

Court
Martial
Report
of
action
taken
Aug 30
1772

Lieutenant John James Gordon of the 9th Reg^t of Foot.

1st Sentence

Guilty of behaving in a manner unbecoming an Officer & a Gentleman, tho' not in a Scandalous or Infamous manner.

Falls under the 3^d article of the 20th Section.

Suspended from Pay & Duty for 12 months, & to be Reprimanded by the Commanding Officer at the Head of the Regiment.

The sentence ordered to be Revised, by
The Lord Lieutenant.

2^d Sentence

Guilty of a Breach of the 23^d article of the 15th Section — by which article the Prisoner is discharged from His Majesty's Service, but in consideration of the Prisoner's youth, & some favourable circumstances which appeared to the Court During the course of the Proceedings, they Recommended him to the Lord Lieutenant for Mercy.

Lord Ligonier Recommended him for Leave to Sell in Consideration of his Family, of his having served the Last war, & of having purchased his Commission.

Lord Ligonier's Recommendation from his having served the Last war, and the Court-Martial's Recommendation on account of his youth contradict each other, and a Court-Martial, after finding an Officer guilty of behaving unbecoming an Officer and a Gentleman

Recommending him for mercy, contradict the Rules of
the Service.

Having bought his Commission, is no manner of Reason
That he should sell, when proved guilty of Criminal Conduct,
and 'tis to be much feared, That there is a necessity of
checking these Drunken Quarrels in Ireland, which
are productive of dishonourable Proceedings.

The Lord Lieutenant in his Letter, declares, That he is
of opinion, That a man who had been guilty of such
Scandalous behaviour, should not bear a Commission in
your Majesty's army.

It should not the Highest Resolved Town should
not undertake to punish scandalous offenders without
appealing to your Majesty, & it will be difficult to
agree with the Court-Martial's Definition, That a
man can act unbecomingly as an Officer and a
Gentleman, & yett not be guilty of scandalous
behaviour.

If your Majesty thinks, That the Court-Martial
has erred in recommending a man to mercy, who
is found guilty of behaving in a manner unbecomingly
as an Officer & Gentleman It may be productive of
good, If the Lord Lieutenant was to acquiesce the

1345 (2) Court-Martial of your Majesty's opinion, and I acknowledge
I can't see in the good nature of Lord Ligons that
your Majesty should permit the favour of selling to be
granted to such a man, which is frequently denied to
Deserving Officers.

30 August 1772.

Faint, illegible handwriting at the top of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

Miss J. G. Gordon.

*114
9. St. George's St.*

London, W.

June 1772