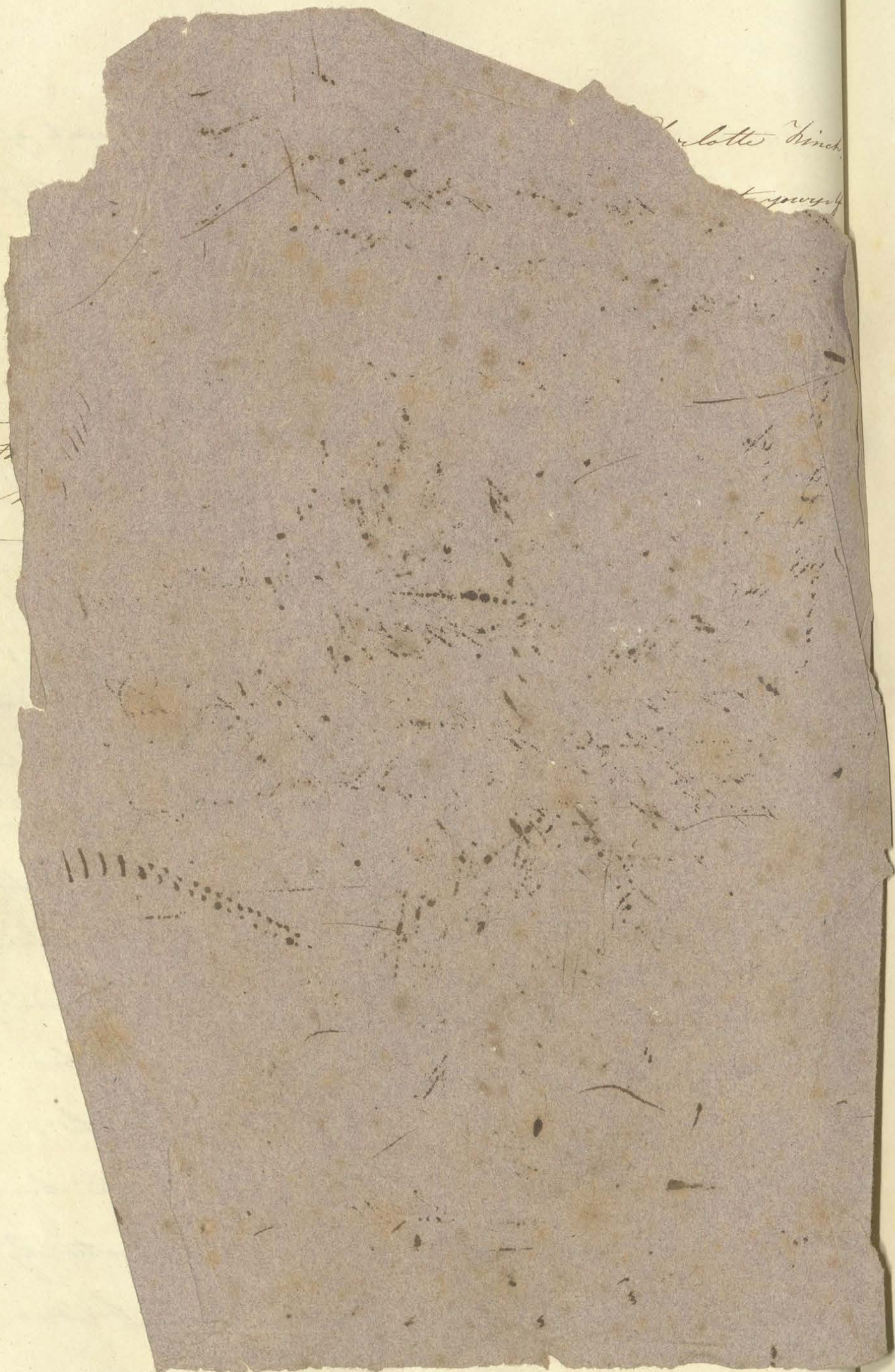
The Princess
 Mary.

signed Edward.

GEO/ADD 17/56A

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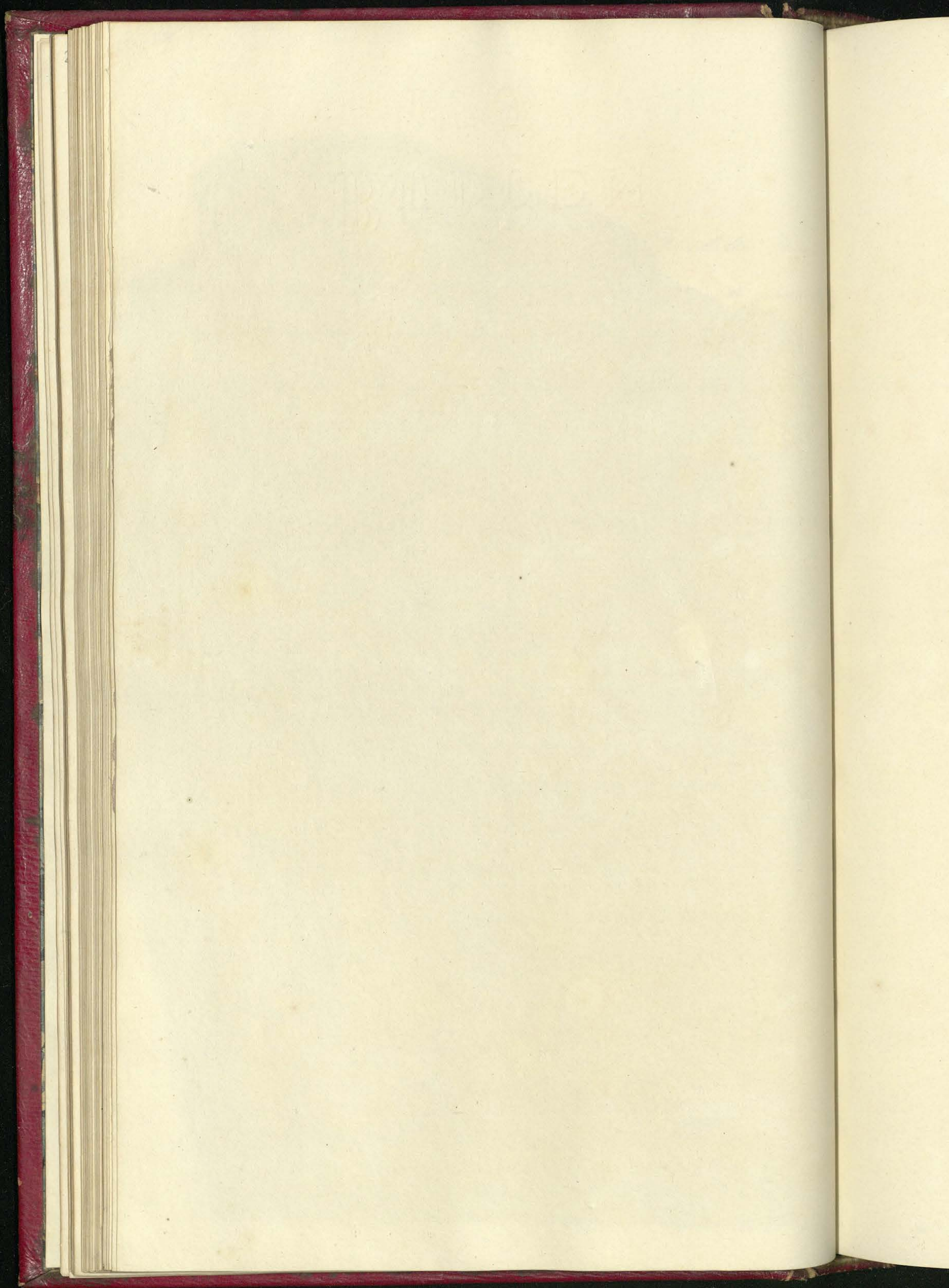


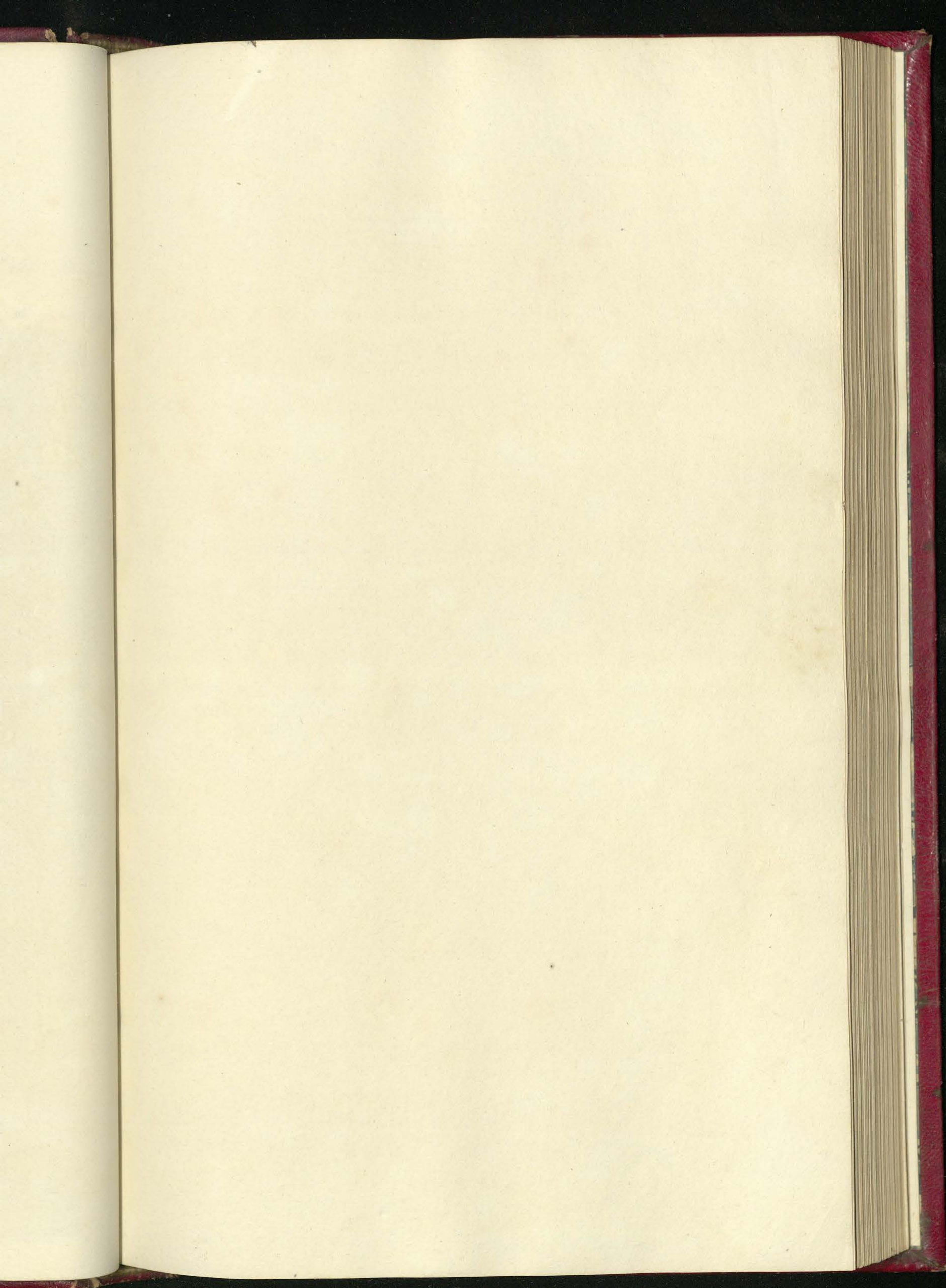


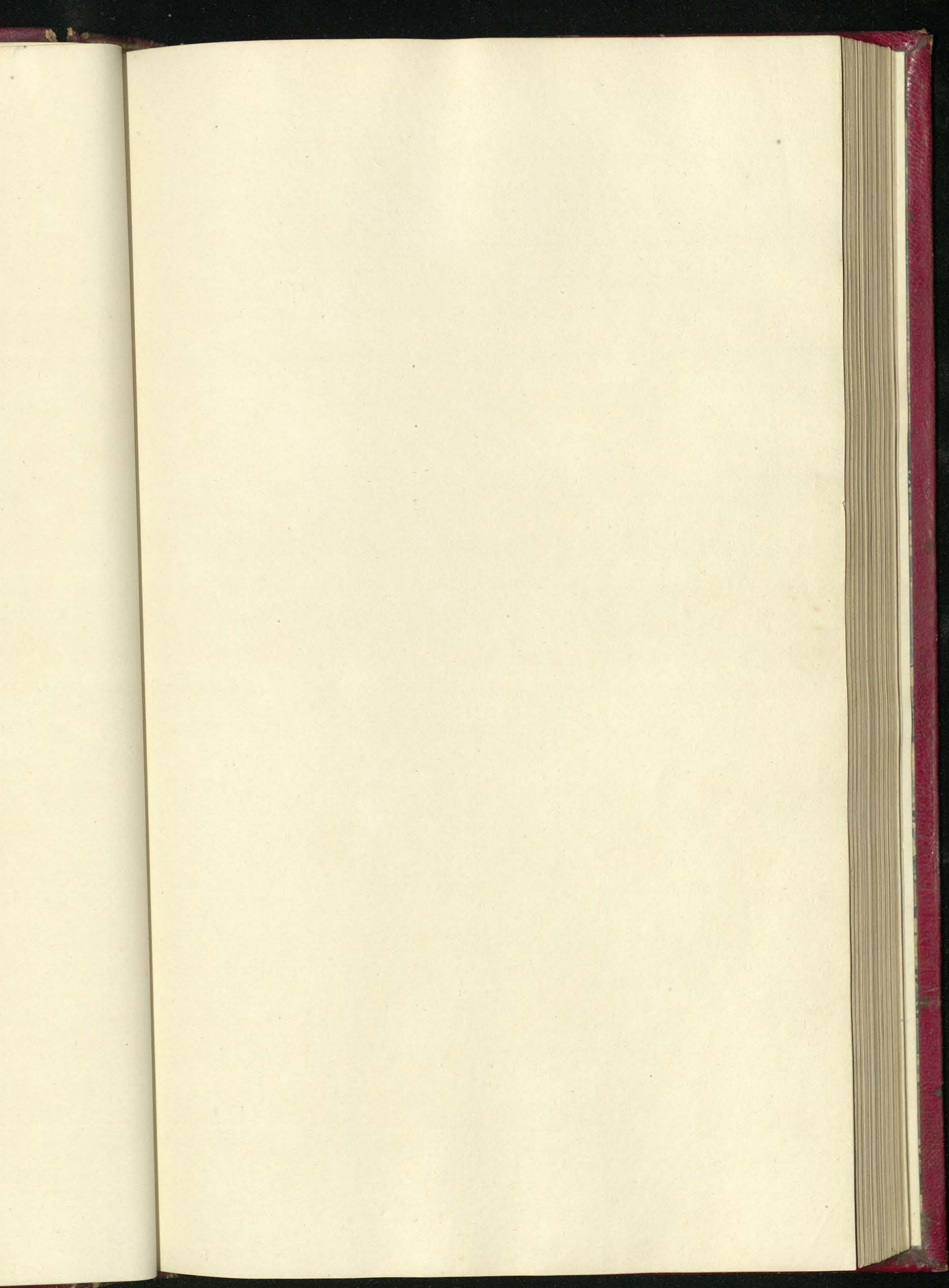
Charlotte Finch
Kew

latter Winch
to

[Faded handwritten text on a torn paper strip]



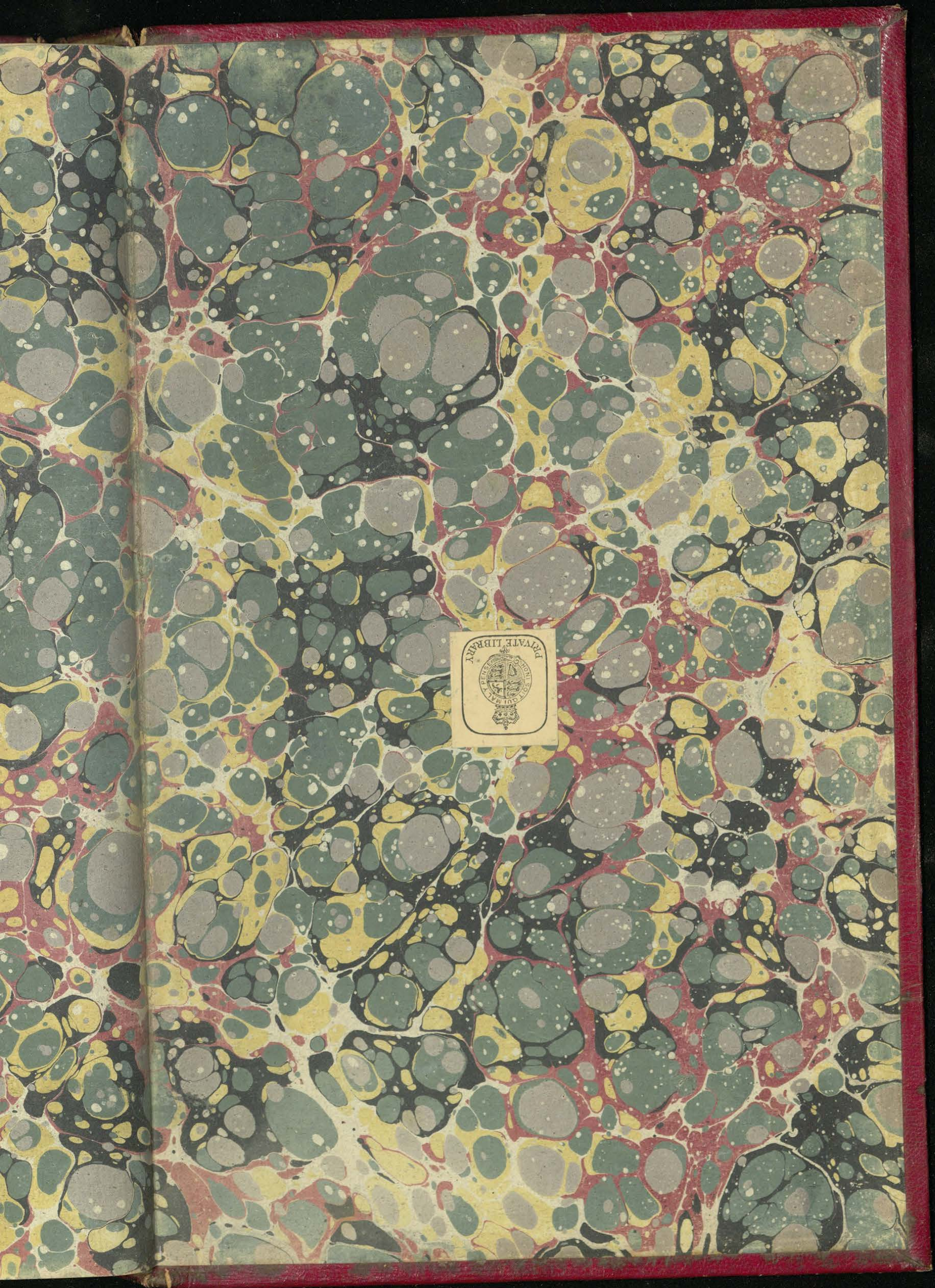




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THE ROYAL FAMILY.

TO

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF KENT

OF

PRIVATE LETTERS